

Calling for Legislative Change

TAKE ACTION FOR OUR LAKES AND LOONS AND SIGN THE PETITION FOR CHANGE - Fishleadfree.ca

Lead fishing tackle poses a serious threat to our Provincial National Bird, the Common Loon where even small amounts of lead can cause poisoning, lead to blindness, seizures, reproductive failure and death. By advocating for restrictions on lead fishing tackle, we can protect our lakes, other wildlife, and future generations of anglers.

"Let's Get The Lead Out" initiative is moving forward with, a petition which we will present to the Legislative Ontario Legislative Assembly of Ontario respectfully requesting legislation restricting the use of lead-based fishing tackle specifically, all **lead split shots, sinkers, weights, and jig heads weighing 50 grams (1-3/4 ounces) or less and any lead-headed tackle under 6.5cm (2.5") in length**— within the Province of Ontario. This change would better align provincial regulations with existing Parks Canada regulations prohibiting lead fishing tackle in national parks.

Why this proposed restriction?

Scientific studies have shown that more than 95% of lead tackle ingested by wildlife is of this size & weight, and smaller.

The Call of the Loon is a plea for help?

To help illustrate this issue, we've created a short video to raise awareness about lead poisoning in loons and other wildlife, directly attributed to toxic lead fishing tackle. It is available on fishleadfree.ca or by scanning this QR Code.



This issue is science-based /educational and features Dr. Mark Pokras, Professor of Veterinary Medicine at Tuft University's Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine. Mark is among the globe's leading experts on what kills loons (he and his team have necropsied over 5,000 dead loons since 1987!). His commentary on his research is engaging and highly compelling.



How can you help?

Help amplify our voice by collecting signatures for our petition from your network of friends, neighbors and community members. Most people care, they just need to be asked.

We encourage our partners to proactively collect signatures (think lake community events, AGMs, etc.).

You can download the petition at fishleadfree.ca or by scanning this QR code



Who can sign the petition?

All signatures must be original, provided on a paper copy of the petition (online petitions are not allowed).

Petitioners must be residents of Ontario, including seasonal residents at the time of signing. Please note the capacity to sign is not limited to Canadians. American or other non-Canadian residents who own property in Ontario at the time of signing, may also sign the petition as long as you use your **Ontario** address and postal code. Residents who reside urban, suburban and rural Ontario who care about this issue are eligible and encouraged to sign the petition.

Direct family members who reside at your property may also sign the petition. There are no age or disability-related restrictions for petitioners provided they are fully informed and understand what they are signing.

Return signed petitions to "Let's Get The Lead Out" C/O 9 Garland Lane, Godfrey Ontario K0H 1T0.

EVERY SIGNATURE COUNTS!

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration to this important initiative.

