

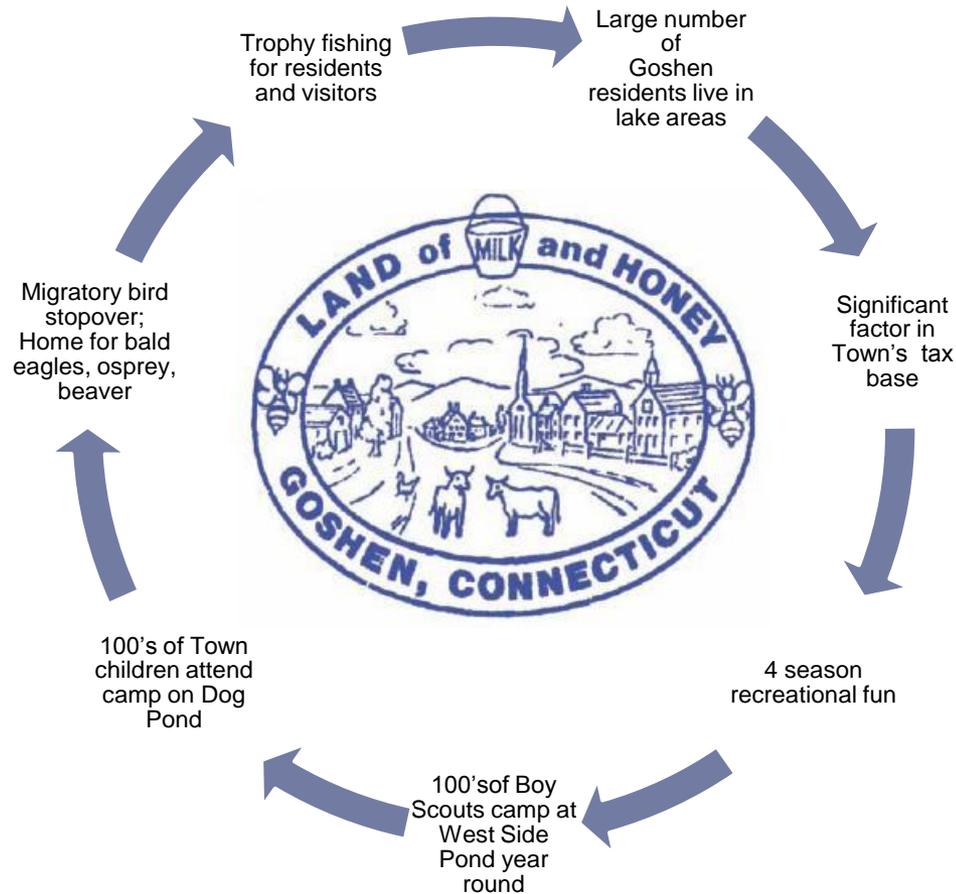


Goshen's Public Lakes

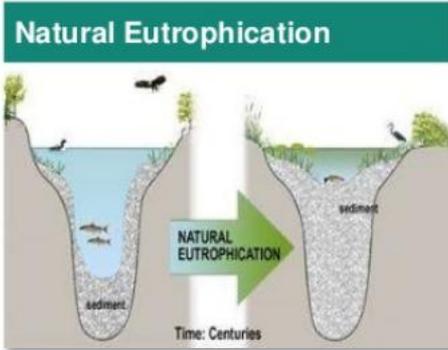
An Important Community Resource

Town of Goshen
Board of Finance Meeting

Goshen's Public Lakes Are Central to Our Community



5 Key Threats to Our Public Lakes



▶ Eutrophication – The natural threat

- ▶ Over a period of centuries, lakes change
- ▶ Fill in, more organic material in water, more plant life
- ▶ The impact of human activity accelerates this process

▶ Invasive aquatic plants are taking over

- ▶ All 3 lakes have multiple species of invasive plants
- ▶ Transported by boats using State launch
- ▶ Speeds sedimentation and eutrophication process



▶ Conditions in our lakes are prime for Harmful Algae Blooms (HAB)

