

## Bare Hill Pond Draw Downs

Sarah Saleh <snsaleh@gmail.com>

Tue 08/31/21 6:18 PM

To: Liz Allard <lallard@harvard-ma.gov>

Dear Liz,

First of all thank you for all your hard work on the conservation committee, its people like you that keep Harvard beautiful - and we certainly appreciate it.

I was worried when I saw a thread on NextDoor Harvard advocating to stop the yearly drawdowns, this seems like a bad idea!

I remember a few years back going on a tour of the pond with my family. We were told how Bare Hill Pond was endangered and how the draw downs really are saving the pond. This year, as we swam in the pond we noticed an increase in the invasive weeds, because of an incomplete drawdown last year. The drawdowns have a significant impact on the ponds life, and I hope they continue.

Thanks,

Sarah

## Draw down of the pond

Ockene, Judith <Judith.Ockene@umassmed.edu>

Tue 08/31/21 7:28 PM

To: Liz Allard <lallard@harvard-ma.gov>

Please allow this to happen. It is important to be done. Thank you, Judy Ockene,  
Harvard, Ma

## Pond drawdown

Shoemaker, Julie <jshoemak@lesley.edu>

Tue 08/31/21 9:40 PM

To: Liz Allard <lallard@harvard-ma.gov>

Hi Ms. Allard,

I'm strongly in favor of continuing draw-downs of the pond in winter. Without these drawdowns, I fear the town beach would be virtually unswimmable during the summer months. During year when the draw down is significant, I have definitely noticed improvement in the swimming areas the following year, and this is a really important recreation area for the town.

Best,

Julie Shoemaker  
68 E Bare Hill Rd

## pond drawdown hearing

Garry Baer <garrybaer@yahoo.com>

Wed 09/01/21 8:38 AM

To: Liz Allard <lallard@harvard-ma.gov>

Liz,

We urge the Conservation & Pond committee to "PAUSE the pond drawdown" for this year, while the committees investigate & implements a remedy for the toxic Algae bloom, which has rendered Bare Hill Pond unusable & hazardous.

I note the following quote from the recent Pond watershed committee meeting minutes:

**"...Observation made that with the past summer's extreme drought conditions, the ability of the sunlight to reach depths/the thermocline may have been the tipping point to fuel growth."**

our observations concur - while the goal of the drawdown was to address the invasive weeds, IMHO the pond has passed a tipping point, and the drawdown (coupled with adverse weather conditions) \*DID adversely impacted water quality and enhanced the toxic algae bloom the last 2 years.

I would urge the pond committee to pursue treatment of the lake, we are aware they are discussing alternatives in recent meetings..

Many surrounding towns do treat their lakes and ponds to keep them viable and usable, there is significant body of data/evidence those treatments have a positive effect \*on both issues) in those lakes and ponds...

regards,

Garry & Diana Baer

111 clinton shore drive

## Pond Comments

Judson Ratliff <[robertjudson@charter.net](mailto:robertjudson@charter.net)>

Wed 09/01/21 11:29 AM

To: Liz Allard <[lallard@harvard-ma.gov](mailto:lallard@harvard-ma.gov)>

Hi Liz,

This is a note to show my support for the Pond Committee for maintenance of flora in Bare Hill Pond. As a previous member of the Pond Committee, and a biologist, it is important to use science as a basis for decisions to control the weeds in the Pond. The drawdown is very effective to control milfoil and I support continued effort to do this. The warm summer season this year has exacerbated the algae problem in the pond, but we can expect this to be worse without the drawdown.

I hope this helps.

Thank you.

Robert Blanck  
46 Slough Rd  
Harvard, MA

## Bare Hill Pond drawdown support

Suraiya Suliman <suraiya.suliman@gmail.com>

Wed 09/01/21 12:09 PM

To: Liz Allard <lallard@harvard-ma.gov>

Hi Linda,

Just writing to express my support for the pond committee's work on keeping the pond healthy and safe. I'm voting for continuing the drawdown of the pond over winter.

Regards,

Suraiya Suliman

1 Blanchard Rd

Harvard, MA

## Pond Committee Recommendations

Marisa Caruccio Khurana <marisakhurana@gmail.com>

Wed 09/01/21 1:07 PM

To: Liz Allard <lallard@harvard-ma.gov>

Hi Liz,

As an abutter to the pond, I wanted to express my support of the Pond Committee's work and recommendations (re: drawdown, health of the pond); they have consistently relied on science to do their work. I appreciate the Conservation Commissions collaboration with the Pond Committee.

