

Since 2001, Acton Shapleigh Youth Conservation Corps (ASYCC) has remained dedicated to protecting the Mousam Lake–Square Pond Watershed—including Goose, Loon, Mousam, and Square Ponds—through education, technical assistance, and youth-led conservation projects.

We are very much in support of LD 2141 and the DEP's Lake Water Quality Protection and Restoration Fund.

The ASYCC has partnerships with the Square Pond Improvement Association (SPIA), Mousam Lake Region Association (MLRA), York County Soil & Water Conservation District (YCSWCD), York County Invasive Aquatic Species Project (YCIASP) and Lake Stewards of Maine (LSM). Together, we advance shoreline protection, invasive-species prevention, and community outreach—helping to keep our local waterways clean and healthy.

Our Courtesy Boat Inspection (CBI) program works tirelessly to prevent invasive plant spread. We average over 7,000 boat inspections each year. Our Erosion Control Crew (ECC) is a group of local high school and college aged students that install Best Management Practice (BMP) conservation projects. Our Invasive Plant Patrol, utilizing some of our most experienced CBI's, is trained to identify and harvest invasive plant species in lakes and ponds.

The ASYCC has more requests for services than it can currently meet, and there are additional prevention projects waiting to be implemented. LD 2141 could help expand capacity and enable more of this important work to move forward.