



Loon Lake Homeowners' Association Newsletter

June 2022

Volume 13, Issue 2

Loon Lake Homeowners Association
PO Box 219, Vermontville, NY 12989

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Patty Cogswell, President and Beach B Committee Co-Chair
president@loonlakehoa.org

Craig Johnstone, Vice President
vicepresident@loonlakehoa.org

Brenda Gewurz, Secretary
secretary@loonlakehoa.org

Jeff Pearson, Treasurer

Zev Hershtal, Technical/IT Support

Stuart Lucks, Lake Monitoring Committee Chair

Judy Cox, Beach A Committee Chair

Carleen Madigan, Beach B Committee Co-Chair

Murray Vasilevsky, Picnic Committee Chair

Linda Zintl, Membership and Beach B Committee Member

Karl Smith, Historian

Tom Bartiss, Immediate Past President

Loon Lake HOA Website:
<http://loonlakehoa.org>

UPDATES FROM THE BOARD

Submitted by Carleen Madigan and Patty Cogswell

Call for Board Candidates

This year, we have two board seats open. If you would like to be considered as a candidate for the board, please send a brief bio to our board secretary, Brenda Gewurz: brenda@proment.com. As part of your bio, we'd especially like to hear why you would like to serve as a board member and what skills you would contribute. Please return your bio by July 15, so we can circulate it to the membership prior to our meeting.

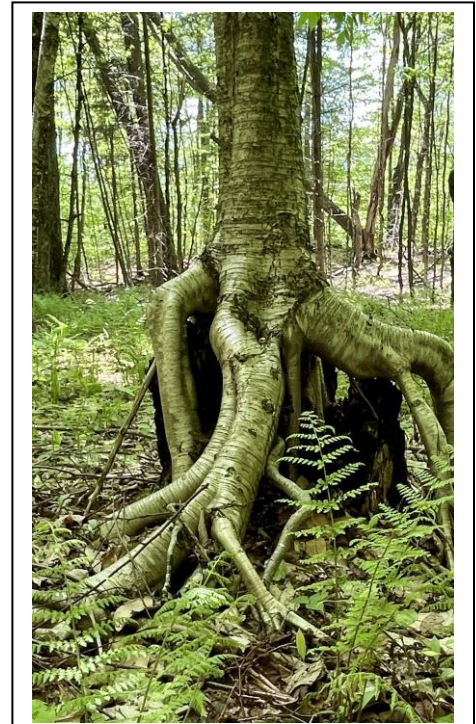
Dues are Due

At last year's annual meeting, the HOA members voted to increase the membership fee to \$75. If you haven't already paid your dues for 2022, please do. *You must be a member in good standing to vote at the annual meeting.*

The membership form is available at our web site: www.loonlakehoa.org. You may either send the form and a check to Loon Lake HOA, PO Box 219, Vermontville, NY 12989, or follow the link on our web site to pay via PayPal. (Please remember to select the "friends and family" option, so that the HOA isn't charged a fee for the transaction. Thank you!)

Parking Committee is Formed

Several community members have commented on parking issues around the lake, particularly near access points for deeded rights holders. In order to better evaluate the situation, Peter Trout, Murray Vasilevsky, and Barbara Dayton have formed an ad hoc parking committee, with the goal of monitoring and documenting parking trends over the summer. At the end of the summer, the committee will put together a report for the board to review and determine next steps for the membership to consider. Thank you to Peter, Murray, and Barbara for your time and effort!



Yellow Birch Sculpture
Photo provided by Sylvia Karman



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Membership Committee Update

Submitted by Linda Zintl

The Committee has been hard at work helping to update the HOA Membership List and contact information. As stated above, if you have not sent in your 2020 dues, please send by July 1st and **be sure to include your current e-mail so that you don't miss any important communications!**

You can use either PayPal or send a check to pay your dues and make designated donations. You do not need to join PayPal to use the option on our website.

