Acton-Shapleigh Youth Conservation Corps Season in Review

Annual Season Program Report 2009 Summer Season



ASYCC Erosion Control Program

The goal of the ASYCC Courtesy Boat Inspection Program (CBI) is to prevent the introduction of invasive aquatic plants from entering the local watersheds. Invasive aquatic plants threaten the livelihood of the freshwater bodies, surrounding towns, and wildlife populations in the area. Invasive aquatic plants that are threatening New England's waterways include Hydrilla, Eurasian Milfoil, and Variable Leaf Milfoil. The ASYCC CBI program working with boat owners to educate and check their own boats for fragments are the watershed's the best methods to protect, Mousam Lake, Square Pond, Loon Pond, and Goose Pond from the attack of invasive aquatic plants.

CBIs are placed on both Mousam Lake and Square Pond public boat ramps to check all boats, trailers, and other items within the boats such as fishing tackle, lines and ropes, etc for invasive aquatic plants and fragments. If plants are found in or on the boat the CBI removes the plants, and sends the fragment to the lab for identification.

Since 2008, the ASYCC has increased the amount of coverage on both Square Pond and Mousam Lake Boat ramps. In 2008, the Square Pond boat ramp was covered Saturday and Sunday for a total of 12 hours per week, running from the first weekend of July to the last weekend of August, with coverage on Columbus Day weekend. This year Square Pond has increased its coverage to Friday through Sunday for a total of 21 hours, running from June 15th to Columbus Day weekend, October 12th.

In 2008, The Mousam Lake boat ramp was covered Monday through Thursday for a total of 8 hours each day, and Friday through Sunday for 10 each day, with a total of 62 hours per week. This year Mousam Lake has seen a significant increase in the amount of coverage throughout the week. Monday through Thursday the ramp is covered for 12 hours each day, and Friday through Sunday 14 hours per day, with a total of 90 hours per week. In addition to the increased number of hours covered on Mousam Lake the ASYCC was also able to extend the season of the program. In 2008, the Mousam Lake CBI season ran from June 21 to October 13, 2008. In the 2009, the CBI coverage on the Mousam Lake boat ramp started much earlier, May 22, to October 12, 2009.

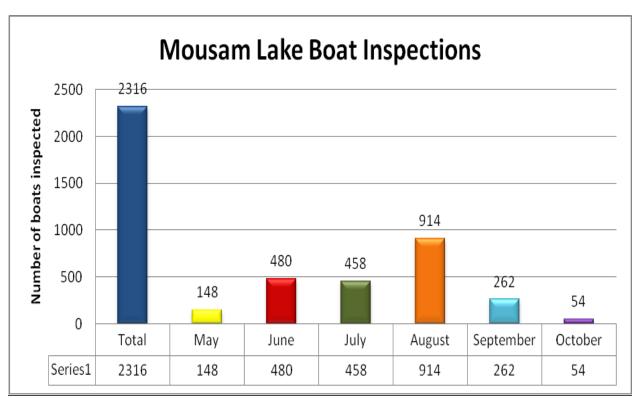
In addition to the increase in the length of the program and the number of hours covered on the ramps, the total number of boats inspected also increased. The total number of boats inspected on Mousam Lake was 2,316 boats, an increase of 49 percent from 1,182 boat inspections for the CBI season

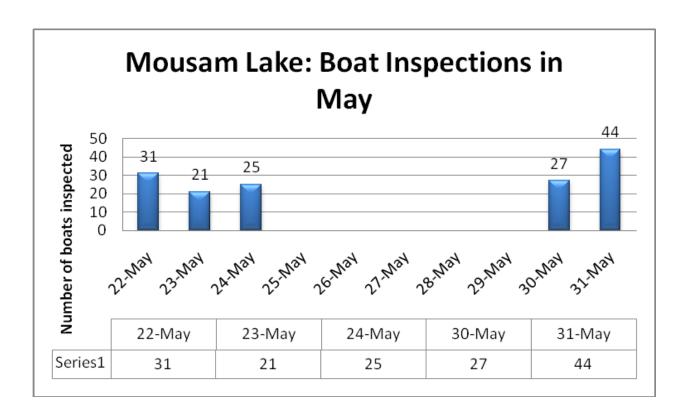
of 2008. Like Mousam Lake the number of inspections on Square Pond also increased, in 2008, 173 boats were inspected. While in 2009, 233 boats were inspected, a 26 percent increase from 2008 to 2009, for the total number of boats inspected. The graphs over the next several pages show the number of boats inspected, per day, month, and for the year. Additionally, four graphs at the end of this section compare 2008's number to the 2009 season.

