

## Goose Bay Volunteer Boat Monitors

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Goose Bay Reclamation Corporation members start a boat monitoring program to help inform boaters about the spread of invasive species. In the last several years a number of steps have been taken to improve the quality of Goose Bay. Residents of Goose Bay have organized to address the issues of Eurasian Watermilfoil and other invasive species. Informational meetings were held, numerous fund raising activities and donations, as well as public grants have helped to finance a flow study which will lead to the science of how to fight Goose Bay's Eurasian Watermilfoil. After attending the Adirondack Watershed Institute Watershed Stewardship Program workshop at JCC, presented by Eric Holmlund, Reclamation members felt that educating the public was an important part of preventing the spread of milfoil. On August 16<sup>th</sup> a boat monitoring program began. There are over 180 invasive species that can be spread from one body of water to another via boats, tackle and boat trailers. Kevin and Emily Wood, Robert and Carol Lamoureux, and Robert and LuAnn Schrader greeted boaters as they launched their boats at the Town's public dock on Goose Bay. The key message is to clean, drain and dry boats. Before entering water, drain bilge and livewells. A clean and dry boat will not carry microscopic invasive species into the water. Remove any weeds hanging from the trailer or boat. Upon leaving the water, drain bilges and livewells and clean any weeds from trailer, boat and fishing gear. If possible, clean and dry boat for five days before entering a new body of water. Ten boats and two kayaks were inspected and cleaned on the first day of monitoring. Informational pamphlets were given out to boaters. All boaters were cooperative and willing to help prevent the spread of invasive species. Goose Bay Reclamation Corporation hopes to provide more monitoring

days in the future. Goose Bay is enjoyed by many people and it is in all of our interests to nurture and protect the Bay as well as other bodies of water. When boating the next time, keep in mind: clean, drain, and dry boats.



Left to right – Bob & LuAnn Schrader and Kevin & Emily Wood



Boat Inspection – Boat owners Joe and Ryan Cullen along with volunteer boat monitors Kevin Wood and Bob Lamoureux