

City of Lewiston Press Release

Members of the Media: Below please find a press release **announcing a new study of Lake Auburn water quality and the Lake Auburn Watershed**. Any media coverage that you could render would be greatly appreciated. Thanks, Dottie

PRESS RELEASE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LEWISTON: **On Wednesday, October 24, 2012, the City of Lewiston Water Division and the Auburn Water District held a kick-off meeting to commence a new study of Lake Auburn water quality and the Lake Auburn Watershed.** The study will focus on the recent change in algae causing low dissolved oxygen in Lake Auburn and higher than normal turbidity. The study will investigate potential causes and control of current and future algae blooms.



Lake Auburn stakeholders met at the local new Ultraviolet Light Water Treatment Facility with utility staff and their consultants, CDM Smith and Comprehensive Environmental, Inc. (CEI). Stakeholders discussed investigation and possible solutions towards averting future algae blooms which could impact Lake Auburn water quality in the near future as well as the lake's long-term health. CDM Smith, in partnership with CEI, will continue researching and studying the lake, and a late fall meeting is planned to review the upcoming testing results.

David Jones, Director of Lewiston Public Works, stated, ***“We are very fortunate to have experts in the field working with us to ensure the future health of Lake Auburn. Our consultants are national experts in drinking water and watershed management. We are very pleased our stakeholders include experts from Maine DEP, Inland Fish & Wildlife, Drinking Water Program, the Maine Voluntary Lake Monitoring Program, USDA Wildlife Services, Maine Water Utilities Association, Maine Health & Human Services, Water Resource Services, Lake Auburn Watershed Protection Commission, Wilson Pond Association, Municipal Planning & Code, and Bates College who are well versed on the very algae that recently caused the concern for Lake Auburn. We look forward to continuing our collaboration to preserve and improve the health of Lake Auburn, which we consider the single most valuable natural resource for the Lewiston-Auburn area.”*** ###