Celebration of Collaboration on Lake Carmi Alum treatment

The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) welcomed participants and stakeholders to a celebration of collaboration to mark the Alum treatment at Lake Carmi on October 1, 2025.

The bright sunshine at the event at Lake Carmi State Park mirrored the optimism felt by all participants that the treatment will put an end to the blue-green algae outbreaks that have curbed activities on Lake Carmi during the second half of summers in recent years.

Participants at the event on October 1st at Lake Carmi State Park: (L to R):

Keith Pilgrim, Senior Water Resource Scientist, Barr Engineering; Julie Moore, Secretary, Vermont Agency of Natural Resources; Nate McKeen, Director of State Parks, Vermont; Neil Kamman, Deputy Commissioner Vermon DEC; Pete Benevento, President, Lake Carmi Campers Association; Laura DiPietro, Director of Water Quality, Vermont Agency of Agriculture; Dave Bennion, Chairman of Franklin Selectboard.

"This work is really a reflection of partners," said DEC Deputy Commissioner Neil Kamman. "It's a real turning point."

Julie Moore, the Secretary of Vermont's Agency of Natural Resources, lauded the collaboration among all stakeholders in the Lake Carmi community that has led to the treatment.

Laura DiPietro, the acting director of Water Quality with the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, echoed Moore's comments.

The treatment was developed based on a feasibility study designed by Vermont's DEC and conducted by Barr Engineering. Keith Pilgrim, Senior Water Resource Scientist with Barr, is confident the treatment will work. "Fortunately, based on the kind of sediment, the watershed loads and the amount of money that is available to do the treatment, it has a really good chance of being super successful, and for a long time."

"I'd like to invite you all to come back next summer, hopefully the end of July or the beginning of August when this lake is bright blue and so inviting that you can't wait to get your feet in, or at least come back for a boat ride," said LCCA president Pete Benevento.

The treatment began in late September and will be completed by Halloween.