



NEWS FROM DEERING LAKE | June 2023



We had two loon chicks in North Cove on Sunday June 11. Read what happened, below... Photo credit: [Cheryl Harris Photography](#)

NEWS from the LAKE:

- It looks like the loons in the Campbell Cove area aren't going to have a successful nest this year, but the North Cove pair had two chicks by Sunday, June 11. By Thursday it was clear there were problems: one chick was pecking and harassing its sibling, which resulted on Friday in the parents leaving the one behind. An odyssey for the abandoned chick ensued – it traveled by itself across the entire lake, with various folks watching it as it traveled south, finally being spotted by the sand bar. Glenn Clark had been in contact with the [Loon Preservation Committee](#) which recommended it be captured and brought to [Wings of Dawn](#), a non-profit wildlife rehabilitation center and bird sanctuary in Henniker. Glenn and Henry Bozek netted the chick and transported it in a bucket of water—a dinner of shiners was ready for it upon arrival. Sadly, it was severely undernourished and did not survive. Note: the rehabbing of loon chicks has had limited success, but this one would have no chance of surviving on the lake alone. (Donations to Winds of Dawn always appreciated). Sibling rivalry in Common Loon chicks has not been well studied- here's a [short older article](#), fyi.
- Over 40% of *adult* loon mortality is still due to the ingestion of lead fishing tackle. If you have any lead tackle or sinkers, please bring them to the next DLIA meeting on July 8. We will transfer it to the Loon Preservation Committee for proper disposal.
- As mentioned at our May meeting, we have concerns regarding an invasive plant and fish in our area. [Purple Loosestrife](#) grows in the border areas of shorelines and was growing in Deering Lake last year. If you see this, please contact [Jen Battisello](#) or your local weed watcher. [Green Sunfish](#) are aquarium fish that people have been dumping in local waters; they have been found in the Piscataquog River (Deering Lake is its headwater). The link advises actions to be taken; DO NOT THROW BACK! Notify DES and Jen Battisello if you locate this species.
- An early water test (VLAP) was performed due to concerns with run off associated with the logging. Results are pending. Next test is in July.

NEWS from and for LAKE FOLKS:

Bob Compton and Bob Carter (Deering resident, not on the lake) led a panel discussing the establishment of the Deering Watershed Protection Overlay at the 2023 Lakes Congress. It is remarkable how many lakes in NH do not have Watershed Protection Zones, and many that do only include shorefront properties. Deering residents should be proud to recognize that the plan that was put in play by Compton, Kaplan, Carter and others has been used as a model for other towns (including Sunapee). [Slides to many of the presentations](#) are available; of special recommendation are [Introduction to Aquatic Plant Identification](#) and [Demystifying Shoreland Permitting](#)

Many thanks to Henry Bozek and Pam Trombino for hosting our Spring Fling DLIA Kickoff event. There were close to 40 folks who enjoyed a (rare) sunny day with delicious brunch offerings. Live music was provided by Ray Sousa of Chipmunk Lane, and Tom Walters of White Gate produced some drone footage that we'll try to get on the DLIA website. Next event is the Deering Diners' Club with Ben and Angie Barkhouse on July 15.

Independence Day Fireworks: There does not seem to be consensus about when local fireworks will be displayed this year – the problem with the Tuesday holiday. Please be thoughtful of animals, veterans and others with PTSD, and noise ordinances (10pm) – and *stay safe everyone!*

Several lake folks have mentioned concerns [regarding excessive lighting at night](#). While the overall impact of light pollution on New Hampshire wildlife is quite small in comparison to other threats, **artificial lighting disturbs flight, navigation, vision, migration, mating, and feeding in some insects, birds and other wildlife.** It is recommended that we turn off lights that are not needed, or direct lights downward/provide shields whenever possible when illumination is needed. Every little bit helps – thank you!

The next ROADSIDE CLEANUP will be held on Saturday, July 22, leaving at 9am from the town hall. Plan to arrive early to get a vest and to be assigned a team. We (the DLIA) do about 2 miles along Deering Center Road; it usually takes about an hour. Thanks to Glenn and Carole Clark for running this 3 times every year.

NEWS from the DLIA Council:

We need YOU to join the DLIA Council! Please let Betsy know if you'd like to join the friendly team making the DLIA an effective organization! We will be presenting our slate at the July meeting and **still need a candidate for Vice President.** Please help make a difference on Deering Lake!

We will be distributing the 2023 Lake Directory at the July meeting. You must have your dues paid for the current year in order to receive a copy! Member dues remain \$30/year per household. You may pay by check or cash at the July meeting or by mail (P.O. Box 691, Hillsboro, NH 03244), or by credit card (for \$32) at the [DLIA website](#).

