

The Friends of Gorham's Pond

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Letter from John Lundeen, President, Friends of Gorham's Pond

February 24, 2014

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As the leaves of autumn reach their glorious peak around the homes, fields, and streams of Darien, the Friends of Gorham's Pond are happy to wish you the best of the season and invite you to join us for our Annual Meeting, November 19th, 7:30, in the Auditorium at Town Hall.

It has been an active year for the Friends, with our plans for the Upper Pond Project dramatically hastened along toward completion by the August announcement of an additional STEAP Grant from the State of Connecticut. With the energy and hard work provided by new, active volunteers, we celebrated an energizing, first-ever glorious fall social gathering down by the Pond in October, with over 60 attending neighbors and supporters meeting to hear about plans for the future.

Plans are moving forward with our Engineers, the Town and the State for permitting for the restoration of the Upper Pond, with a fish ladder and a rebuilt dam there. Testing of the Total Clean system is provided for in our new State Grant, and we are hoping to demonstrate a new technology that could solve the sediment disposal problems for the Upper Pond, Gorham's Pond proper, and perhaps for dozens of other projects around the State of Connecticut.

We have made progress, but we still have much to do. The sedimentation from both our local rivers, Stony Brook and Goodwives River, continues to accumulate, though at a much-reduced rate, but threatening the Pond that lies at the historic center of Darien. Those of us who appreciate the return of migrating fish to Gorham's Pond, the beautiful water birds that they bring, the otters and other animal life that is found around the waters of the rivers and the Pond are still determined to see a restoration of what was.

Join us on November 19th, follow our work, and be as generous as you can in supporting our request for annual membership and the Capital Campaign which is limited to use in the real "shovel in the ground" work that lies ahead.

Friendly regards,

John Lundeen

President, Friends of Gorham's Pond, Inc.