Newsletter June 2018

Reminder - WLA Annual Meeting Saturday July 7, 2018

The Watchic Lake Association annual meeting will be held on Saturday July 7 at Standish Town Hall. Check-in (with drinks and pastries) will run from 8:30 to 9:30 am, followed by the business meeting from 9:30 to 11:00 am. Please join us to learn more about recent water quality reports, and the loons, LakeSmart and to ask questions, share your ideas, and meet your neighbors. More at www.watchiclake.org.

Membership 2018 - Time to Renew or Join

We encourage all property owners to be members and support efforts to protect the lake. WLA volunteers help you maximize the value of your property and enjoyment of the lake. Your membership and donations help you by:

- Protecting your shoreland by managing the dam and water level
- Monitoring water quality and addressing issues quickly
- Improving water quality with runoff remediation projects
- Checking for invasive species on the lake (none as of last year)
- Reporting on and protecting the loons

Join or donate use the enclosed return envelope with membership form. Or online at Watchic Lake Join or Donate.

Watchic Lake Loon Found Dead

Sadly, one of the Middle Island loons was recently found dead on the lake. Based on its injuries it was likely struck by a propeller on or around May 20th. The Maine Warden service was contacted, and they picked up the loon, which was a male and tagged by BRI.

This serves as a reminder to all power boat and jet ski users to be on the lookout for loons. Loons dive deep and for minutes at time in search for food. They can pop up anywhere at any time. PLEASE

keep an eye out for them and respect their space when boating.

While tragic, trauma is not the main risk factor for loons – it's ingesting lead fishing tackle, which causes 44% of all loon deaths. GET THE LEAD OUT! Lead tackle is illegal in Maine. Learn about and use lead free tackle – it's the law!

WLA Board Members and Volunteers Needed

The WLA is an all-volunteer organization. During 2018 three Board member positions will be open. Board members help guide association activities **and** roll up their sleeves for activity on the lake, such as operating the dam or evaluating LakeSmart properties. All it takes is a few hours a month.

Not ready yet to become a board member? You can still volunteer. Volunteers do water quality testing, operate/maintain the dam, track loon behavior, evaluate the lake for invasive plants, and more. Contact Paul McNulty at <u>p3mcnulty@gmail.com</u> if you want to learn more.

Thank you for your support!

Paul

Paul McNulty, President Watchic Lake Association. Email me at: p3mcnulty@gmail.com





