



*Alton Shores Association*  
*2023 Newsletter*  
*questions@altonshores.com*

**ASA Board Members:**

***Barbara Shea - President***

***Andrew Flanagan - Acting Water Director***

***Andrew Flanagan - Pres-elect***

***Dana Rhodes - Roads Director***

***Diane Malburne - Treasurer***

***Tom Sullivan - Property Director***

***Cherie Dennard - Secretary***

***Andrea Knight—Community Affairs***

Can you believe the winter we are having? To date the largest amount of snow for Alton was 30" that came with three storms back to back. Since then we have had a roller coaster of weather, making it difficult to know what season we are really in. Even at this point the weather people are being cautious about what may be in store for the month of March, but we need to get through the rest of February first.

Last summer we held a beach party, in place of our Social, at beach 3. The turn out was amazing. It was a potluck of appetizers and snacks. It was a beautiful day and all seemed to enjoy meeting new members and catching up with others. There was a 50/50 raffle held and won by the O'Briens. To this point this has not yet been discussed but I am sure at our next board meeting it might come up.

The warmer weather will be here before we know it and the Shores will again come alive. As we begin to emerge as the weather warms and clean up begins from the winter, PLEASE look to make sure your culverts are clear of debris. This will help with the water to run safely and not undermine the roads that we all need for safe travel.

Have a safe and healthy rest of the winter and we all look forward to seeing you next season!!  
**Community Affairs Director**  
**Andrea Knight (community@altonshores.com)**

## President Update

Hello!

I hope that everyone enjoyed the holidays and had time to see family and friends after a few years of isolation. The 2023 season is fast approaching and the Board would like to ask for everyone's help with the spring cleanup of culverts in front of their homes. Water runoff down the mountain is a major contributor to road damage and having a "clear path" down can help lessen the impact. Thank you in advance for helping!

This past year the Board tried to focus on some improvements, not just repairs. The largest project was Upper Parandes. The road went from 13 feet wide to 18 feet wide and now has paved culverts on either side to help channel the water. This was an important investment since that is the only way in or out for the people living above that spot.

We also had a lot of trees removed from the beaches to ensure the safety of people and property. Unfortunately, during the removal process an old catch basin failed on top of beach 5 which required a rather expensive emergency repair. We also upgraded the access to beach 4 with cast steps instead of rocks.

The increase in the summer water fee will be used to pay an outside agency to come in and test the wells as required by the State and notify users of any issues. **As a reminder we NEED A DIRECTOR OF WATER!** It would be great if it were someone who is up year-round or at least full-time during the season, and knows a little bit about being able to make minor repairs.

Funding the maintenance and improvement of the roads and beaches continues to be a challenge with costs rising dramatically in the past few years. Out of the 217 homes, 31 owners do not contribute to the Association, which represents \$8,535 a year not available to make repairs and improvements. Of the 31 homes, 19 are located on ASA private roads, and as such are required by New Hampshire State Law RSA 231:81-a to contribute to the upkeep of the roads starting in 2019. We verified this with the ASA lawyer and the Board voted unanimously to make the road maintenance fee equal to the amount of the annual dues. Any owners not paying dues on ASA private roads will be billed accordingly. The Board also voted unanimously to raise the refundable Road Bond from \$1,500 to \$2,500 for owners doing work on their lots that require trucks to travel over ASA roads. If there is no road damage, the money is returned.

Alton Shores is a wonderful community and if we all pitch in as active members, it will only get better. Looking forward to seeing everyone up at the lake!

**Barbara Shea**

**ASA President:([president@altonshores.com](mailto:president@altonshores.com) )**

## Treasurer Update

Another year has passed and I hope you all got to enjoy your summer up here. For those of us who brave the winter in Alton Bay, hope you had fun skiing, ice skating, and ice fishing if you got to try any of these activities! Thank you to any new members who reached out to me to let me know their contact information. Once ice and mud season is over, I'll try to connect with you to get your Welcome Packet delivered. If I've missed anyone from last year, drop me a line too. I have some packets from last year I tried to deliver but no one was home, and I do not leave them at empty houses unless I've been instructed to do so. I also had trouble figuring out which house had new owners since so many homes do not have numbers on them - something the police and fire departments have voiced concerns about being a major safety issue.

Reminder: If you are selling your cottage or home, could you please send me an email so I can make sure I keep our files updated. Also don't forget to let me know if you change your mailing address.

We had an issue with the Boat Ramp Key and Lock at the end of our summer season. Someone walked away with the lock so we had to put on a lock that only I had the key for. I am currently working with A&B Lock Co. to ensure this can't happen again because it was a great inconvenience to our members and for my husband and me. Please be mindful and respectful that we all pay to get a key and share the boat ramp access.

Looking forward to the summer of 2023!

Thank you,  
**Diane Malburne**  
Treasurer: ([treasurer@altonshores.com](mailto:treasurer@altonshores.com))

## Road Update

Well it was 4 degrees when I got up this morning (2/25) so contrary to the past few weeks winter is alive and well here, in Alton Shores (also 6 more inches of snow on Thursday). Many of the road related items are stated above so I will not rehash them.

The board has decided to hire an outside concern ( **SD Kinmond Enterprise LLC**) to assess the 2.5 miles of private roads in the association. Their report will include assessment of the roadways, recommend improvements pertaining to drainage and

surface types. Also, by providing generalized costs for improvements, this report will allow all of us to understand the cost required to maintain access to our homes and maintain the value of the real estate. This will be a real eye opener for most of us.

