

CHILMARK POND COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

Pond Openings 2017/2018

October 2-30, 2017

February 6-21, 2017

March 14-May 5, 2018

There was a Fall opening for the first time since 2012. It lasted for 4 weeks, which was a very successful flushing of the pond.

The winter opening lasted for 2 weeks, which was long enough for another successful flushing of the pond.

Normally, we would not have had to open the pond again in March. However, there was a major nor'easter on the 2nd. This caused wash-overs at the area of the cut, in the middle pond, and at Lucy Vincent Beach. This was followed by a nor'easter on the 7th and another on the 12th. Due to the rain and the wash-overs, all three Great Ponds (Chilmark, Edgartown & Tisbury) reached historic levels. Between the timing of these storms, which occurred 5 days apart, and the resulting ocean swells, we were unable to schedule an opening until March 14th. That was almost derailed by the amount of snow and downed trees caused by the last storm. We were able to get Blue Barque Road cleared in time for our new contractor, who did an excellent job under less than ideal conditions. This opening lasted for 7 1/2 weeks, despite another nor'easter on the 21st of the month. This was another very successful flushing of the pond.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Stephen Lewenberg
William Randol