

**For Immediate Release**

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## **Lake Winnepesaukee Association and Town of Meredith team up to protect Lake Waukewan**

The Lake Winnepesaukee Association and the Town of Meredith teamed up to install stormwater improvement practices at the Waukewan bathhouse site on Waukewan Street, across from the town beach on Lake Waukewan.

With the help of volunteers and the Meredith Parks and Recreation Department, a rain garden was installed on August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017 beside the parking lot area. The rain garden is the final practice installed to reduce the amount of stormwater runoff and pollutants that empty into Lake Waukewan from this site. Last fall the Meredith Department of Public Works excavated the area for the rain garden, constructed the side slopes, installed piping, and connected the rain garden underdrain to a new deep sump catch basin. Stone and geotextile fabric were laid down to protect the excavated area from sediment buildup until the rain garden could be planted this summer. The rain garden acts as a bio-retention basin, collecting and filtering stormwater runoff from the parking lot. An underdrain beneath the rain garden then directs the treated water to the catch basin.

The Waukewan bathhouse site is one of more than 60 sites identified in the updated Waukewan and Winona Watershed Restoration plan completed in September 2016 as contributing sediment and other pollutants to the lake.

A tour of the site's stormwater improvement practices will be held on August 23, 2017, at 6pm. For more information on the tour, please contact the Lake Winnepesaukee Association at 603-581-6632.

The project was partially funded by a Local Source Water Protection grant through the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services. The Lake Winnepesaukee Association would like to thank the town of Meredith for providing in kind services, the Windy Waters Conservancy for their donation, and the volunteers who helped make this project possible.



Volunteers Nancy Lavigne (right), Meredith Community Garden Club, and Paula Wanzer (front left), Meredith Conservation Commission help plant more than 50 plants for the new rain garden at the Waukegan bathhouse. Russell Weeks (in back), Meredith Parks and Recreation, also helped with spreading the bioretention soil mix, planting, and watering. The Meredith Parks and Recreation Department will be responsible for maintaining the rain garden.