Watershed Protection Activities and Accomplishments in Maine

Susan Breau
USDA Source Water Program Mgr.
Maine Rural Water Association

mrwa
MAINE RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION

"319 Program"

- ✓ The 1987 amendments to the Clean Water Act established the Section 319 Nonpoint Source Management Program.

Nequasset Lake

- ✓ Watershed Area: 20.5 square miles
- ✓ Surface Area: 392 acres
- ✓ Elevation 17’
- ✓ Maximum Depth: 63’
- ✓ Mean Depth: 30’
- ✓ Volume: 10,757 acre/feet
- ✓ Warm and cold water fisheries, searun alewife

Project Background

- ✓ 2005 Watershed Survey
- ✓ 67 eroding sites identified
- ✓ Community building necessary

Project Goals

- ✓ To engage the community in helping protect Nequasset Lake
- ✓ To identify non-point sources of pollution in the watershed
- ✓ To fix as many sources of non-point source pollution as possible

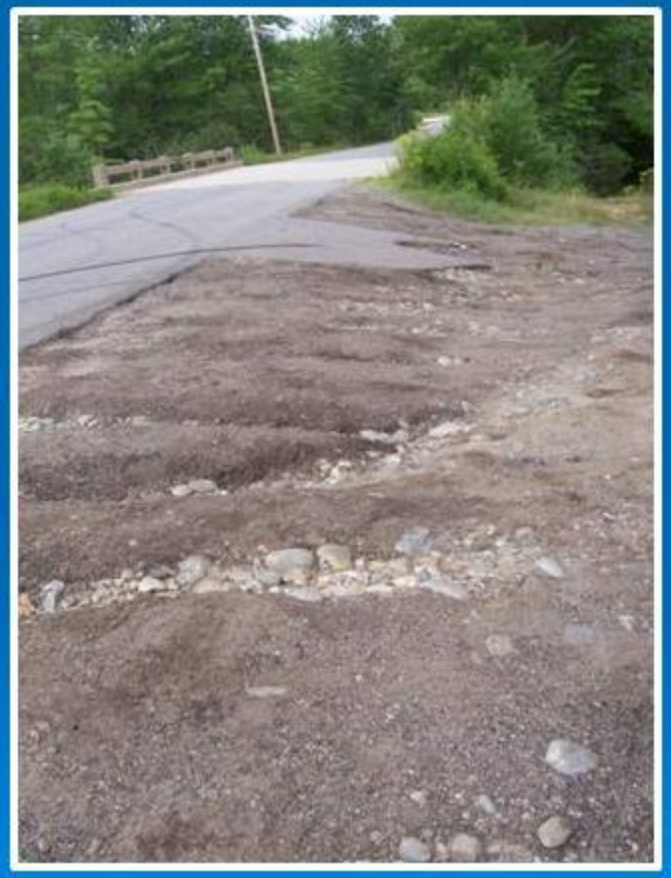
Public Forum

Brook Survey

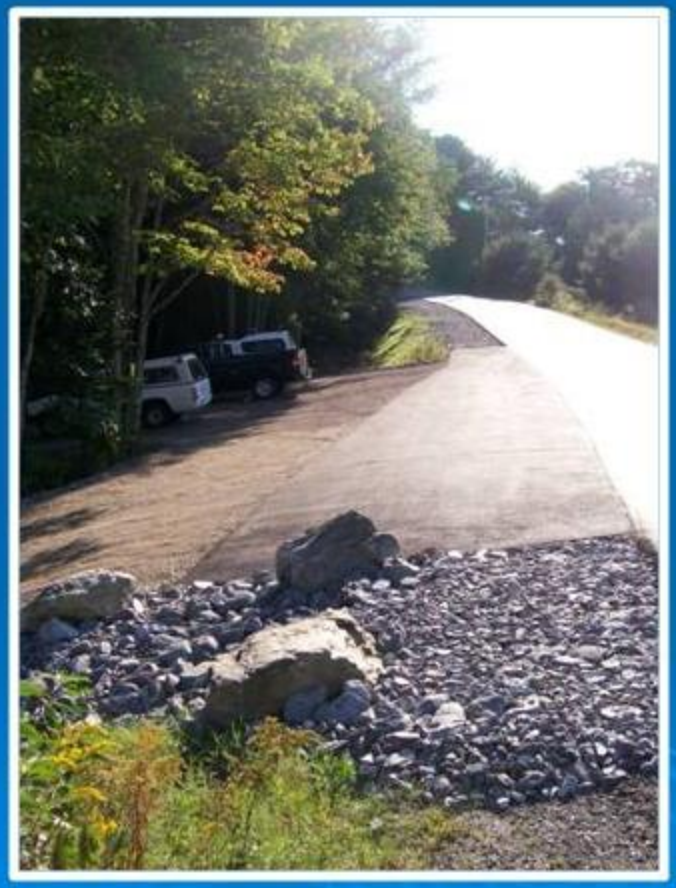
Vegetated Buffer Planting

“Lake Day”

