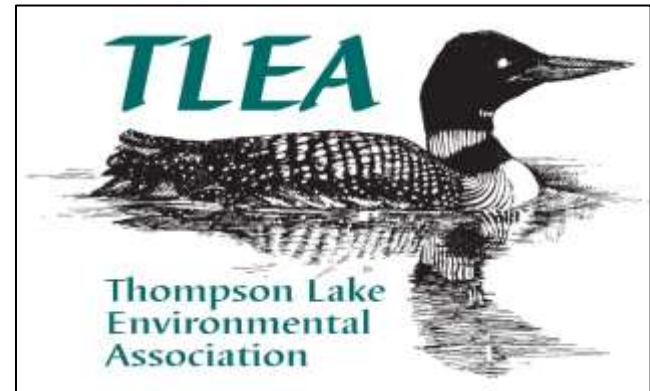


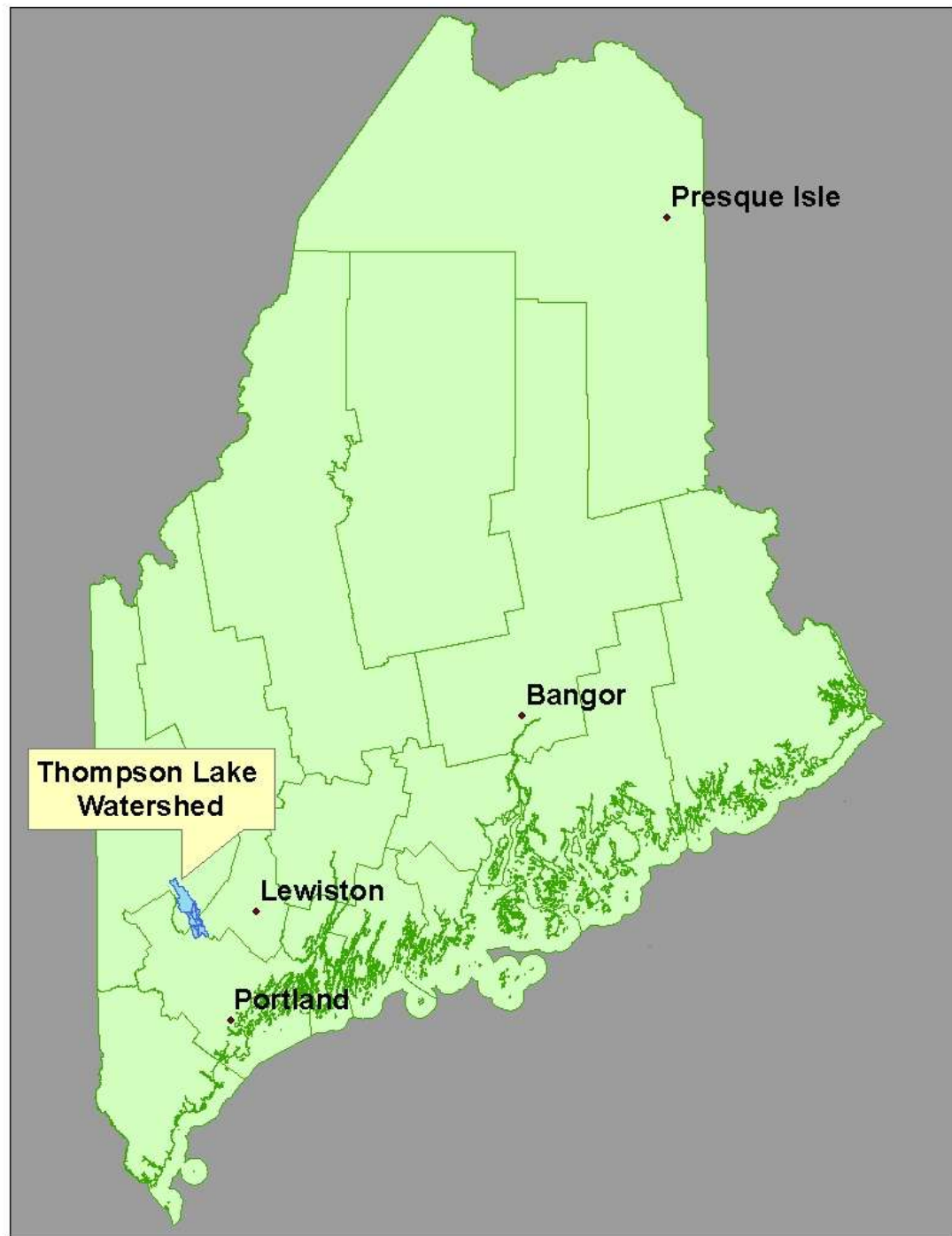
Thompson Lake



- Long Term Community Stewardship to Protect One of Maine's High Quality Lakes



***Thompson Lake
Watershed – the
Big Picture***



TL Watershed By the Numbers...