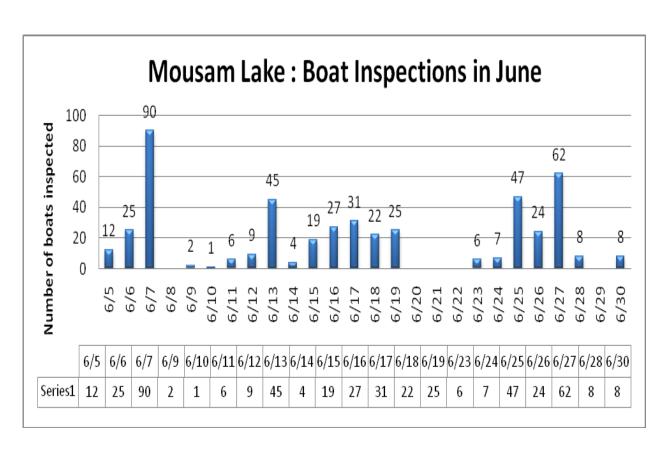
Plants found:

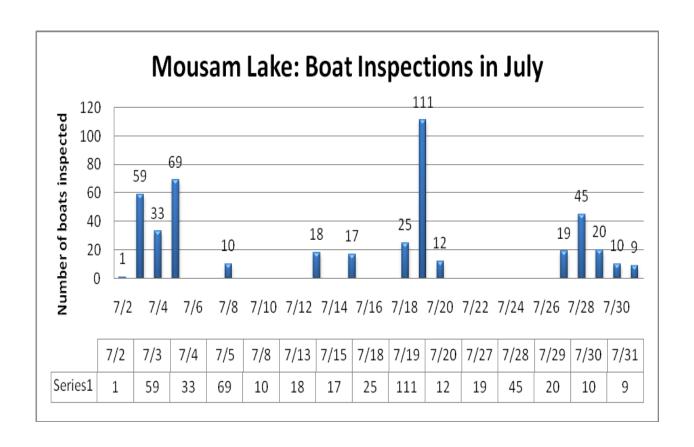
In 2008, there were a total of seven plants found; two from Square Pond and five from Mousam Lake. The plants found in 2008 were native to the area. This season, the CBIs were quite busy, with a total of 18 plant fragments found. Two were found by the Square Pond CBIs, and 16 found by the Mousam Lake CBIs. Of the 16 plants found either entering or leaving Mousam, two plant fragments stopped were from two lakes with known invasive species problems, Lake Arrowhead, and a lake in Massachusetts.

