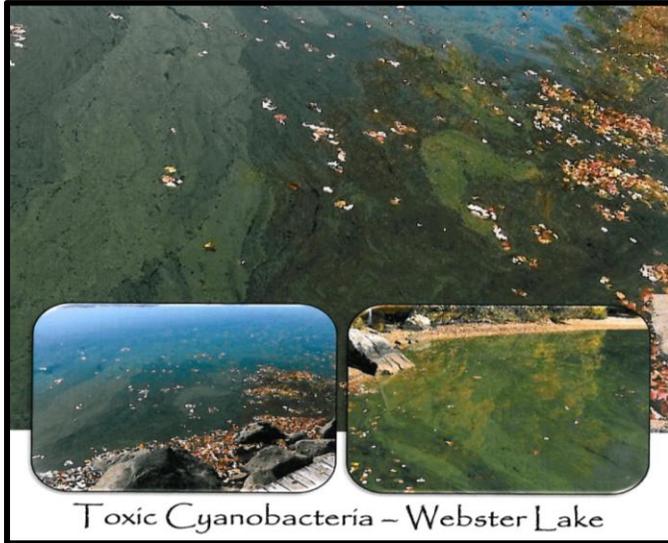


# EPA's Nonpoint Source Pollution (Section 319) Program and NRCS's Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) Success Story

**Location:** Franklin, New Hampshire – Strolling Woods WRP Easement

**How the 319 Program and NRCS program(s) were used in synergy to achieve success:**



Webster Lake was declared an Impaired Body of Water in 2005. In 2006, the EPA's 319 program helped to fund a Watershed Management Plan for the City of Franklin with the goal of identifying ways to improve water quality in the lake. Funding for this plan included \$50K from Section 319 as well as a \$20K match from local sources. Specifically, this plan mentioned the area surrounding Strolling Woods as a potential target for land protection and restoration efforts. In 2010, the owner of Strolling Woods voluntarily enrolled 225 acres into an NRCS WRP easement, including one of the most degraded drainages in the watershed.

As part of the planned restoration, several wetlands on the property will be enhanced with additional flood storage capacity and native plant communities. The landowner also donated a small section of the property to be used for a new community septic system. This new system has been designed to replace 25 dysfunctional septic tanks along the shoreline, and Section 319 will contribute approximately \$70K towards this effort.

While this restoration is still in progress, it was estimated that the wetland enhancements, stormwater improvements, and community septic system will decrease phosphorus loading by up to 30% (exceeding the 10% reduction needed to meet the target in-lake phosphorus values as established by US EPA in 2009). This effort may contribute enough water quality improvements to de-list Webster Lake as an Impaired Body of Water.

This project could not have happened without significant cooperation and investment from a diversity of partners (listed below). Additional funds from NHDES Aquatic Resource Mitigation (ARM) and the NH Moose Plate Grant will also be used for various restoration components.



**Major Cooperating Partners:**

- US Environmental Protection Agency
- New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES)
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NH-NRCS)
- City of Franklin, NH
- Webster Lake Association
- NH Lakes Association (Lake Conservation Corps)
- NH Moose Plate Grant
- NH Division of Historical Resources (DNR)

**Additional Cooperators:**

- NH Fish & Game
- NH Department of Transportation
- NH Department of Agriculture
- UNH Cooperative Extension
- NH Audubon
- Loon Preservation Committee
- Rick Van de Poll (Wetland Scientist)\*

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