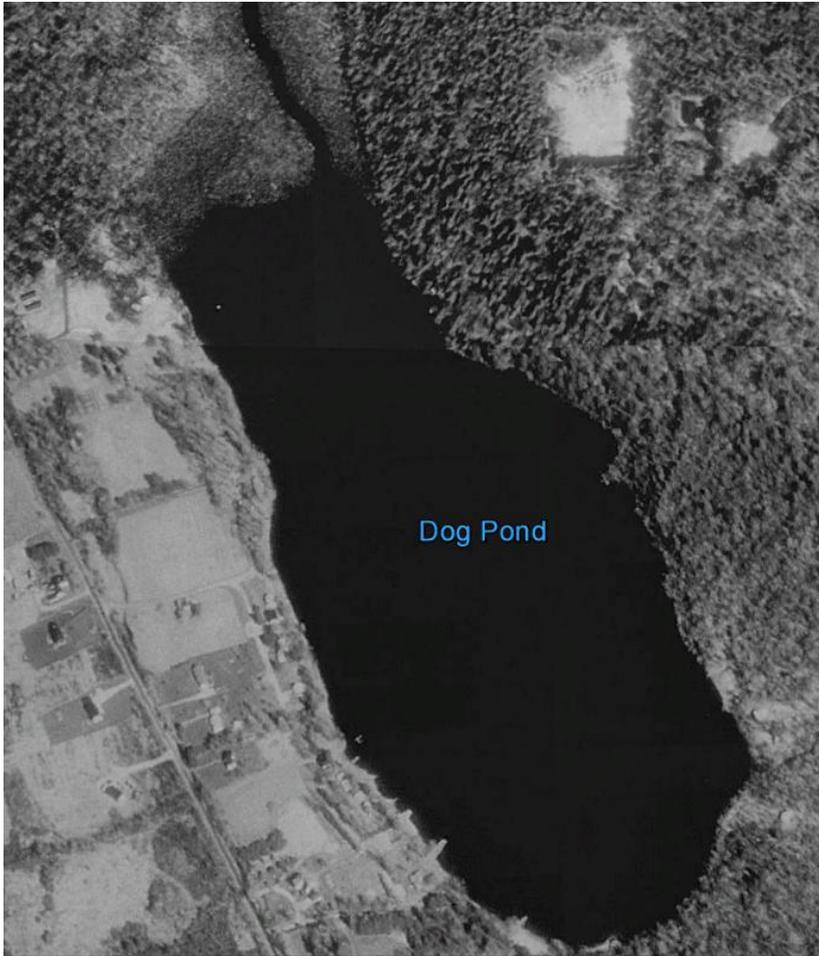
- ▶ Can produce toxins that kill wildlife and harm humans
- ▶ Nutrient sources include storm water runoff, fertilizer use, failing septic, natural sources
- ▶ Can result in closing of a lake to many activities

5 Key Threats to Our Public Lakes

- ▶ Lack of education about user & owner responsibilities
 - ▶ Cleaning boat props & bilges
 - ▶ Property landscaping, pesticide use
 - ▶ Rain water management
 - ▶ Septic maintenance, detergents
- ▶ Impact of the surrounding environment
 - ▶ Road stormwater runoff
 - ▶ Use of chemicals on roadways, pesticides
 - ▶ Construction projects
 - ▶ Land development
 - ▶ Agriculture



