



TIME SENSITIVE: OPPORTUNITY FOR FUNDING A BOAT WASH STATION AT YOUR PUBLIC LAUNCH RAMP!

IMMEDIATE RESPONSE NEEDED TO PARTICIPATE

Save the Lakes is dedicated to improving, protecting and preserving RI's fresh water bodies. It was founded 15 years ago to help solve lake problems, with the most common being invasive weeds. STL's had a lot of work to do! Fortunately, RI is now positioned to more strongly combat aquatic invasive species (AIS) through a grant opportunity to purchase cleaning stations for ramps across the state. Invasive species often hitchhike on boats, motors and trailers, so it is important to aggressively pursue this initiative to establish stations for as many lakes as possible, in the shortest time possible. This imperative only increases with the recent introduction of hydrilla, a very fast spreading invasive, now found in at least 3 sites in RI.

What can you do? Join in the application that Save the Lakes (STL) is preparing to submit to the State of RI's new pool of funds now available to help lakes deter invasive species.

STL is reviewing several boat wash station models, one of which is already installed at Chapman Pond in Westerly. The models being considered are waterless, boater-operated systems and range in costs as follows:

- **CD3 Roadside: \$3,668** - this is the smallest station in this group and does not have a computer system to collect and analyze data
- **CD3 Outpost: \$20,170** - this mid-range model also has an annual software fee of \$1200
- **CD3 Larger Units: \$32,000 or more** (shipping & other costs not yet known)
- **Other Models:** A lake association may substitute a company and model of their choice but must provide a detailed description of the boat wash/ cleaning station, including costs

The requirements of the grant require a 50-50 match, with match being in actual dollars and/or in-kind contributions (such as volunteer effort, etc.). Each lake would be required to make full payment for the station of their choice and, if all requirements are met, would then be reimbursed for half of the cost.

To explore or initiate involvement of your lake, immediately contact either Judy or Bruce Payton:

colalucajudy@gmail.com (401) 486-8414
ri4ster1@gmail.com (401) 743-6460

Please provide your contact information to Judy or Bruce and, if possible, the model of interest:

1. Name of lake
2. Name of Contact Person
 - a. Email address
 - b. Phone number
3. Name of model for which you are applying
4. What is your match in funds? \$\$
5. What is your in-kind match? You will need to document your match. (Some lake associations are using the Blackstone Heritage Corridor program information for this)

Time is of the essence because proposals are due at DEM not later than January 26th.

Your initial contact with Judy Colaluca or Bruce Payton must be made not later than January 12th. This would not be a commitment to participate but an important step toward answering your questions and

helping you to choose the type of boat cleaning system that would work for your lake's public ramp. From this interaction, a determination can hopefully be made to include your lake in the proposal.

Link to information about the Roadside Model:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/18kB_ZwS5957W_jhjcFr-RCgpe_PsoUcN5ral7L0-nUA/edit

Link to information about the Outpost Model:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1jHvg6Q-RxhPzqdfKu-hBkJNQt-NXIERGP60FeWr4PCU/edit>

Brief background re: Save the Lakes

Save The Lakes (STL) was founded in 2008 out of necessity to find answers to growing fresh water problems. About 130 folks gathered in Smithfield to work together to solve these lake problems. The common problem was invasive weeds. What to do and how to manage them? There was no statewide organization nor a person designated to offer guidance to lakes and ponds. STL had its work to do! Recently,, Katie DeGoosh has been hired as a contact person at RIDEM to give guidance.

Katie developed a manual for the GREAT Boaters Program (Greeting Recreationalist to Empower And Train Boaters) with Save The Lakes. Together, RIDEM and STL offered training to local lake associations on use of this manual. Workshops were held in different communities to distribute information on numerous subjects, buffer zones, permitting process, RIDEM regulations, Lake Smart programs and outreach to elementary schools, etc.

Along with receiving RI state senate recognition, STL received The Senator John H. Chafee Conservation Honors Award and the Blueway Alliance Award.

The ability to set up boat cleaning stations at RIDEM boat ramps will further the STL Mission statement:

*We are dedicated to improving, protecting and preserving fresh water bodies
of Rhode Island for future generations.*