



Lake Water Quality Monitor

Volunteer Position Description

Program Overview

Since 1986, NLRA volunteers have been integral in monitoring the health of Newfound Lake. It is through their efforts that we are able to understand the current state of the lake ecosystem and how it has changed over time. NLRA maintains seven long-term monitoring sites on Newfound Lake that capture trends in several important indicators of water quality. Volunteer monitors collect water quality samples and process them at home with guidance and support from NLRA staff. Data collected by volunteers is added to NLRA’s long-term record and analyzed for trends over time.

For more information on Newfound’s water quality, visit <https://newfoundlake.org/water-quality/>

Position Summary

Lake monitoring is a seasonal volunteer position overseen by NLRA’s Conservation Program Manager. Lake monitoring happens weekly from May to September. Volunteer monitors work independently to collect samples and water quality measurements at one or more established sites on a weekly or bi-weekly basis.

Lake Monitoring	Time Commitment	Try it Out
<p>What’s Involved Independently monitor one or more available sites after attending a NLRA training or refresher event.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flexible schedule. Head out when time allows and the weather looks good • Best suited for volunteers with a motorboat on the lake 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May-September • Weekly or bi-weekly • 1-2 hours per site including travel and at home processing 	<p>Interested volunteers can join NLRA staff or Watershed Stewards for a day on the water sampling at all seven monitoring sites.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn about water quality through hands on sampling • No boat required • 8AM to 3PM

Volunteer Responsibilities

- Follow established protocols to conduct water quality measurements and collect water samples at designated locations.
- Process samples within 24 hours of collection and provide NLRA with the required paperwork and samples in a timely fashion.
- Accurately record all water quality data using the provided datasheets and upload water quality readings using our online reporting form.
- Report total time spent volunteering including date and hours worked using the Volunteer Log Form.

Requirements

- Volunteers must provide their own boat and anchor ensuring that it is properly licensed and legally operated.
- Must be available for the majority of the sampling season (May-September) and communicate known schedule conflicts as soon as possible to ensure consistent coverage.
- Lake monitoring requires moderate physical activity. Volunteers must be able to lift anchors, kneel down for 10-minute intervals, and be comfortable leaning over the side of a boat to collect samples.

- Water samples should be processed and frozen directly after collection, requiring freezer space and storage of loaned equipment. Samples can also be processed at the NLRA office M-F between 9:00 am to 3:30 pm with advance coordination.

NLRA Responsibilities

- Provide all materials, instruction, training, and necessary volunteer coordination.
- Coordinate all necessary laboratory analysis.
- Compile data, analyze results, and communicate to the public.

Point of Contact

Questions can be directed to:

NLRA Conservation Program Manager

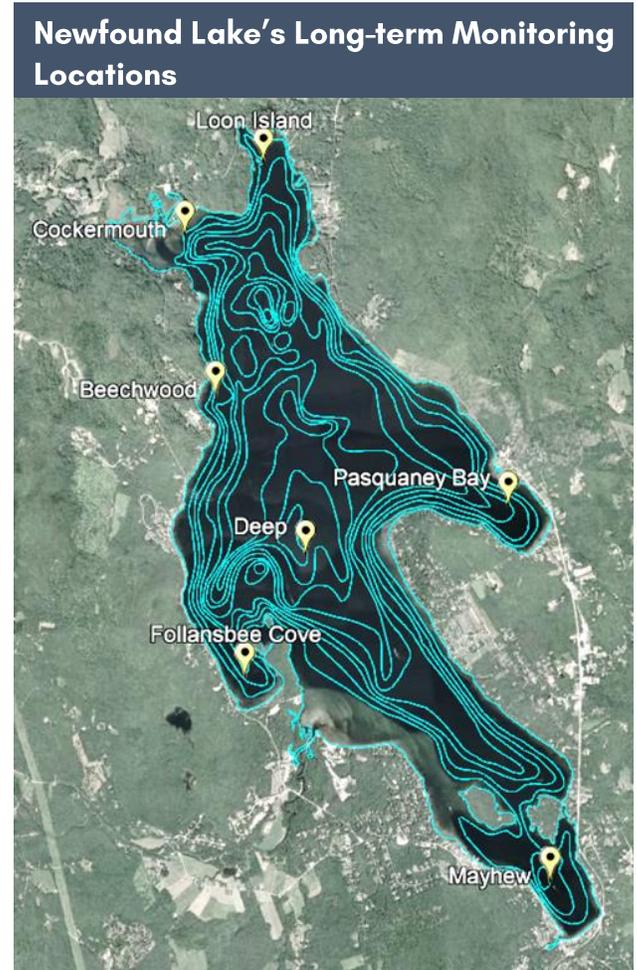
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Our mission

The Newfound Lake Region Association's mission is to protect Newfound Lake and its watershed. The Association – through education, programs, and collaboration – promotes conservation and preservation of the region's natural, social, and economic resources.



Thank you for supporting NLRA with your time and talents!



NEWFOUND LAKE REGION ASSOCIATION

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