

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

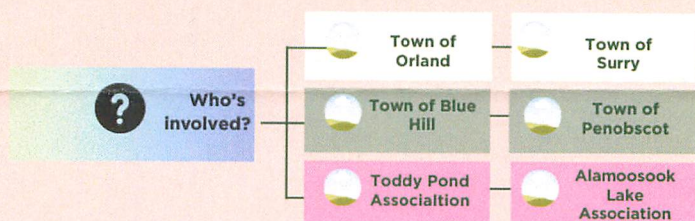
Help us defend against AIM walking away from their responsibilities



The assessed (market) value of lakefront property will decrease, shifting the tax burden to all town residents. The recreational value of Toddy Pond and Alamoosook Lake will diminish for everyone.



**IF 1000 RESIDENTS
DONATE \$100
EACH, WE CAN
RAISE \$100,000
FOR LEGAL FEES!**



When sending checks to your town office for the dam legal fund, ensure that each check is properly addressed to the appropriate town office. In the memo or reference line, clearly write "Dam Legal Fund" to ensure that the funds are allocated correctly.



Every dollar helps

Whether it's donating resources or spreading the word, every action counts. By coming together as a community, we can make a significant impact and drive positive change. Your involvement can provide support to help us achieve our shared goals. Thank you for considering joining us in this important effort. Together, we can make a difference!

Background and Status of Silver Lake, Alamoosook Lake, Toddy Pond and their Associated Dams

History:

- Silver Lake, Alamoosook Lake and Toddy Pond and their associated dams served as a water supply for the Verso Paper Mill in Bucksport
- Verso Paper Mill closes in 2014
- American Iron and Metal, a Canadian scrap metal recycler, buys the Verso plant and associated properties. Begins to demolish paper mill
- AIM is in intermittent contact with both Alamoosook Lake Association and Toddy Pond Association concerning the dams on their respective lake/pond, as well the dam on Silver Lake in Bucksport.
- Silver Lake serves as the water supply for the town of Bucksport. The dam is owned by Bucksport Mill LLC (a subsidiary of AIM). Water rights for Silver Lake are held by Maine Water. JERA has deeded rights to water from the lake to serve as coolant for their power plant located on the old paper mill site.

Present time:

- Early 2024 AIM informally notifies both Alamoosook Lake Association and Toddy Pond Association of their intent to find new ownership for the dams on their respective water bodies.
- Ongoing discussions between AIM and ALA/TPA do not lead to a resolution
- June 2024 AIM applies to Maine Department of Environmental Protection to divest themselves of the three dams. Notifies the towns of Bucksport, Orland, and subsequently Surry, Penobscot, and Blue Hill of the application. Small number of lakeside residents were notified also, the majority were not.
- DEP rejects the application due to inadequate information provided by AIM as well as insufficient community notifications.
- July 30, 2024: The Towns of Bucksport, Orland, Surry, Penobscot, and Blue Hill, as well as Alamoosook Lake Association and Toddy Pond Association, begin bi-weekly meetings to address the future of the dams and lakes
 - Agree to coordinate messaging to the citizens potentially affected by changes in the dam's condition
 - Begin to assess the economic impact of the dams/water bodies on the area towns and businesses
 - Explore possible solutions to the ownership of the dams/maintenance of the water bodies
 - Bucksport engages legal representation. Orland has retained legal counsel with Blue Hill, Surry and Penobscot expected to join that effort and share expenses. Alamoosook Lake and Toddy Pond Associations support this effort.

- Bucksport has passed an ordinance regulating the transfer or abandonment of dams. Orland has passed a 180 day moratorium restricting the transfer of any dam in town while they develop an ordinance to assess safety, environmental, recreational and economic issues surrounding changes in dam status.
- October 19, American Iron and Metal, dba Bucksport Mill LLC re-applies to ME DEP to divest themselves of all three dams and seek release of the impounded waters. This time they do a better job of notifying affected landowners and municipalities. They are unable to hold a public meeting in Orland due to scheduling conflicts. DEP has until November 2 to determine if the application is complete and satisfactory.
- It is the opinion of the Towns of Bucksport, Blue Hill, Orland, Penobscot and Surry, as well as the Toddy Pond and Alamoosook Lake Associations that the application from AIM/Bucksport Mill is woefully inadequate, with no significant disclosure on any of the dams' conditions, recent maintenance or other information necessary to determine the viability of ANY entity assuming ownership and management of any of the dams.
- AIM has tentatively set a date of November 14th at 5pm for a public meeting to be held at the Bucksport Campus for Maine Maritime Academy.