As funds permit, there are several projects that need to be addressed soon. One is the exposed, plastic culvert pipe at the intersection of Parandes and Bonny. This pipe has been exposed for a couple of years now and has taken a beating from the plows. This should be repaired ASAP once spring arrives. Residents should use caution traversing this area. The intersection of Parandes and Marlene continues to crumble and Parandes, in general, should have some of the larger holes filled in. There are sections of Larry Drive that have a serious erosion problem due to ATV use and poor drainage.

As time permits, volunteers will be out doing crack sealing, before the summer onslaught of automobiles. Mud season will be upon us before long....keep your fingers crossed!

Thank you,  
**Dana Rhodes**  
Road Director ([roads@altonshores.com](mailto:roads@altonshores.com))

## Water Update

Spring is almost upon us and that means we are in the early stages of planning the annual start up of the water distribution system. While we strive to get the water turned on a week (or sometimes two) before Memorial Day Weekend, it is never a guarantee. A lot will be dependent on how components of the system held up throughout the winter. That said, mid-May is our goal and we will provide updates on social media. Feel free to text for the most accurate update as we get closer to the start of the season.

2023 will be the first season that the system operates under the license of a NH certified operator. The operator will help us with start up and shut down procedures, as well with monthly testing and compliance.

As the President mentioned in her update, we are actively looking for a new Water Director. This is a great way to get involved and meet your neighbors. I'll be available and look forward to helping with the transition. If you have questions about the role, please don't hesitate to reach out to me directly.

It's been a pleasure serving as your Water Director for the past several seasons and I look forward to another great season beginning this spring.

Best,

**Andrew Flanagan**

**ASA Water Director: ([altonshoreswater@gmail.com](mailto:altonshoreswater@gmail.com), (978-494-0617)**

### **Property/Beaches Update**

- Last fall tree work was completed on beaches where needed.
- Thanks all for removing your watercrafts by the end of the October deadline, no watercrafts were "Jailed"
- Just a reminder only watercrafts being stored for the season on the beaches need to be stickered.
- I will be inspecting beaches this spring and scheduling beach cleanups.
- BEACH 1 - Traction tape will be added to the walkway over the culvert.
- BEACH 2 - Last fall the gate lock was removed and not returned, a new lock will need to be purchased.
- BEACH 3 - Path to beach was cleared of protruding rocks and a water runoff diverter added, please make note of the sign indicating "STEP".
- BEACH 4 - To be surveyed to confirm boundaries.
- BEACH 5 - During the removal of trees the aerial truck collapsed an old catch culvert that was installed during the development of the association, emergency work was needed to replace the catch culvert, it is now safe for parking and foot traffic. Lastly a survey will be conducted to establish boundaries for future improvement.

Thank you,

**Tom Sullivan**

**Property/Beaches Director ([property@altonshores.com](mailto:property@altonshores.com) )**

### **What the Association needs**

**If you are interested and want to learn more about the Association, such as: how it began, the importance of participation by our membership, or you just have a question.**

**Please contact us and let us know at [altonshores.com](http://altonshores.com).**

**We are also looking for a few new board members: Roads Director and Water Director**

## **FYI:Good News**

Hills Pond and Sunset Lake continue not to be listed on the NH lakes map as being infested with an invasive plant species. These two bodies of water are tested yearly by a volunteer group, lead by Carol LeConti, and they keep a close eye on both bodies of water to ensure that they stay off that map!! Let's all do our best to keep it that way! Almost ALL of the lakes surrounding us are on the list! The water testing of Hills Pond and Sunset Lake is paid through donations made by the membership of both Alton Shores and Beaver Dam, so please make a donation for this important cause. We want to keep our waters safe and healthy!

One thing you could do is if you have a boat, and you move it from one body of water to another, you can help stop invasive plants and animals from spreading to our lakes. It is really important to take the time between lakes to clean, drain, and dry your boat, trailer, and gear. For information on how to do this, it is called the "Clean, Drain, & Dry method" on the NH Lakes website, visit [NHLakes.org](http://NHLakes.org).

Another way we can help is to be mindful of runoff. **Everything** you put on your lawn will eventually end up in the lake – this includes pesticides, herbicides, pet waste, etc., none of which anyone wants to swim in!

NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) has a program for volunteers to be trained as "Weed Watchers". They provide training and materials to help identify invasive species. All you have to do is get trained and then check the lake a few times each summer to look for unusual plants or animals. The only equipment needed to participate is a boat/kayak/canoe, a partner, and a clear day! To get more information send an email to [amy.smagula@des.nh.gov](mailto:amy.smagula@des.nh.gov). Or Check out NHDES's website: [des.nh.gov](http://des.nh.gov).

See you at the lake!

## **Mark your Calendars**

**The Annual ASA Meeting - 6/25/2023 Place for meeting TBD**

**The ASA Social/Beach Party? TBD**

## **A Reminder**

**Please remember to get your burn permits for those nights of sitting around the campfire. Always be responsible and NEVER LEAVE A FIRE UNATTENDED.**

**Quiet Hours for the town of Alton are from 10pm to 7am. Please be respectful of your neighbors and abide by them - this includes shooting off fireworks!**