

# Indian Ponds Association, Inc.

P. O. Box 383

Marstons Mills, MA 02648

[www.indianponds.org](http://www.indianponds.org)

March 16, 2015

Dear Members and Friends of the IPA,

This organization has been protecting the three Indian Ponds since 1958. Some years have required a lot of effort while some years are quieter. In this New Year, I want to extend heartfelt thanks to all of you who have supported the IPA's goals and for your participation in its activities and achievements during the past year. Presently all three ponds require special attention- a real challenge for a small organization.

**I am writing to ask you to renew your membership for 2014 or to join if you are not already a member.** This is an annual letter, familiar to many of you, however the need for your support and help continues to grow.

Membership is open to everyone. Regular, voting memberships are available to all households located within the IPA area (see map on other side). A friend of the IPA (FIPA) membership is open to individuals or households outside of the IPA area. We welcome all of you. We need all of you. Many of the challenges IPA faces presently require support from Town, State, and County agencies and departments. Our strength as a membership organization influences the effort and funds they will supply.

**Membership for one year is available for payment of \$20 dues.** This nominal amount is applied to cover our operating costs as an all-volunteer organization publishing four newsletters a year. Our mission statement at the bottom of this page lists education as a primary responsibility. The Board takes that very seriously. With the costs of printing and postage climbing annually we really need support to fulfill this commitment.

**The IPA Pond Restoration Fund:** *Hydrilla* is an invasive weed subject of many recent newsletter articles and now present in both Mystic and Middle Ponds. Hamblin Pond last year suffered a major algae bloom for most of the summer. We have partnered with the Town of Barnstable and other organizations to battle both these problems and to restore all three ponds to full health. It is time consuming and expensive. We would welcome targeted donations to this fund, and also any time you might be able to spare to monitor the health of the ponds.

**The Schwarm Memorial Scholarship Fund:** In continuing our commitment to education this fund supports scholarships awarded annually to one or more college bound high school seniors from Marstons Mills. Ed Schwarm was a board member and leader of the IPA who passed away in 2005 and this fund honors him and our shared goals.

**Your dues and donations are fully tax-deductible, as the IPA is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization.**

Please take a moment to complete and return the enclosed remittance envelope, together with your check. Matching gifts are always very welcome.

If you include your e-mail address, we will include you in special mailings of IPA events or announcements. Upon request, we will e-mail your Newsletter to you. We will not give away or sell your e-mail address or in any way violate your privacy. Also, if you are a seasonal resident, please try to give us dates when you won't be at your local address, so we can get your Newsletter to you all year. Please note that previous IPA Newsletters are archived on our website at [www.indianponds.org](http://www.indianponds.org) enabling any newcomers to review past issues.

Thank you again for your continued support of the Indian Ponds Association.

All the best,

*Alex Frazee*

Alex Frazee, President

**Mystic Lake**



**Middle Pond**



**Hamblin Pond**

*"To preserve and protect the natural environment and ecological systems of the Indian Ponds and surrounding parcels of land and watershed [and to] participate in studies and work with other agencies, individuals, and groups to educate the public, serve the community, and promote and preserve the Indian Ponds and surrounding areas."*