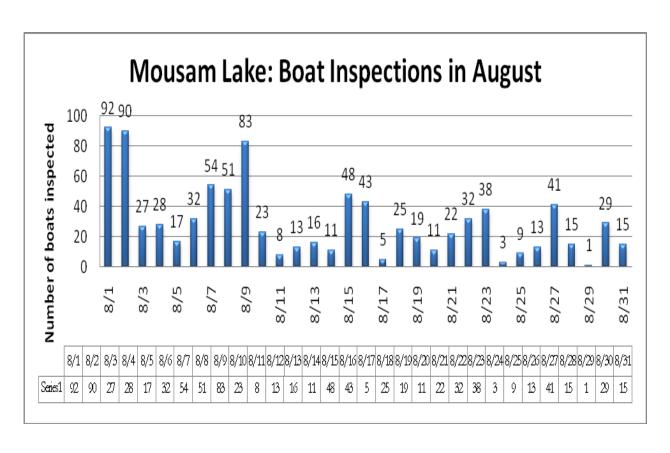
Mousam Lake Boat Inspections Data

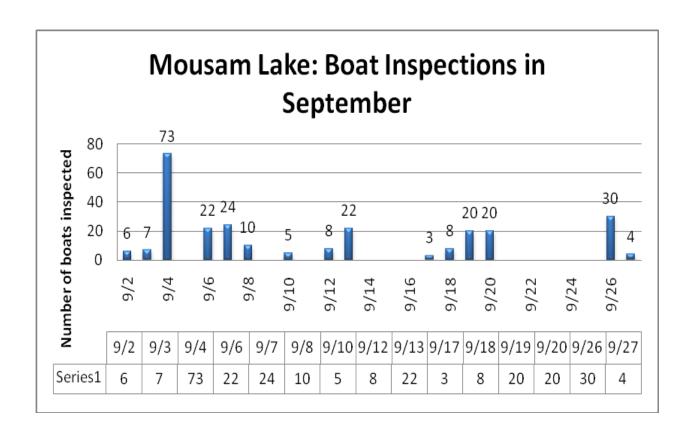


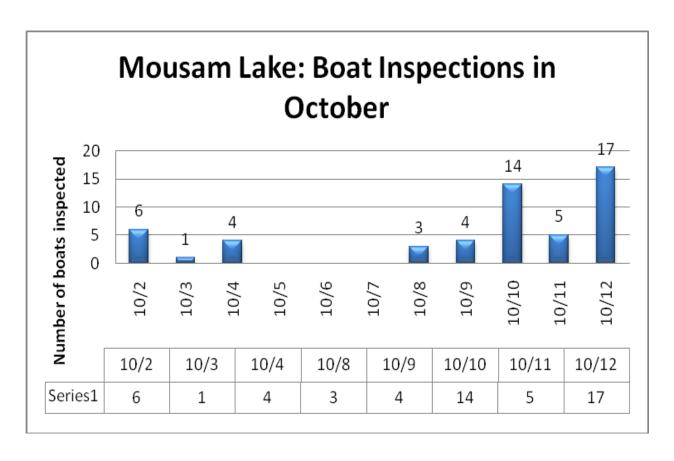




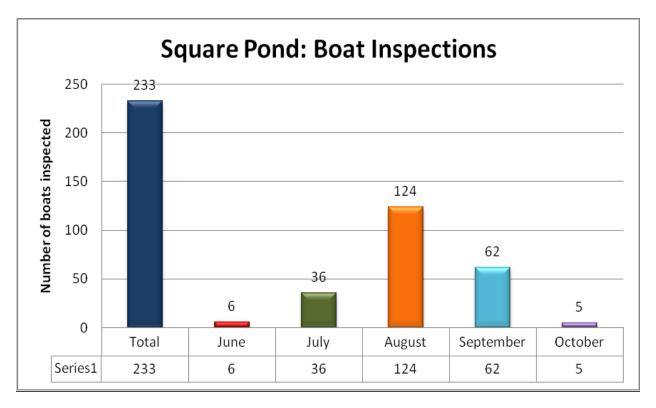


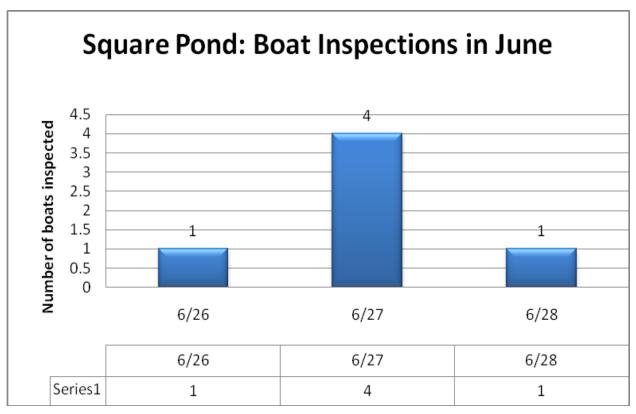


