



Friends of HRA Inc.  
27 Sturbridge Rd., Unit 17  
Holland, MA 01521  
Tel. 413 668 6851  
[www.hamiltonreservoir.com](http://www.hamiltonreservoir.com)

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January 2019

**Message from President:** As I pause and reflect on this year, I can't help to think what an opportunity we all had with the purchase of the boat ramp. I am grateful to our lake community for rallying and continuing to support the FHRA's efforts. Together, we are driving meaningful change to help preserve our beautiful lake. I believe 2019 promises to be an exciting year for us as we look at the possibility of dredging our lake. In the meantime, I hope your holidays were joyful and restful, and look forward to taking on 2019 together.

**Feasibility Study:** On December 18, 2018 the Holland Lake Oversight Committee as well as the Holland Board of Selectman met to discuss a lake dredging feasibility study conducted by MILONE & MACBROOM, INC. During this meeting, areas to be targeted were identified and methods for dredging were described. The full study can be found on the Holland town web-page at: <https://town.holland.ma.us/>

It was suggested that dry dredging methods should be used, where Hamilton reservoir will be drained to a level where most of the lake bed is exposed. Machinery could then access the lake bed and excavate the soil directly. Once the water level has been lowered, it is estimated to take 2-3 months for work to be completed. Work will most likely be conducted from Oct- April, when lake use is less heavy.

7 areas were targeted for dredging. A cost estimate was given based off three scenarios where the lake bed is dredged to a depth of 12 feet, 10 feet, or 8 feet. Each area can be dredged separately, and it was suggested that the town prioritize Culvert Area 5. Work on Culvert Area 5 includes the replacement of the culvert as well as dredging in the south basin.

Before any dredging activities occur on the lake, it was strongly suggested to the town that sources of sediment runoff be addressed.

The full report provides an assessment of the reservoir's biological conditions, bathymetry, sediment characterization and quality, potential dredging methods, sediment removal volumes and reuse or disposal options, aquatic habitat restoration opportunities, and likely costs, funding options, and permitting requirements. Please take time to read the full report on the Town's website. A final report will be presented to LOC/BOS again in or around March/April. I have been involved as President with our Lake Association for over 15 years and together we have accomplished many things, but we have a long way to go. It's been an uphill battle with our town officials and I cannot nor can the FHRA Board do it alone – we need more people to come forward and help with organizing fundraisers, research, writing for grants and contributing in any way. If you are interested in volunteering your time to this important endeavor, please contact the FHRA.

**Membership:** Our membership continues to increase with a total of 320 members! The FHRA extends a warm welcome to our newest members and thanks to our existing members who renewed. We ask that you continue to encourage your neighbors who are not members to join. Everyone’s support to preserve the lake is so important. The FHRA’s calendar year runs from 1/1/19 through 12/31/19. Please check the “last paid dues” note at the end of this newsletter to verify if you are current. All donations are tax deductible. Also, did you know you might be eligible for a matching gift. Ask your HR department today if your employer will make your gift have twice the impact. Every donation we receive is significant in funding our efforts to preserve the lake. You can find the membership form at the end of the newsletter or on the [hamiltonreservoir.com](http://hamiltonreservoir.com) site under the Form & Information tab. Please note that if you have not paid your dues since 2016 you will be dropped from the membership data base.

**Treasurer Report:** FHRA is a not-for-profit corporation (under Internal Revenue Code section 501 © (3) and was formed under the not-for-profit corporation laws of the state of Massachusetts. In September, the Board of Directors approved several community donations to the following local organizations: PTO of Holland \$50., Stop Abuse Today \$50., and Wreaths Across America for veterans’ graves in Holland Cemetery \$45.

**2019 Calendars:** The 2019 Hamilton Reservoir photo calendars are still available for \$12.00 each by contacting Chris McCooe, 508-361-3216 or Email: [mccooehanson@gmail.com](mailto:mccooehanson@gmail.com). Proceeds will go to the Preservation Fund.

Mark Your Calendar		
FHRA Member Meeting	05/11/19, 8:30 a.m. refreshments, business starts at 9 a.m. Holland Community Center	
Annual Pancake Breakfast	06/09/19, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Holland Community Center	Tickets will be on sale at the Members May meeting or email <a href="mailto:hamiltonreservoir@gmail.com">hamiltonreservoir@gmail.com</a>
4 <sup>th</sup> of July Boat Parade	07/04/19, 10:00 a.m. Meet at the Causeway	Both North and South basins
Aqua Riders Ski Show	08/17/19, 10:00 a.m. Aqua Riders Beach on North basin	
FHRA Member Meeting	08/24/19, 8:30 a.m. refreshments, business starts at 9 am a.m. Holland Community Center	
Paddle Skedaddle	08/25/19, 8:30 a.m. registration; 10:00 a.m. race – Aqua Riders Beach, on North Basin	Canoe, kayak, paddle board race

Thank you to all of our  
sponsors!

FHRA MEMBERS MEETING

May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Holland Community Center

Contact Jessica to place your ad in  
the next HRA Newsletter!

[jesschaffee@gmail.com](mailto:jesschaffee@gmail.com)

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**JOIN THE FHRA MEMBERSHIP – THIS FORM IS 2019 MEMBERSHIP – Please use this form if your renewing, as well.**

**YOUR 2019 membership dues are just \$50 per family**

I/we would like to join the Hamilton Reservoir Association or renew by contributing a total of:

\_\_\$100 (dues + \$50 donation)    \_\_\$75 (dues +\$25 donation)    \_\_\$50 (dues only 2019)

Payment Method:

Option #1      Online: You can pay your dues online at: [www.hamiltonreservoir.com](http://www.hamiltonreservoir.com).

Option #2      Check: I/we have enclosed a check in the full amount. Please make checks payable to Friends of HRA, Inc. and mail to 27 Sturbridge Rd., Unit 17, Holland, MA 01521.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Lake address: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Your dues and donations will be received by Friends of Hamilton Reservoir, Inc. a 501(c)3 organization. Remember to ask your employer about non-profit gift matching.**

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You Last Paid Dues in