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## York Water District to complete a Bathymetric Survey of Chase's Pond

The public may see the rare sight of a boat on Chase's Pond over 2 days in May while York Water District's engineering firm Wright Pierce of Topsham Maine, accompanied by district personnel complete a Bathymetric Survey. The last bathymetric survey was performed in 1994.

*A bathymetric survey is a type of water-based study that measures the depths, shapes, and locations of underwater terrain to illustrate the land that lies beneath. Like topographic maps that show elevation of landforms above water; bathymetric maps show depths of landforms below the water. Since pond bottoms are not visible, it is difficult to know and understand what happens over the years and how pond depths and water storage may have changed.*

In 2021 district engineers used the latest technology to update Chase's Pond watershed fall line, which identifies the land that drains into the pond. For years, the district believed that the watershed was 2090 acres. The most recent work revealed that the watershed is 1877 acres of which the district owns or controls over 91%.

Bathymetric and watershed fall line information, with the inclusion of climate change data, will then be used to; evaluate the storage volume of water in Chase's at different levels, produce a map that depicts the submerged depth contours of the pond underwater topography and in part, to assess (with statistical modeling) if the calculated annual pond water yields during drought and normal conditions have changed.

Accurate accounting of Chase's Pond water storage and the annual available water volume for drinking water has important implications for district operations, especially with drought expecting to become more common into the future. The inclusion of recent climate change data and use of modern technologies will help our Team further implement best management practices regarding the continued use of Chase's Pond.

Please contact our office with any questions