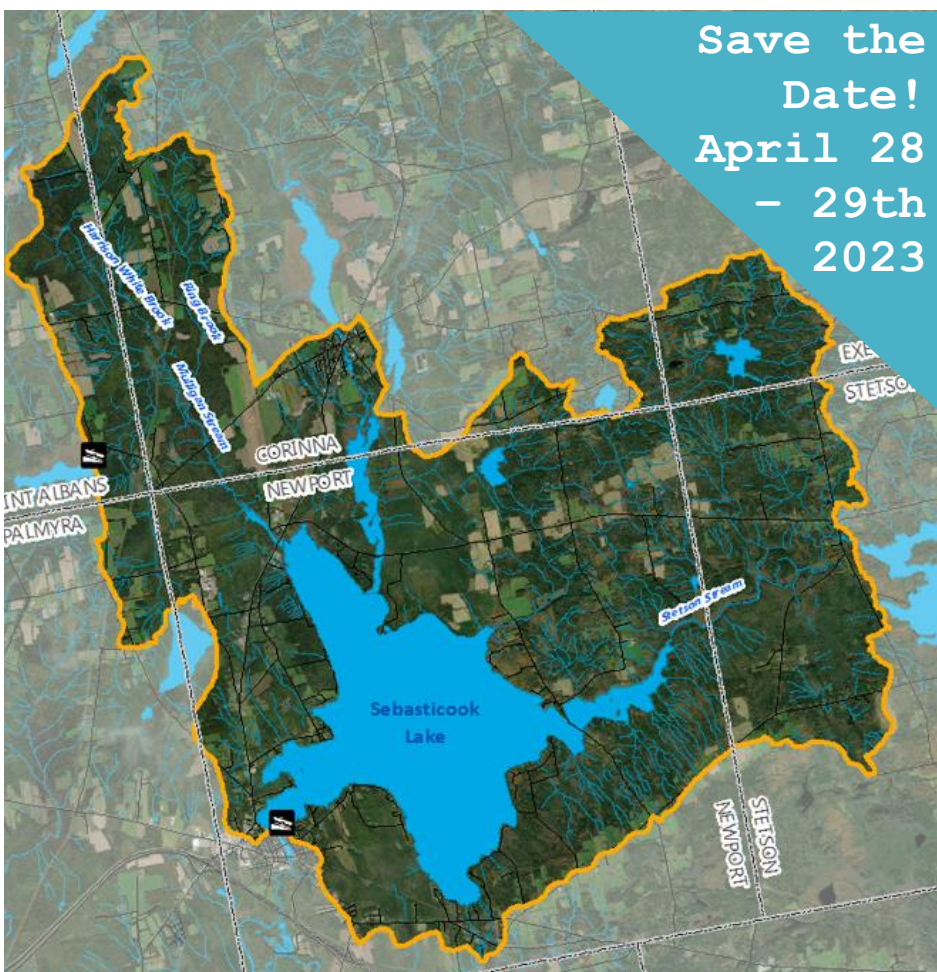


SEBASTICOOK LAKE WATERSHED SURVEY



Save the
Date!
April 28
– 29th
2023

Become a Survey Volunteer!

Attend a free online training on Thursday, April 20th at 6 pm to learn about watersheds, how to identify erosion and other sources of polluted runoff, and ways to help improve the water quality in Sebasticook Lake.

Volunteers Are Needed!

For more information or to register:

Contact the Town of Newport at (207) 368-4410 or email: jricker@newportme.org



The Sebasticook Lake Watershed Survey is a community effort to improve the water quality in Sebasticook Lake now, and for future generations.

Project partners include: Towns of Newport, Corinna and Dexter, Sebasticook Lake Association, Penobscot County SWCD, Maine DEP, and Ecological Instincts. Funding for this survey, in part, was provided by the US Environmental Protection Agency under Section 604(b) of the Clean Water Act. Funding is administered by the Maine DEP in partnership with EPA.

What is a Watershed?

A watershed is the area of land that drains to a waterbody. The Sebasticook Lake watershed covers approximately 53 sq. miles of land in Newport, Stetson, Corinna, Exeter, Saint Albans, and Palmyra. Changes to the land in a watershed can affect the water quality of the lake and downstream waterbodies. Sebasticook Lake's watershed encompasses a large portion of the drainage of the East Branch Sebasticook River, and a large part of the overall Sebasticook River watershed.

What is a Watershed Survey?

A watershed survey helps identify and prioritize current sources of soil erosion and stormwater runoff on developed land in the watershed. This includes shoreline properties, state, local and private roads, stream crossings, agriculture and forestry, and commercial properties. The last watershed survey for Sebasticook Lake was conducted in 1998, over two decades ago. Current information is needed to develop long-term planning strategies that will improve the water quality in Sebasticook Lake, which is currently listed on the State of Maine's Priority list of Impaired Lakes due to its history of annual algal blooms.

Watershed Survey Benefits:

- Raises public awareness about the need to protect Sebasticook Lake from stormwater runoff and soil erosion.
- Documents current problems that affect water quality.
- Provides landowners with information about how to reduce or eliminate soil erosion and polluted runoff from their property.
- Provides the means by which to acquire state and federal grants to fund future projects that will improve water quality.