



# SEBAGO LAKE



Photo by Rich Antinarelli



Photo by Kristin Johnson



Photo by Dianne Larrivee



Photo by Mark Hunt



Photo by Bruce Small

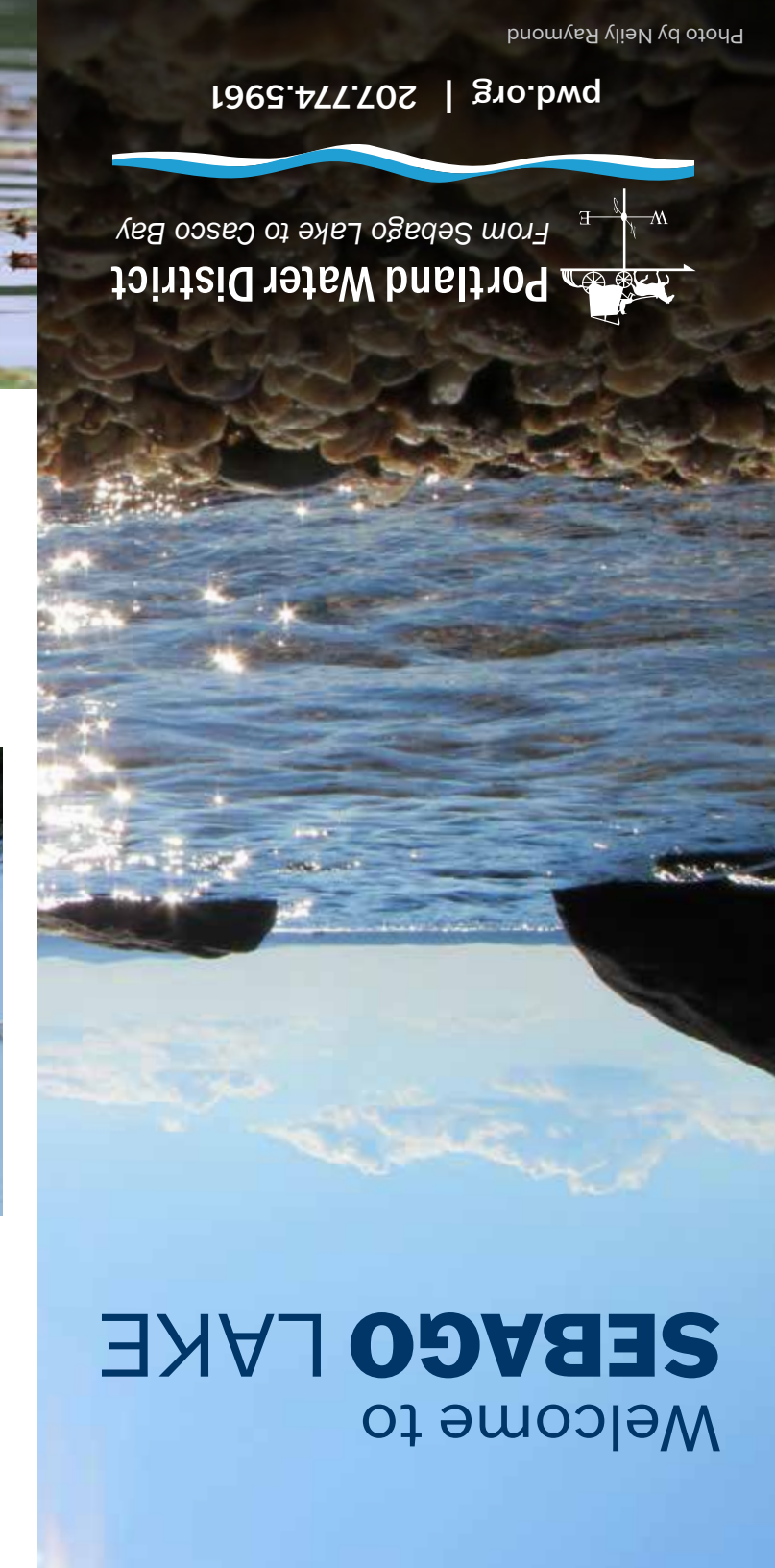
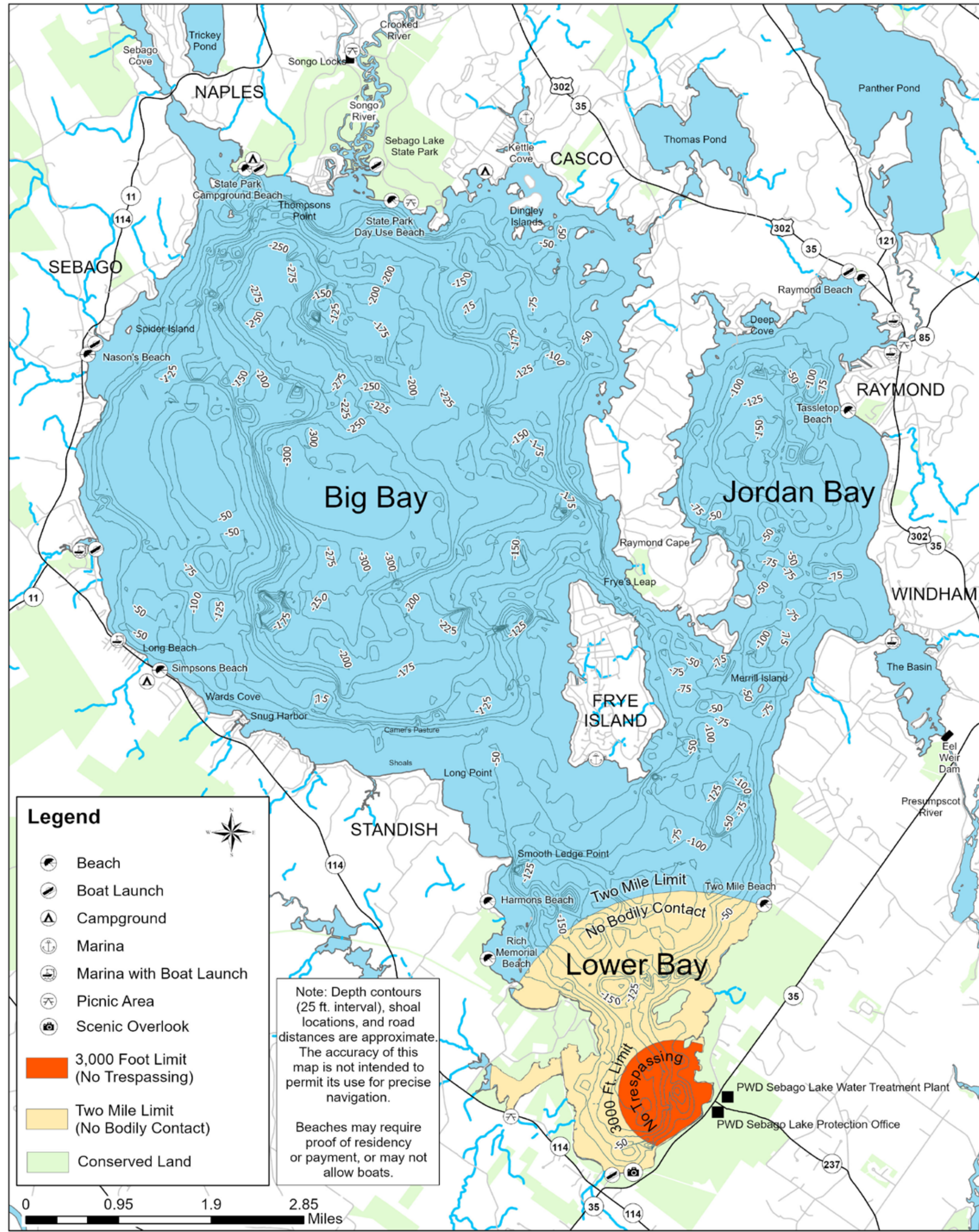


