

**Updated 5-8-26**

## **2026 Watershed Friends Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Control Plan: Pleasant Pond, Horseshoe Pond, and Cobbosseecontee Stream**

**SUMMARY:** The Watershed Friends works closely with PPCSLA to plan the most effective AIS services each year. These services focus on courtesy boat inspections, AIS survey/mapping, and removal of AIS by various methods. This is the projected plan for 2026; it may change depending on unforeseen circumstances. The total projected cost of this work is approximately \$61,000 which is shared among the five municipalities, the state (DEP Grants), and our lake association.

### **Courtesy Boat Inspections (CBI): Thorofare Road Boat Ramps, Litchfield**

CBI is necessary to prevent the introduction of new invasives into our lake and stream, and to prevent transfer of invasives from our waters to other uninfested waters.

- **WHAT:** Courtesy Boat Inspectors will examine all boats and trailers entering/exiting the pond – your cooperation is very much appreciated.
- **WHEN:** Weekends (Fri-Sun) from Memorial Day to Labor Day including the 3 holiday Mondays
- **HOURS:** All day Fri (7 am – 7 pm); all day Sat-Sun (7 am – 7 pm); all day on holiday Mondays (7 am – 7 pm)

### **AIS Surveys: Watershed Friends Roaming Survey Team**

The survey team works from kayaks and other surface craft to locate and map where AIS occurs. These data are entered into a GIS mapping system to show where each AIS population is found. These maps and data guide the removal efforts to eliminate these plants from our waters. We do not have specific dates when the surveys will happen. **Surveys for 2026 include:**

- Collins Mill Dam on Cobbosseecontee Stream (CS) to Pleasant Pond (PP) including Horseshoe Pond (HP): Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM: maybe), Variable Leaf Milfoil (VLM) and European Frogbit
- PP/CS confluence to New Mills Dam in Gardiner (as much as time permits): Variable Leaf Milfoil (VLM)
- Pleasant Pond around Thorofare Road boat launch: Variable Leaf Milfoil (VLM) and Swollen bladderwort
- Upper Pleasant Pond: Variable Leaf Milfoil (VLM)

### **AIS Removal Plan (working north to south on CS to PP)**

- **DASH (Diver-Assisted Suction Harvesting)** four weeks total (**weeks of 7-27 to 8-10, 2026**)
  - 7/27 - 7/30 (Cobb Stream/Horseshoe Pond)
  - 8/3 - 8/6 (Horseshoe Pond)
  - 8/10 - 8/13 (Upper Pleasant)
  - 8/17 - 8/20 (Upper Pleasant)
- **Manual removal:** some hand removal around Thorofare Road boat launch (**8/10 to 8/20**)

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