Our speaker lineup for 2023 July and September meetings:

- **July - Chris Martin will speak to us about the NH Audubon Bald Eagle Management and Monitoring Program.** He may like a ride to see the site of the nest after the meeting – please contact Betsy if you can offer this help. We will also be giving **Steve Avery more time to discuss the DES permitting outreach program.** Take a look at the Lakes Congress presentation slides [Demystifying Shoreland Permitting](#), which may answer many of your questions, too.
- **September –Deering Town Administrator Peter Flynn, and Board of Selectperson Jill Smith** will discuss their work (and field your questions).

LakeSmart visits will be the week of August 9. You are no longer required to do a self-study before having a visit. If you would like more info or are interested in a free evaluation, see the [NH Lakes](#) website or contact Betsy.

The Social Committee has several fun events planned for this summer. See the [DLIA website](#) for more information, but here's a taste of what's planned for this year:

- **July 15: Deering Diners' Club.** This unique series of small-group gatherings are potluck suppers for 6-12 adults hosted in homes of Deering Lake residents. This is a wonderful way to get to know more of your neighbors – hope you can join in! Contact Amy Williams (mempro@comcast.net) to sign up.
- **July 29: Home, Garden and Art Tour.** Lake residents offer their homes/gardens/studios up for tours. A free-form event, you'll receive a map of locations when you sign up. Contact Donna Raoust (donna@raoust.com) if you'd like to be on the tour.
- **Aug 12: A Scavenger Hunt!** (tentative)
- **August 18: Deering Diners' Club #2.** Couldn't make the first one? Hope to see you here.
- **Sept 16: Harvest Happy Hour.** Our third annual party to wrap up the summer season.

Kudos to the folks on the Social Committee for all their creative work to bring us back together as a community!!!

In keeping with our mission to encourage good social relations around the lake, the newsletter is now featuring a section entitled: Meet Your Neighbors. *Please let Betsy know if there are folks you'd like to get to know better... or maybe we can feature YOU! Many thanks to Jason and Meredith for trusting us to feature them in our first post.*

MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS: Meredith and Jason Weiss

We are Jason and Meredith, and we are at 258 Reservoir. That's on the east side of the lake in the home that has the small dock and visible-from-the-lake 90 stairs heading up to our house! We both grew up in the mid-west, and we moved to New England in 2014. Our son, Kyle, is in college studying international business in Switzerland, although he is leaving early in July for a semester at the University of Auckland in Auckland, New Zealand. We have two dogs born within several weeks of each other, both labs, named Liberty and Justice. We previously owned a lake house on Lake Limestone, about an hour outside of Waco, Texas, and looked for an ideal replacement in New England for a while. While Deering lacks alligators, copperhead snakes, cottonmouth snakes, coral snakes, thorny cactus, and milk chocolate colored water found in Texas, we *settled* for idyllic Deering. We were struck by how clear the water was the first time we saw Deering Lake. We enjoy hiking and kayaking, concerts, and you'll often see us sitting on the deck at the top of those 90 stairs enjoying the sunset.

Professionally, Jason has enjoyed a career in software and Meredith is a schoolteacher. While we don't call Deering our permanent home, we enjoy hanging out at the lake year-round watching and listening to the wildlife. Our game cams have picked up bear, bobcat, fisher, deer, barred owl, raccoon, red fox, porcupine... and Liberty and Justice out for a walk! We have yet to experience a first-person sighting of a New Hampshire moose, but we keep hoping! If you see us out, stop by to say hi!

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- **THIS SATURDAY, June 24 at 2PM:** [Wildlife Encounters](#) “Junior Zookeepers” at Town Hall. Program with both exotic (no contact) and hands-on interaction with animals, sponsored by Deering Public Library and the Deering Association. **Kids of ALL ages welcome – free!** Refreshments.
- **July 8:** DLIA membership meeting. Coffee/donuts at 8:30, meeting starts at 9
- **July 8: Monthly Breakfast** at Deering Community Church – **the second Saturday of the month.** All are welcome!
- **July 15: Deering Diners’ Club Potluck** – sign up with Donna Raoust
- **July 22: Roadside Cleanup** – 9AM Deering Town Hall
- **August 11, 7PM: “12,000 Years Ago in the Granite State”** program at Town Hall pm Dr. Robert Goodby, Franklin Pierce College, speaker, sponsored by Deering Public Library.
- **Aug 12: Monthly Breakfast** at Deering Community Church
- **August 12, 11am Children’s Program: Aquatic Insects (from Deering Lake!)** Deering Library/Schoolhouse. Mike Thomas will be gathering critters from the lake to discuss.
- **August 18: Deering Diners’ Club Potluck** – sign up with Donna Raoust
- **Sept 2: DLIA Member meeting**
- **Sept 3: Boat Parade Closing Summer 2023**
- **Sept 16: Harvest Happy Hour**

Thanks to everyone on the Council and all you folks who are committed to working towards better lake living! I’m looking forward to some sunny days on the lake...soon!

Betsy Holmes
DLIA President
603-860-5416
eleoneh@yahoo.com



Photo credit: [Cheryl Harris Photography](#)