Photo by Neilly Raymond



## Did You Know?

- Sebago Lake is Maine's second largest and its deepest lake at **over 300 feet deep**.
- The Lake is the **drinking water supply for over 200,000 people** in 11 Greater Portland communities.
- **For every one gallon** of water PWD uses, **25 gallons flow** down the Presumpscot River, and **2 gallons evaporate** off the surface.
- Water piped from Sebago Lake first reached Portland on **Thanksgiving Day in 1869**.
- Sebago Lake water is so **clean** that it is not filtered before treatment, saving customers money on their monthly water bill.
- Sebago Lake **contains over a trillion gallons** of water.



Photo by Bruce Small

## Lake Ecology

The plant and animal life you can encounter on Sebago Lake is directly related to the clear, cold, and deep water and connected forest habitat surrounding it. Coldwater fish like landlocked salmon, lake trout, and brook trout thrive here, but warmwater species like smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, and perch can also be found. With the lake's abundant fish, you're sure to spot bald eagles in towering pines, common loons that raise young from brush-lined shorelines, and common merganser families who have emerged from nests in cavities of large trees.

In shallow coves and at the mouths of tributaries, herons and egrets hunt young fish and frogs. Painted turtles and snapping turtles find refuge in these habitats as well, where arrowhead, water lobelia, watershield, and fallen trees provide shelter. The mayfly, damselfly, and dragonfly are among the insects seen flying around the lake.

## Invasive Aquatic Species

The transportation of plants, fish, and aquatic organisms from one body of water to another poses significant threats to Maine's water resources. Maine law requires boaters to clean, drain, and dry equipment to prevent the spread of invasive species.



Variable Leaf Milfoil

- Clean:**
- Remove all visible debris, plants, animals, and mud from boats, trailers, footwear and other equipment.
  - Dispose of debris in the trash or on dry ground away from the water immediately after exiting.
  - Scrub off visible material on equipment.
- Drain:**
- When leaving a water body, drain all water from your boat (bilge, live well, and ballast tanks).
  - Dispose of all unused bait.
- Dry:**
- Allow all gear that comes into contact with water to dry completely before reusing it.
  - Under Maine law, live fish cannot be transported (with some specific exceptions).