- **Lake surface area: 4,225 acres;**
- **Watershed: 35 square miles – touches five towns and three counties;**
- **1,200 seasonal and year-round residences;**
- **Three boat launches & three summer youth camps;**
- **Maximum depth = 121 feet. Average clarity 9.0 meters;**
- **Thompson Lake Environmental Association (TLEA): 400+ members.**



Kathy Cain, co-chair, TLEA

A History of Stewardship

- TLEA formed in 1971. Conducts water quality monitoring, milfoil abatement, Youth Conservation Corps (YCC), public education, and partners in watershed surveys and erosion control projects;
- Original watershed survey in 1994 (“Spot Survey “– 30% of watershed was surveyed);
- 1995: First 319 implementation project on Thompson Lake;
- Second watershed survey conducted in 1998;
- 2000: Watershed Management Plan compiled;
- 2001: Second 319 implementation project. YCC created;
- 2008-2010: Updated watershed surveys conducted for the ENTIRE watershed;
- ***2010-2012: Third 319 implementation Project.
Focus on Otisfield.***



Photos by Kathy Cain



Although the Otisfield portion of the Thompson Lake Watershed is small (red border) in comparison to the ENTIRE Watershed (black border), Otisfield's steep terrain makes it especially susceptible to erosion.

Cost-Sharing BMP Installation



before



after

Cost-Sharing BMP Installation



before



after

Youth Conservation Corps



(Installing a rubber razor bar across an eroding driveway)

- YCC specializes in buffer plantings, installing rubber razor bars and open-top culverts.
- Landowner purchases supplies; YCC provides labor.
- Funding: towns, grants, donations, membership dues.

- 2001: First year on Thompson Lake.
- Four or five area high school students.
- YCC typically does 20 jobs per summer...some are done in a matter of hours while others can take weeks.



(Reinforcing a crumbling retaining wall)

Examples of YCC's Handiwork



Installation of Residential Matching Grants



Public Education & Outreach

Conservation Landscapes

Using Native Plants

Buffers are an important part of proper watershed management. They slow and filter water and include elements such as, trees, shrubs, perennials, duff and mulch layers. Using native plants in your buffer helps your property to fit naturally into its environment and tends to need little maintenance.

Thompson Lake Environmental Association offers grants to Otisfield property owners to install buffers. The landowner matches the grant 1 to 1 up to \$300. Match may be any combination of cash, donated labor, supplies or equipment. Buffers are a great way to protect the lake, attract wildlife and add beauty to your property. For more information, call Jeff Stern, TLEA project coordinator, at 207-583-2723 or email him at sternjm@hotmail.com.

Native plants to consider

Shrubs

Blueberry
Bearberry
Sweet Fern
Sheep Laurel
Snowberry
Bar Harbor Juniper

Perennials

Black Eyed Susan
Cinnamon Fern
Purple Coneflower
Scarlet Bee Balm
Solomon Seal
Mint

Trees

Balsam Fir
Red Maple
Pagoda Dogwood
Black Spruce
White Oak
Black Willow
Black Cherry
Yellow Birch



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**TLEA PLANS AUGUST 20 MEETING ON SHORLAND
ZONING IN OTISFIELD**

Results...

- ✓ 18 NPS Abatement Projects; combined soil loss avoidance from fixing these sites 76.5 tons/year.
- ✓ 25 Technical Assistance Visits (“Thompson Lake Tune-ups”).



- ✓ 300 feet of buffer planted.

- ✓ 10 Residential Matching Grants (cost-sharing installation of conservation measures); estimated combined soil loss avoidance 10 tons/year.



- ✓ Public involvement through workshops, “house meetings” and tours.

(Photos by Kathy Cain)





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