

This site was completed in August 2006



Interested in a rain garden?

Rain gardens are depressions that collect runoff from a roof, driveway or yard and allows it to infiltrate into the ground. They are typically planted with shrubs or perennials, and can be colorful, landscaped areas in your yard that will also provide important environmental benefits.

Recommended Plants for Installing Buffers

Echinacea
Moss Phlox
Black Eyed Susan
Sweet Fern
Bush Honeysuckle-native only
Shadblow Serviceberry
Common Juniper
Snowberry
Bearberry
Highbush/lowbush Blueberry
Chokecherry
Gray Dogwood

Mapleleaf Viburnum
Lowbush cranberry
Nannyberry
Staghorn Sumac
Wintergreen
Virginia Creeper
New York Aster
Joe Pye Weed

Where can I buy them?

If you are interested in planting your own lake friendly plants and wonder where you can get them, please check out our website:

www.yorkswcd.org for our updated shrub sale list and ordering instructions.



Mousam Lake Water Quality Improvement Project

Winter/Spring 2007

Mousam Lake Removed from Maine's Impaired Waters List

For decades (1974-2002) the upper basin of Mousam lake showed a declining trend in water clarity. Although the lake did not experience typical nuisance algae blooms, it was still a cause for concern and resulted in Mousam Lake being placed on Maine's Impaired Waters List.

Today, through the efforts of the towns, homeowners and other partners, the trend has now been reversed. Following a decade of local watershed protection efforts

Mousam Lake has now been removed from this list. In the coming months, Mousam will be highlighted on the EPA's success stories website:

www.epa.gov/nps/Success319/

Mousam's water quality can and should continue to improve, but only with continued lake protection work.

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Site on Square Pond.



Before



After

This project was funded, in part, with a grant from the Maine DEP. Funds were provided from the US EPA through Section 319 of the Clean Water Act.



York County Soil & Water District
21 Bradeen Street, Suite 104
Springvale, ME 04083
www.yorkswcd.org

Even though Mousam is off the list, there is no room for error. Please continue to work to keep soil and nutrients out of the lake.

- Get your septic tanks pumped every 2-3 years.
- Keep a vegetative buffer between the shoreline and your home.
- Do not use fertilizer containing phosphorus.
- Contact the Acton Shapleigh YCC to learn how to make your property more lake-friendly.

York County Soil & Water Conservation District would like to thank the Towns of Acton and Shapleigh for all of their support and participation, and the grant steering committees, the MLRA and the Acton Shapleigh YCC for their continued hard work.

We would also like to recognize the homeowners that have worked with the District and YCC. Mousam Lake would not have come this far without their conservation efforts. Every site counts toward improved water quality. Keep up the good work everyone! For more information on how you can help, visit our website www.yorkswcd.org



13 Dump Trucks

The Phase II grant project has now been completed. Between both the Mousam I and II grants (from 2000-2006), an estimated 153 tons of sediment will be kept out of the lake each year. That's almost **13 DUMP TRUCK loads**, amazing!! 155 Technical assistance visits were conducted and 45 Conservation Sites were completed. 200 people attended septic socials from 2003-2006. More improvements were made on 13th Street and a Road Association was formed. During this period the Acton Shapleigh YCC completed another 115 sites. Thanks to everyone who contributed!



The Acton-Shapleigh YCC

In 2006, the Mousam Lake YCC changed its name to Acton Shapleigh YCC and became a formal non profit organization. The YCC, which started on Mousam Lake, now provides free labor and assistance to other lake residents in Acton or Shapleigh. Duane Snyder, Program Director, has been in charge of the crew and its outstanding accomplishments for the past 6 years.

There are two primary components of the YCC- the Erosion Control Program and the Courtesy Boat Inspection Program. The Erosion Control Program, over the past 6 years, has helped fix erosion problems at 115 properties within the Mousam Lake Watershed.

On several occasions, the

Courtesy Boat Inspectors have prevented invasive aquatic plants from entering Mousam Lake. Also, Duane conducts, free on-site technical assistance visits.

With the funding for YCSWCD at a close, it is crucial for the residents of Acton and Shapleigh to continue to support and utilize the YCC.

Consider making a donation to this worthy cause. Supporting the YCC financially will help Mousam's water quality, not just for today, but for tomorrow as well.

Please make checks payable to:
Acton-Shapleigh YCC
c/o Duane Snyder
144 Deering Ridge Road
East Waterboro, ME 04030

