

**Subject:** FW: WLA Annual Meeting July 8. More on loons and invasives.

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**From:** Watchic Lake Association <p3mcnulty@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 2, 2023 8:56 PM  
**To:** Paul McNulty  
**Subject:** WLA Annual Meeting July 8. More on loons and invasives.

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**Volunteers protecting and  
improving Watchic Lake**

## **Watchic Lake Association**

Hi Paul, a quick reminder to join us for our Annual Meeting on Saturday July 8. More below on this, membership, avoiding invasives, and recent Maine loon legislation.

Thank you to all for your ongoing support of the lake with your membership and donations.

*Paul*

### **2023 Annual Meeting – July 8 at Standish Town Hall**

We will hold our annual meeting on Saturday July 8, 2023 at Standish Town Hall, starting at 9:00 am. Similar to previous meetings, we will provide an update on water quality, final report on the [2020 Watershed Protection Plan and DEP Matching Grant](#), offer tips on lake friendly shoreline vegetation, and give members an opportunity to comment and vote on board positions.

This year we are fortunate to have Jim Paruk, a noted loon expert and author, as a speaker at the meeting. Learn more about the loons of Maine and how to help protect them.

You can also check our website for more details at [Annual Meeting Section](#), including [Draft Minutes from the 2022 Meeting](#), which will be voted on at our 2023 meeting

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### **2023 Membership and Support**

Thank you to the many that have joined or renewed for 2023. If you have not already, we encourage you to join the association or renew your membership. See our [membership page](#) for more details. Membership is \$40 per year for an individual and \$75 per year for two family members.

**We have recently updated our online payment system** making it far easier to use your credit cards. Payment is secure, and processed using Stripe, a well respected online payments processing company.

Every little bit helps, do not forget to use [Hannaford Clynk](#) to make donations to the WLA with every transaction. Clynk WLA bag tags now available at Standish Town Hall.

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## Protect our Lake from Aquatic Invasive Species

Watchic Lake is fortunate to have healthy waters, which support high-quality habitat for fish and wildlife as well as endless opportunities for outdoor recreation.

Unfortunately, our lake, as well as the fish, wildlife, and recreation it supports, are threatened each year by introductions of fish, plants, diseases, and other aquatic invasive species that compete with and displace native natural communities.

Once an aquatic invasive species has established in a body of water, it is extremely difficult for it to be eradicated. These efforts are costly, often risky, and not always successful and introductions have the potential to change our natural places and the way we enjoy them forever.



### Prevention is Key! Clean. Drain. Dry. Every Time!

- **Clean** off visible aquatic plants, animals, and mud from watercraft, motor, trailer, and equipment before leaving water access, and before entering the lake.
- **Drain** water from watercraft, motor, bilge, bladder tanks, live well, and portable bait containers away from the water before getting to the lake.
- **Dry** completely before reuse

Much more from [Maine IFW on keeping out invasives.](#)

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## New Law Protects Loons from Lead Poisoning

Maine recently passed [LD 958](#), a bill to expand protections to Common Loons from lead poisoning. Loons ingest a striking amount of fishing tackle that is either lost or left behind, or is in fish that have ingested tackle. This law closes a loophole in Maine's lead fishing tackle laws that allowed for this painted gear in our state.

This new law phases out the use and sale of small-sized painted lead jigs. The sale of such jigs will be banned by Sept. 1, 2024, and the use by Sept. 1, 2026. You can turn in your lead jigs and receive \$10 off new gear. See "[Trade in Your Lead](#)" for more details.



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**Please feel free to forward this email to others** you know on the lake, and encourage them to [sign up for our emails](#). Emails and our website are the best way to keep informed of activities on the lake! Email addresses are not shared and will only be used for WLA business.

Contact Paul McNulty at [p3mcnulty@gmail.com](mailto:p3mcnulty@gmail.com) if you want to learn more about any these or other lake related topics.

Thank you!

Paul McNulty

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**Our mailing address is:**

Watchic Lake Association

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