



Maine Lakes Society

FOR THE SAKE OF MAINE'S LAKES

More Information on the EPA Cuts:

- Maine lakes provide drinking water to a third of our citizens, fuel local economies, generate \$3.5B in spending annually, power 52,000 jobs, fund roads, education and other vital services through property tax revenues in towns with lakes.
- Lakes are fragile, and ours are showing signs of wear: 53 great ponds bloom every year; 172 are listed as High Priority Lake Watersheds, and over 490 are “at risk from development.” (MEDEP)
- EPA’s 319 Program funds are the only available source of funds to repair sources of pollution and restore lakes that are impaired. This money could vanish by 2020 if Congress passes the budget cut.
- 319 Program benefits are well-proven. Look at these striking outcomes from Maine DEP’s latest Nonpoint Source Report to the EPA:
 - MEDEP’s 2016 Nonpoint Source report shows 500 tons of sediment, 550 pounds of phosphorus and 1,000 pounds of nitrogen were kept out of Maine lakes as the result of 15 projects completed in 2015.
 - 2015 funds applied to NPS remediation projects equaled \$930,000 which was locally matched by \$900,000, making \$1,830,000 worth of repairs to roads, ditches and culverts.
- *Success Stories* on the EPA website lists waters that have been removed from the impaired lake and stream lists as a result of 319 Program Projects: Highland, Mousam, Cobbossee, Madawaska, and Echo lakes, Duck Puddle Pond and Hottle Brook.