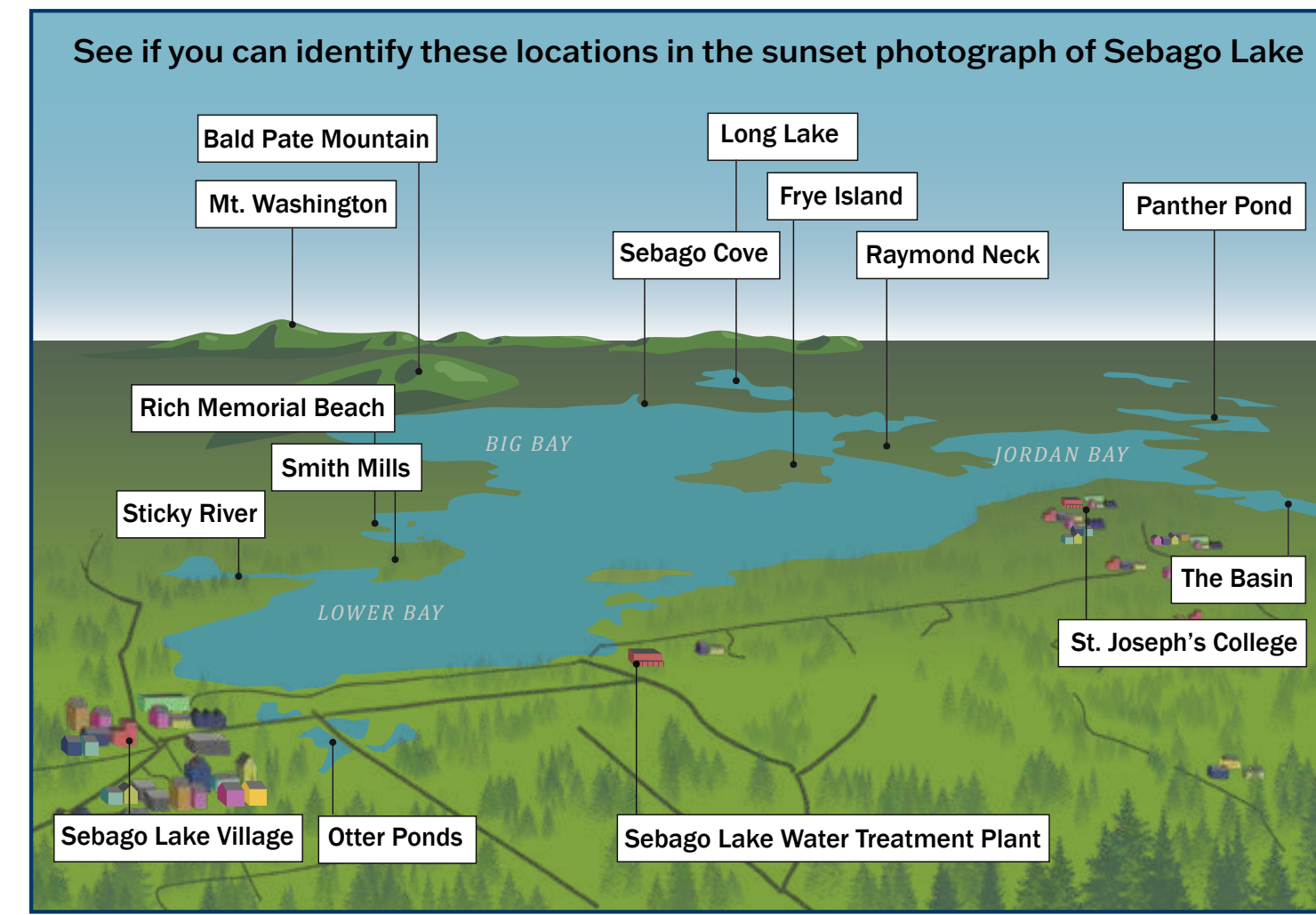
## Lake-Friendly Boating

Help ensure Sebago Lake will remain beautiful, clean, and thriving for wildlife, recreation, and drinking water for future generations to enjoy!



Photo by Nolan Raymond

- Follow these simple practices to minimize environmental impact:
- Regular boat engine maintenance and careful refueling can reduce the risk of contaminating the water. Dispose of oil, fuel, and waste properly.
  - Use non-toxic, biodegradable cleaning products and do not wash boats directly in the lake.
  - Reduce wake near shorelines to prevent erosion and disturbance of wildlife. Maine law requires boaters to maintain headway speed only within 200 feet of any shoreline and boats engaged in wakeboarding cannot operate in less than 15 feet of water or within 300 feet of the shoreline.



## Aids to Navigation

- MARKS LEFT SIDE OF CHANNEL**  
Boat should pass to right of buoy when entering the channel.
- CONTROL**  
Type of control is indicated within the circle such as headway speed only, safety slow zone, etc.
- OBSTRUCTION**  
Boat should not pass between buoy and nearest shore.
- NO BOATS**  
Diamond with cross indicates areas where boating is prohibited.
- MARKS RIGHT SIDE OF CHANNEL**  
Boats should pass to left of buoy when entering the channel.
- INFORMATION**  
Tells distances, locations, other official information.
- DIVERS FLAG**  
Stay at least 100 feet away.
- DANGER!**  
Warns of rocks, reefs, dams or other hazardous areas.