Old Stage Road Site



Before

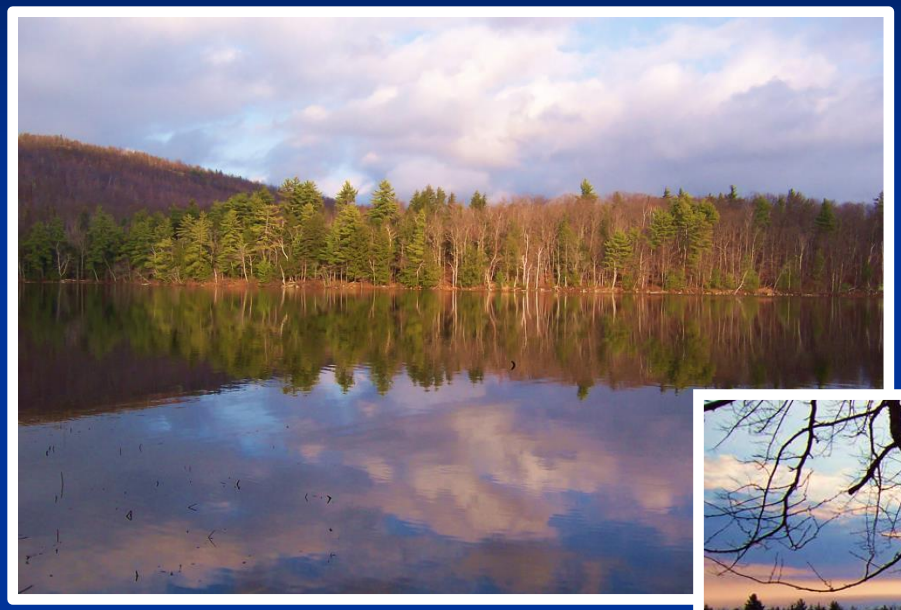


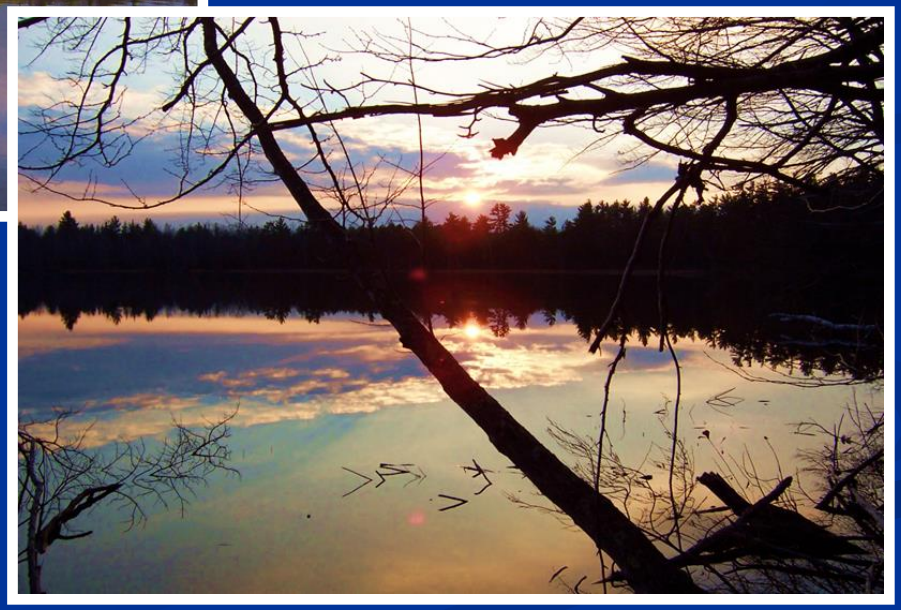
After

Results of Nequasset 319

- ✓ 10 partnering entities
- ✓ 20 eroding sites fixed
- ✓ Over $67,000 federal dollars spent in watershed
- ✓ Over $100,000 total invested to protect lake
- ✓ Annual reduction in P export from 2 sites: 21 lbs
- ✓ "Friends of Nequasset Lake" formed, also worked on recreational trails around lake…