Now and Then: Dog Pond

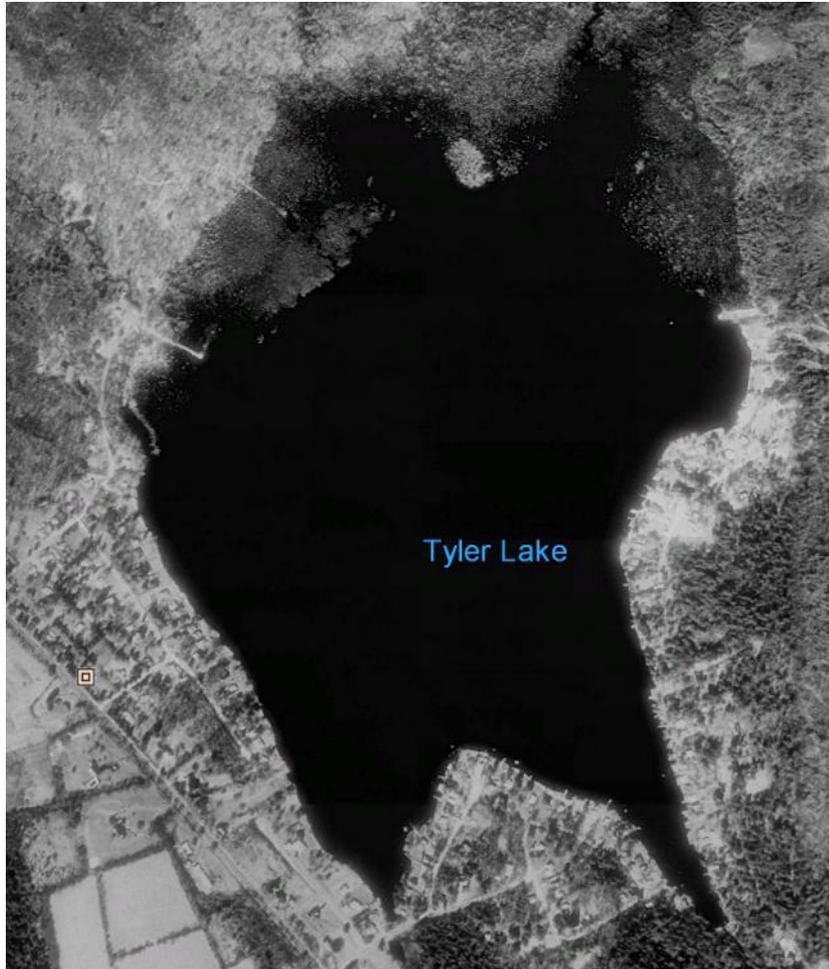


1991

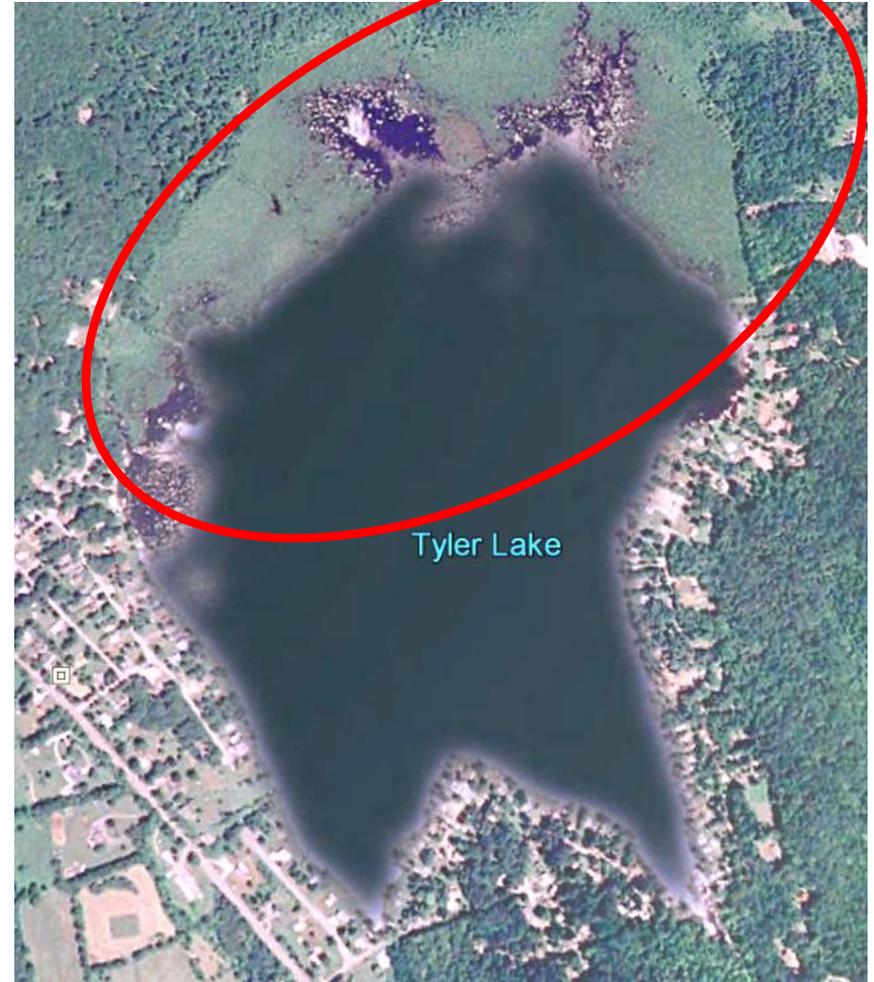


2015

Now and Then: Tyler Lake



1991

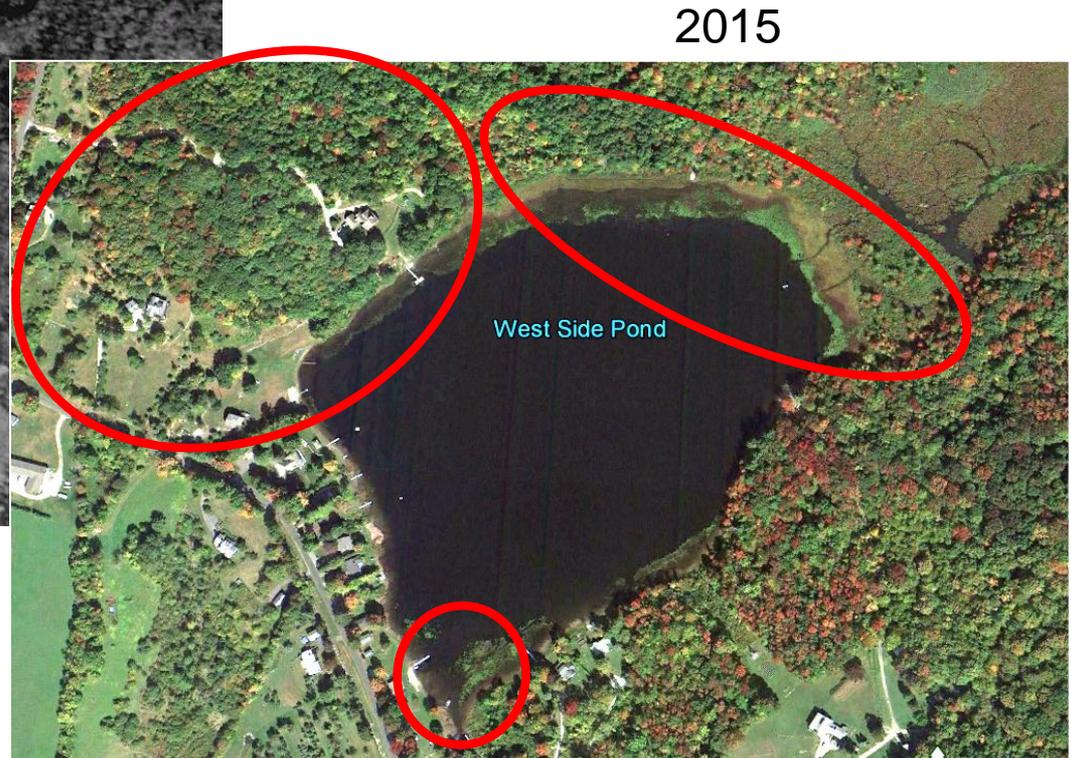


2015

Now and Then: West Side Pond



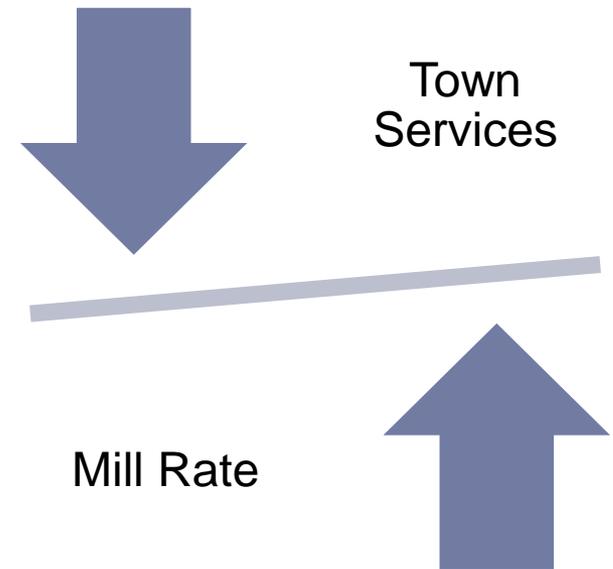
1991



2015

Economic Value of our Public Lakes

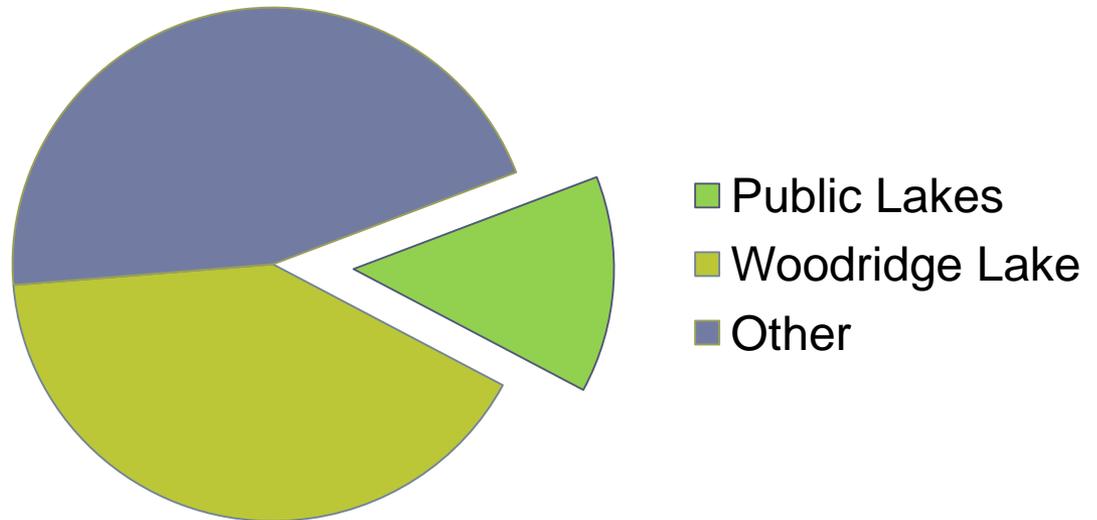
- ▶ Properties in lake areas tend to assess higher than similar properties elsewhere due to their presence near a lake¹.
- ▶ A decline in the quality of the lakes will lead to a decline in the assessed value of these properties¹
- ▶ This will result in UPWARD pressure on the mill rate and/or pressure to DECREASE municipal services.



Economic Value of Our Public Lakes

- Our 3 public “lakes areas” represent about 15% of Grand List
- Our 4 residential lakes areas represent over 50% of Grand List

Percentage of Grand List



Unless our lakes are maintained, natural processes will result in a decline in their value and a reduction in the contribution to the tax base.

Dealing With It: The Year We Get Serious

- ▶ Each lake organizing an effort adapted to its needs