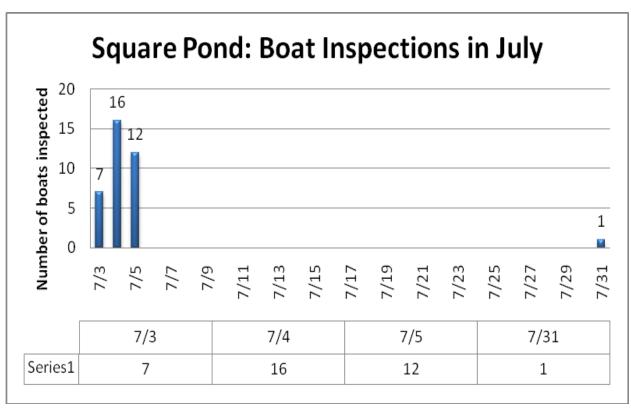


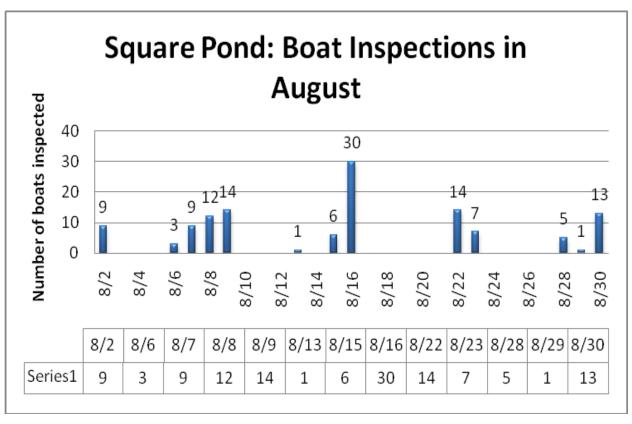


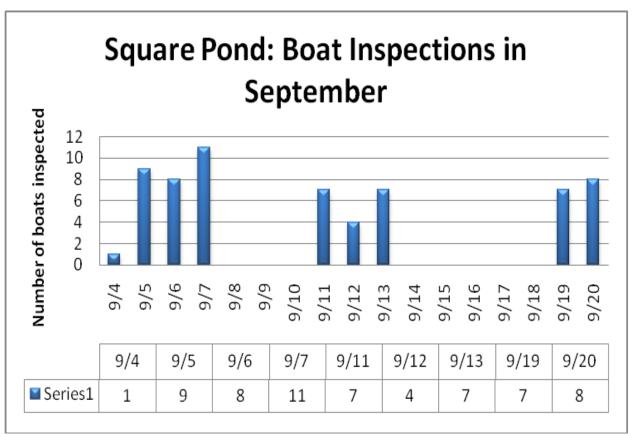
Square Pond Boat Inspections Data

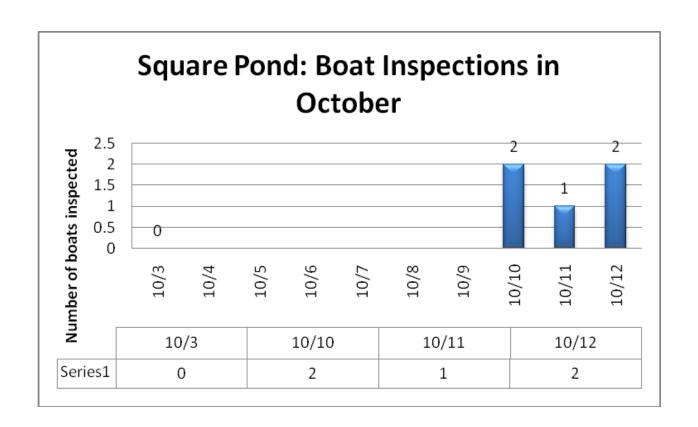












CBI season comparison