Halls Pond, Paris



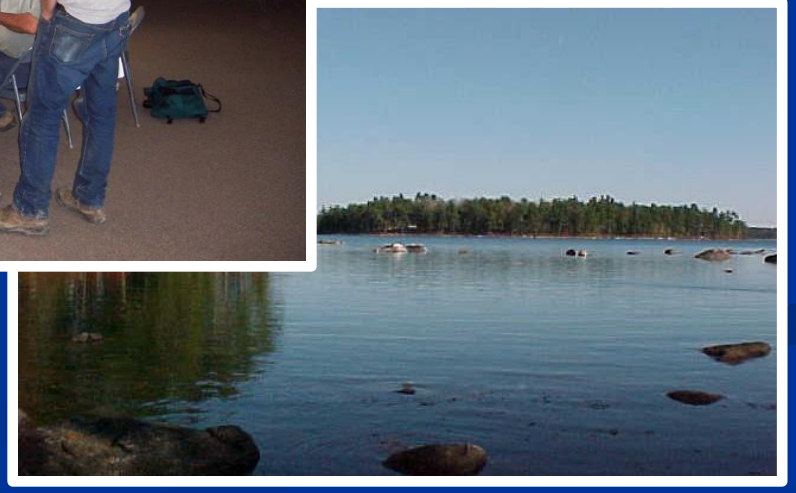


Model Wellhead Protection Ordinance

Developed by the Maine Rural Water Association and Eaton Peabody under a grant from the Maine Drinking Water Program

Maine Rural Water Association

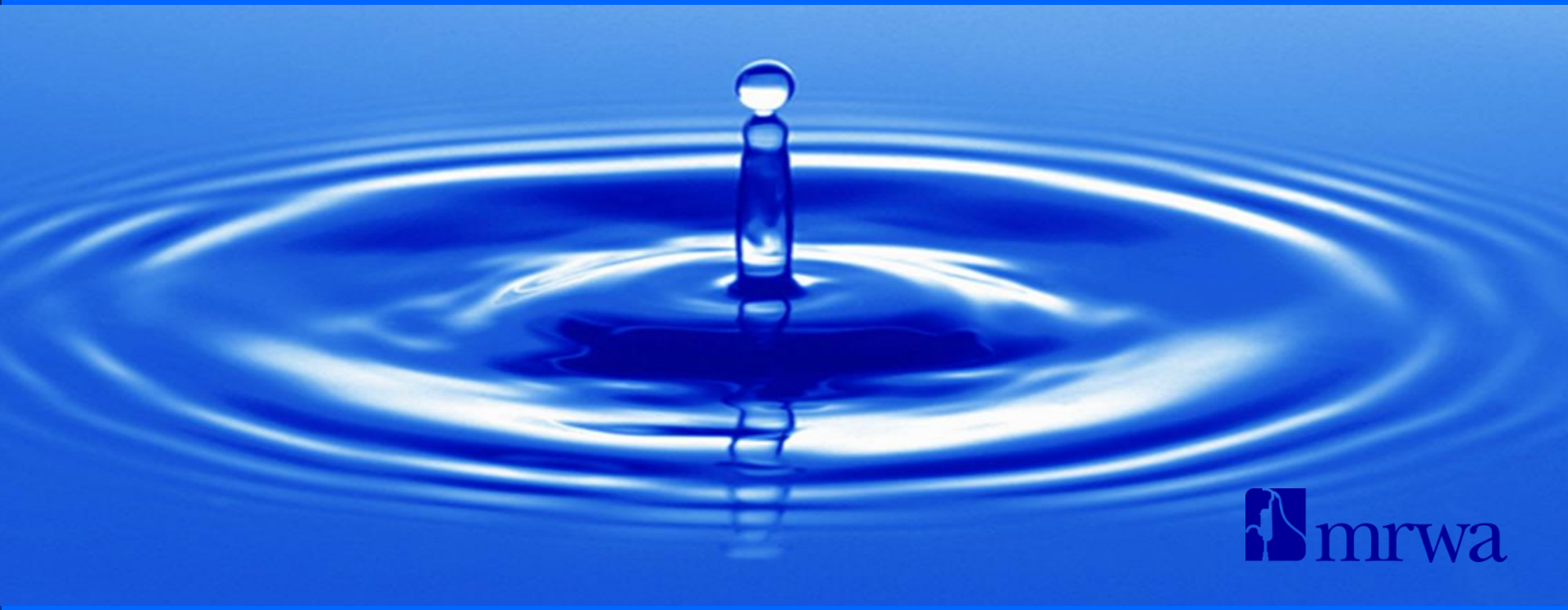
Branch Lake, Ellsworth



How Much is Enough?

8
FRONT

Thank You…



Susan Breau, Hydrogeologist
Maine Rural Water Association