Thank you,

Marisa

## health of the pond

Abbe Alpert <abbealpert@charter.net>

Wed 09/01/21 1:21 PM

To: Liz Allard <lallard@harvard-ma.gov>

Hi Liz. I'm writing in support of the work done by the Pond Committee to ensure the health of our pond. I know their work is science based and takes climate change into account. The members' decisions have my vote of confidence.

Abbe Alpert

Jacob Gates Road



**[Town of Harvard MA] Support for Pond Committee and its Recommendations (Sent by Catherine Warner, cwarner.cat@gmail.com)**

Contact form at Town of Harvard MA <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>

Wed 09/01/21 1:55 PM

To: Liz Allard <lallard@harvard-ma.gov>

Hello lallard,

Catherine Warner ([cwarner.cat@gmail.com](mailto:cwarner.cat@gmail.com)) has sent you a message via your contact form (<https://www.harvard-ma.gov/user/62/contact>) at Town of Harvard MA.

If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at <https://www.harvard-ma.gov/user/62/edit>.

Message:

Dear Liz Allard,

I write to share my support for the Pond Committee's work. Keeping Bare Hill Pond clean requires a scientific and thorough approach, and from my reading of the Pond Committee reports, I feel that they are doing a terrific job. The pond is shallow and warm in the summer, with a lot of residual phosphorus, and sources of additional phosphorus in the watershed that have to be addressed. Climate change presents another set of issues that tend towards algal blooms. Drawdowns have been monitored for effectiveness by qualified experts for many years, and the evidence is available online. Algal blooms are more of a product of changing weather patterns and phosphorus from the watershed, and community wide, nature-based solutions administered by the careful consideration of the Pond Committee are the way forward.

Thank you in advance for noting my strong support for the Pond Committee's continual good work!

Sincerely,  
Catherine Warner  
154 East Bare Hill Rd.  
Harvard, MA 01451

**pond**

Sharon Cronin <sharondcronin@gmail.com>

Wed 09/01/21 1:50 PM

To: Liz Allard <lallard@harvard-ma.gov>

Hi Liz,

I've been noticing a great deal of chatter on Nextdoor and see that ConComm is reviewing the issue of the drawdown of the pond this week. Although I am unable to attend, I wanted to state that I fully support the hard work of the Pond Committee and its members who work tirelessly to care for the health of the pond on behalf of the community. Those who criticize from the sidelines obviously know nothing about the amount of time and research these volunteers put in to allow the rest of us its enjoyment. Their caretaking is scientifically-based and if they have concluded that the drawdown is necessary then I fully support their decision.

Thank you, Sharon Cronin, 95 Slough Road

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*I acknowledge that Harvard, MA, where I live, is located on the traditional territory of the Nipmuc People.*

Know on whose land you are on at [native-land.ca](http://native-land.ca)

## Bare Hill Pond

Audrey Ball <audreyball@verizon.net>

Wed 09/01/21 3:44 PM

To: Liz Allard <lallard@harvard-ma.gov>

To the Conservation Commission:

I have recently read of efforts to stop the draw down of Bare Hill Pond this fall/winter. I believe this would be an unfortunate mistake. The Pond Committee has long pursued a thoughtful program, based on the best scientific information available, to protect and support the well-being of the pond.. This program should not be interrupted.

Thank you for helping care for our town and our Pond.

Audrey Ball

**[Town of Harvard MA] Pond Drawdown (Sent by Katherine A Deyst,  
kate@kk1335.com)**

Contact form at Town of Harvard MA <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>

Wed 09/01/21 3:54 PM

To: Liz Allard <lallard@harvard-ma.gov>

Hello lallard,

Katherine A Deyst ([kate@kk1335.com](mailto:kate@kk1335.com)) has sent you a message via your contact form (<https://www.harvard-ma.gov/user/62/contact>) at Town of Harvard MA.

If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at <https://www.harvard-ma.gov/user/62/edit>.

Message:

Dear Ms. Allard,

While I do not have the good fortune to live on Bare Hill Pond, it is a favorite stop on my walks from our house on Cameron Road.

Please know that, as a citizen, I support the efforts of the Pond Committee to keep Bare Hill Pond healthy and therefore support ongoing drawdowns based on their recommendations.

Thank you,

Kate Deyst  
13 Cameron Road  
Harvard