



2022 Lake Morey Foundation Annual Report to the Town of Fairlee

As a local, not-for-profit organization, the mission of the Lake Morey Foundation (LMF) is to raise, steward and provide funds for initiatives that support the enhancement and well-being of Lake Morey, its natural environment, and its surrounding community. Since its founding in 1984, LMF has supported programs and activities improving Lake Morey's water quality, preserving its watershed, and aiding local recreational and cultural opportunities.

Beginning in August of 2022, Lake Morey experienced an unprecedented, months-long, outbreak of cyanobacteria, impacting its waters with such magnitude and for such a duration that it infiltrated the entire water column. The extent of the algae bloom was unrivaled in scope with the entire lake area affected by its prolonged and insidious spread.

In order to facilitate a solution, LMF used its resources to help initiate the first step: a diagnostic feasibility study of one or more methodologies to control the cyanobacteria. As a result, the Town of Fairlee Selectboard, Lake Morey Commission, Lake Morey Protective Association (LMPA), Aloha Foundation, Lake Morey Resort, and Lake Morey Foundation are currently all working together to take the immediate steps necessary to secure completion of the feasibility study in order to implement a future state-approved mitigation plan.

Driven by its mission, LMF focuses its efforts on contributing to solutions that tackle Lake Morey's needs and other community opportunities as they arise. During 2022 LMF funded water testing equipment for the Lake Morey Commission, jointly supported the Lake Greeter Program in conjunction with the Town and the LMPA, and contributed to Fairlee Community Arts programming. Additionally, LMF supported the initial phase of the feasibility study required for the Town to seek state support for cyanobacteria eradication -- a critical endeavor benefiting all Fairlee residents, businesses, property owners and visitors who enjoy a healthy lake environment.

Over the years LMF has supported many projects to protect and maintain Lake Morey's viable watershed. Through the generosity of its donors, LMF has been able to partner with and fund local initiatives that benefit Lake Morey as our community's vital natural, recreational and economic resource.

As I complete my 6-year term as LMF President, I want to extend my appreciation to the Board and all of the LMF donors who have supported – and continue to support -- the mission of our organization. I will continue to serve on the Board as we welcome Bob Wertheimer as President and Peter Massicott as VP. We want to give a special acknowledgement to Gary Brooks, former Board member and VP, whose decades advising LMF have been invaluable to our lake community.

Respectfully submitted by Bruce Durgin on behalf of the LMF Board of Directors:
Greg Allen, Patty Armstrong, Chris Baine, Shawn Byron, Ray Clark, Bruce Durgin,
Peter Massicott, Susanne Pacilio, Vince Pisegna, Laura Tucker (LMPA *ex officio*),
Noël Walker, Bob Wertheimer

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