

Lake Beseck Environment Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 27, 2025

Present: Rick Santos, Lisa McCabe, Jim Irish, Craig Lundell, Aleta Cromac

Topic/Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
Opening	Meeting opened at 7:08pm Minutes of 6/25/25 reviewed. Lisa made a motion to approve minutes; seconded. All agreed.	
Public comment	No public present	
All Habitat: Water Studies	<p>Secchi disc readings were not performed. Rick will recommend that 2 readings be done – one in deep water and one in a more shallow location. All agreed.</p> <p>Sampling map reviewed. Jim recommended moving Inlet #4 sample site closer to the beach. All others will stay as pictured. For clarity, naming of locations will be changed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• North end hairpin• West end (instead of Inlet 4)• South end• North-center• Center• Dam <p>Water Quality testing reports reviewed. Trends tracked. High chlorophyll and algae in July 2025 have come down substantially in August.</p>	
2026 Drawdown	Needed reports completed: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mussel report submitted. Drawdown has done no harm to mussels.	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shiner report is still being worked but biologist has allowed NDDB to go through. CAES plant study revealed essentially, the drawdown has done no harm to protected species, and they have in fact increased. <p>Statute allows for drawdown. At this point, we just need to go through the formal process.</p> <p>Secchi disc showing water clarity is not optimal. However, that should not hold up the process for drawdown.</p>	
DEEP Permit	<p>Status update: still awaiting permit</p> <p>All Habitat is indicating that the delay is on the DEEP side</p>	Rick will speak with All Habitat regarding follow up on our permit
Curly Leaf Pondweed	<p>The curly leaf pondweed has demonstrated a pattern of increasing in mass by July - diminishing lake enjoyment - then starting to die back in August. Greg Bugby has identified this plant as a “nuisance weed” – which may help to convince DEEP that something should be done to control it.</p>	
Lake Assessment and Restoration	<p>All Habitat and EutroPHIX water restoration management: We need a plan as to what we can do, in what order, to start making inroads on improving water quality by controlling phosphorus. It may be prudent to inquire with Solitude Lake Management as to what they might offer us at this point.</p> <p>Education flyer needed to inform people who live around the lake of the association of blowing leaves into the lake in the fall and a potential increase in algae bloom in summer.</p>	<p>Rick will reach out to Solitude.</p> <p>Rick will work on finding/creating an education flyer</p>
Microcystin Toxin reports	<p>Testing trends demonstrate significantly increased microcystin during July/ August, with improvement in this trend noted this year.</p>	

	Less goose activity = less goose waste, which may also be contributing to a decrease in microcystin/ algae	
Plan for next year	Ask All Habitat and Solitude if they can give us a more focused monthly reports and interpretation that will allow us to see in graph form the trends in algae and other lake issues. Reach out to Solitude as to their approach to our restoration plan.	
Selectman report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open space on Coe Hill was assessed by forestry agent. A plan was developed on how to start dealing with the invasive vegetation. This will allow people to use the land for recreation (hiking, camping) and improve the forest health. • Human library – People will sign up to share their experiences and lessons learned/ insights. Anyone in the community can check out these “live” books at Levi Coe Library on October 18. • Robert Boender, from Guilford, is a licensed master electrician and licensed building official has started in his position as the new building inspector. • <i>Welcome Home</i> event for Vietnam Era Veterans from Middlefield was held on August 26. It was hosted by Lt Governor Susan Bysiewicz, who spoke at the event. This event has been offered in many other communities across the state. 	
Adjournment	Motion to adjourn by Jim Irish; seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 8:37pm	

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa McCabe

Attachment 1

Beseck Lake
2025 WQ Sampling Map
Middlefield, CT 06455
All Habitat Services, LLC

Sample Locations

Bing Maps Satellite Imagery
0 100 200 m

