



WOLFE LAKE RECENTLY WELCOMED TWO TINY LOON CHICKS Its first in 4 years!

It has been 4 long years since we've had loon chicks on Wolfe Lake. Let's all do our part to help the new arrivals thrive and fledge successfully. If they do, there's a good chance that they will return to our lake in the future!

There are ways we can help to support their well-being during the next critical month or two when they are at their most vulnerable.



While everyone delights at the sight of the tiny brown puff balls bobbing alongside their parents or hitching a ride on their backs, let's enjoy them from a distance with binoculars or a zoom lens on your camera for photographs. Getting too close to the family can distress the parents and cause them to move away from their young, which puts the chicks at increased risks of danger from predators like northern pike, snapping turtles and bald eagles.

Loon chicks can be difficult to see on the water. Collisions with boats and personal watercraft are one of the leading causes of loon mortality. Also, wakes from boats can easily overwhelm and drown small chicks. This is especially true when personal watercraft circle repeatedly in one area or tubes are dragged in circles. Please be vigilant and slow down, especially near shorelines and around islands to avoid colliding with a loon or leaving a dangerous wake behind.

Boaters should move on immediately if an adult loon is showing agitation by repeating a tremolo or yodel call or aggressively "penguin dancing" on the water near the boat. Anglers should take great care to safely dispose of fishing line, broken gear and lead jigs and sinkers, which are extremely dangerous / toxic to loons. Switching to lead free products will help keep our loons safe and healthy.

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