

Aug 8, '24 - Kirk Bishop and Stu Greer from the LSPA to speak on pollution issues in the Lake Sunapee Region:

Kirk and Stu gave a detailed and professional presentation on the water quality and pollution issues facing our local lakes. The watershed encompasses 47 square miles. The Lake Sunapee Protective Assn. was founded in 1898 to deal with the issues of water quality and pollution in this watershed area. The main chemical issue is the presence of excess phosphorous getting into the water and the creation of algae which results in unsafe water conditions. The main culprits in this problem are broken or primitive septic systems, that are not properly maintained, as well as runoff of fertilizers from properties adjacent to the lake. Heavy rains wash the effluent from the septic systems and fertilizers from lawns into the lakes causing the growth in algae. There is also runoff issue from creeks emptying into the lakes. Solutions include the maintenance and replacement of septic systems and the use of low or zero phosphorous fertilizers. In addition, the local towns need to be more active in the approval and monitoring of septic systems around the lakes. The presentation by Kirk and Stu was well received and eye-opening.