

## HOW CAMPERS CAN HELP PROTECT OUR LAKE!

### **Prevent nutrients and noxious bacteria from entering the lake:**

- 1. Maintain your septic system and pump it frequently.** Septic problems are a major contributor to current nutrient and bacteria problems in Galway Lake.
- 2. Report suspected septic problems to your Director or the Lake Preservation Committee.\*** Prompt action will minimize the environmental impact of septic issues.
- 3. Let your Director know when a lake property is for sale.** When a Lake District property is sold, the Town of Galway requires an inspection of the septic system to insure that it is in compliance with applicable codes.
- 4. Discourage waterfowl from entering shoreline property, docks and floats.** Waterfowl fecal matter is dangerous to humans and pets. It is a prime source of E coli bacteria and the worms that cause swimmers itch and ear infections
- 5. Do not use fertilizers** A significant proportion of fertilizers used on camper property will end up in the lake contributing to aggressive weed and algae growth.

### **Prevent Invasive plants and animals from entering the lake:**

Lake George, Ballston Lake, Saratoga Lake, the Great Sacandaga Lake and the Mohawk River are infested with invasive plants and aquatic animals that can significantly impact the ecology and recreational use of a water body. The invasive plants include: Eurasian Water Milfoil, Curley Pondweed and Water Chestnut. The invasive animals include: Zebra Mussel, Spinney Water Flea and Asian Clam. All of these invasive plants and animals can migrate from one water body to another on boats or recreational equipment.

- 1. Do not allow boats or recreational equipment to enter Galway Lake that have been in a water body known to be infested with invasive plants or animals. All other boats and recreational equipment that have been used any other water body must be thoroughly cleaned and dried before entering Galway Lake.** Thorough cleaning involves power washing and/or washing all surfaces of boats and equipment with a 30% bleach solution.
- 2. Contact your Grove Director or the Preservation Committee\* if you observe water chestnut or one of the above listed invasive animals in the lake.** Pictures of these invasive species can be found in an Appendix to the Galway Lake Integrated Management Plan which is on the Association web site.

\*NOTE: Lake Preservation Committee contacts are:

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