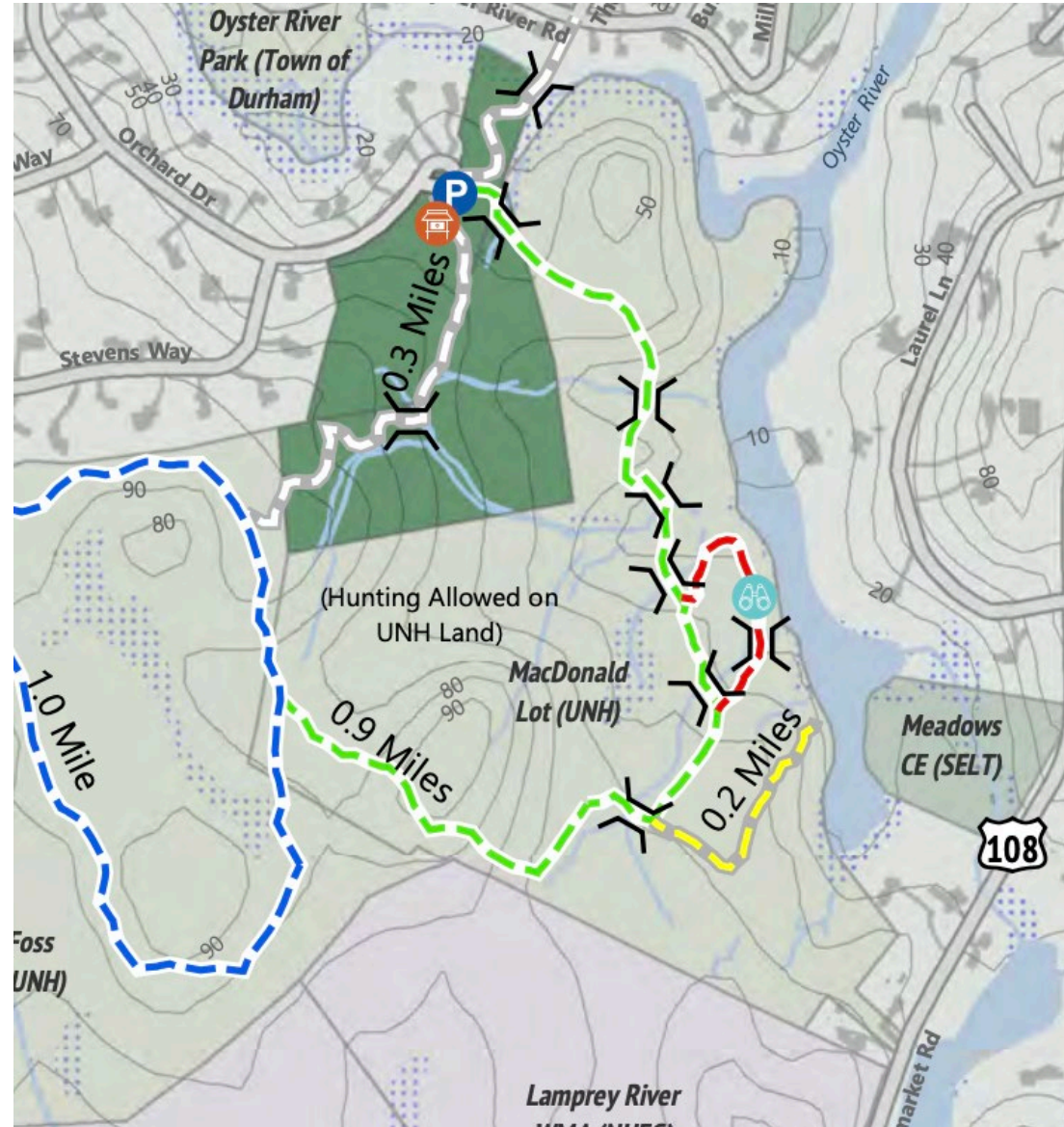


# Mill Pond, Oyster River, and Impoundment Views

August 9, 2021

Prepared by Sally Needell



On August 9, 2021, sites that are publicly accessible along the north side of the Mill Pond and the Impoundment were visited and photos taken to record the condition of the water observable from shore.

Photos were taken progressively away from the dam and are from the northern shores of the Mill Pond (the dam to College Brook), middle of the Impoundment, and the upper Impoundment (toward Hamel Brook). The section between College Brook and the UNH trail on the UNH MacDonald lot is not publicly accessible.

Note:

The pond scum areas are masses of freshwater algae on the surface of the water. Algae thrive when the water contains an excess nutrient load. It absorbs nitrates from the water and acts as a fertilizer.

I refer to water without pond scum as open water.



Mill Pond Park: Accessible view site closest to the dam. Only view of open water from the Park. The water closest to shore and extending well into the Mill Pond is covered by pond scum.





Mill Pond Park: Same location as the previous photo. Taken towards Rt. 108. Pond scum covers the water.





Mill Pond Park: View across the pond to the southern shore. From this spot open water without scum is not visible.





Mill Pond Park: View across the pond. Open water view is blocked by vegetation. A shallow pool covered by pond scum lies by the shore.





Mill Pond Park: View across the pond is entirely vegetation and pond scum. The open water is not visible from this uppermost pond viewing site.





Milne Nature Sanctuary: Looking towards the dam from the edge of the sanctuary.





Milne Nature Sanctuary: View across the pond just below the confluence with College Brook.





Milne Nature Sanctuary: View from the point showing a path of open water to the dam.





Milne Nature Sanctuary: View away from the pond near the confluence with College Brook. Note that vegetation grows across much of the Oyster River along a fallen tree, branches, and/or other organic material that supports shrub vegetation.





Milne Nature Sanctuary: Close-up view of barrier. Above the barrier waters are calm and do not show the rippling in the foreground. Water above the barrier shows swirls of pond scum.





Oyster River: View upstream from the Rotner Bridge.





UNH MacDonald Lot: First view across the impoundment above the Oyster River.





UNH MacDonald Lot: View at the public access to the Impoundment shore (scenic outlook identified on the UNH trail). Open water can be seen. On August 31, 2020 the water was covered with pond scum from shore to shore at this site.





UNH MacDonald Lot: View across the impoundment along the shore toward Hamel Brook from an unofficial trail upstream of the scenic outlook identified by UNH.





UNH MacDonald Lot: Close-up view of algal bloom in the Impoundment at the site of the previous photo.





UNH MacDonald Lot: View into the uppermost Hammel Brook Impoundment. Open water can be seen on the left, pond scum and vegetation in the center.