 - ▶ Testing, plant surveys, community education, remediation
- ▶ This is a “forever problem”
 - ▶ Requires a sustainable approach
 - ▶ Tyler and West Side Pond forming a 501c3 non-profit
 - ▶ All lakes putting plans in place for long-term funding plans
 - Primary funding source is property owners and “friends”
 - Recurring fund raising event(s)
 - Pursuit of foundation grants

Dealing With It: The Plans

	West Side Pond	Tyler Lake	Dog Pond	Total
USES				
Legal, Incorporation	\$1,000	\$500	\$0	
Registration, Connecticut	\$250	\$250	\$0	
IRS Form 1023 Filing Fee	\$850	\$850	\$0	
Water Quality Study (NEAR)	\$8,850	\$18,740	\$4,300	
Remediation Program	\$15,000	\$20,500	\$22,000	
Education, Fund raising Activities	\$2,600	\$0	\$0	
Subtotal, Expense	\$28,550	\$40,840	\$26,300	\$95,690
SOURCES				
Donations, Fundraising Event, Grants	\$18,550	\$30,840	\$16,300	
Town of Goshen	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	
Subtotal, Sources	\$28,550	\$40,840	\$26,300	\$95,690
EXCESS OF SOURCES OVER USES:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Over half of the \$95,000 needed for the 2016 plans has been raised

- \$26,300+ donations via Town lakes fund for Dog & West Side Pond
- \$22,000+ donations for Tyler via Tyler Lake Protective Association

Role of the Town

- ▶ Grateful to the Selectmen for organizing the lakes
- ▶ To help protect the economic value generated by the lakes, the Town should be willing to help support the efforts of the lake groups, financially
- ▶ The proposed \$10,000 per lake from the Town will be a **big help** in meeting our 2016 Budgets
 - ▶ Will be used to pay for professional services for monitoring, testing, surveying, and planning
 - ▶ About 35% - 40% of the 2016 need
 - ▶ On par with assistance offered by other towns

Preserving an Asset of the Community

- ▶ The quality of these lakes is important to the Town and its citizens.
- ▶ Critical to preserve for the generations to come
- ▶ The lakes are stepping up
 - ▶ Committed to raising over \$50,000 for 2016 programs
 - ▶ Taking actions that will benefit all who use the lakes
- ▶ We thank the Board of Selectmen for their leadership
- ▶ We thank the Board of Finance for their support of the appropriation





Tyler Lake



Dog Pond

Thank You!



West Side Pond