Visit [Membership in the Loon Lake Homeowners Association \(loonlakehoa.org\)](http://loonlakehoa.org) to renew, join or contribute in either of two ways:

1. You can pay your dues (to renew or join) online using PayPal and you can even make a contribution to the special funds for aquatic invasive species and/or other important projects. It is quick and easy! Plus you save a stamp!

-or-

2. If you prefer to write a check, you can download a membership form from the [Loon Lake HOA website](http://loonlakehoa.org) membership page and mail it with a *check of \$75 to LLHOA at PO Box 219, Vermontville, NY 12989.*



*Bunchberry (Cornus canadensis) blooming through May and June at Loon Lake
Photo provided by Sylvia Karman*

We have also created a “Welcome Letter” for new residents. A copy is attached to this Newsletter and posted on the Loon Lake Bulletin Board. Printed copies can also be found in the Loon Lake Lending Library and at the Jewish Center. We hope this will help members to reach out to new neighbors, welcome them to the lake, and introduce them to the LLHOA and its role in helping protect our beautiful lake!

Additionally, the committee is working on creating a LLHOA Directory to enhance our sense of community and help keep members connected. The Directory will only be available to members and will NOT be published on the public LLHOA web-site. We will be asking each member/member family to provide contact information for the Directory; granting permission to publish ONLY the name(s), address(s), telephone number(s), and/or e-mail(s) specified. Members may include or exclude information as desired. Watch for upcoming info in a future e-mail!



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Beach A Committee Update

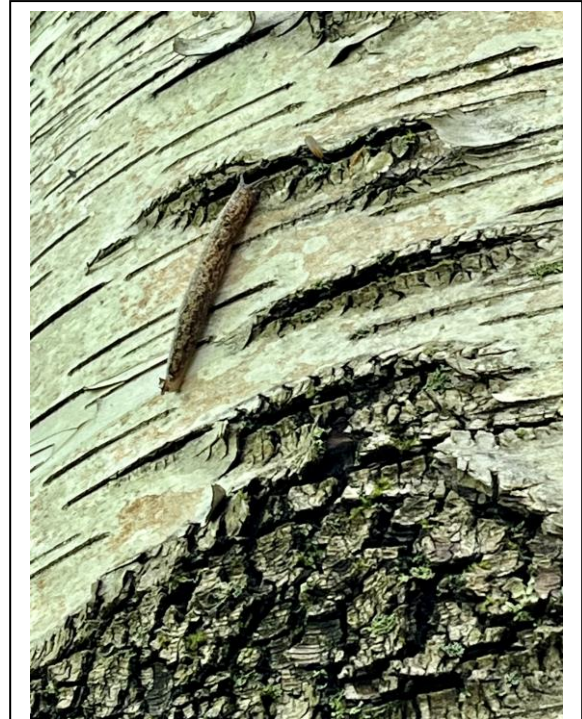
Submitted by Judy Cox

Beach A committee is hard at work planning the summer of 2022. We are focusing on projects to ensure the safety of beachgoers and to reduce HOA liability.

The committee is preparing to do a general clean-up and anyone who wishes to volunteer can contact Judy Cox at cox@nycap.rr.com. We are grateful for the donations received so far. Our first project is to repair the wooden staircase leading to the beach. Additional infrastructure projects will be accomplished as we receive more donations.

Suggestions and donations of time and skills are always welcomed. Please let Judy know. Monetary donations can be made online at <http://www.loonlakehoa.org>. Click **Join or Renew Your Loon Lake HOA membership** and scroll down to **Donation to Special Loon Lake Homeowners Association Funds**, then open **Water Quality Funds** to find **Beach A Improvement Funds**.

Thank you and Happy Summer!



Snail scaling White Birch on trail to the Bump aka Crusher

Photo provided by Sylvia Karman

Beach B Committee Update

Submitted by Carleen Madigan and Patty Cogswell

Thank you to everyone who responded to the Beach B committee survey. We are in the process of evaluating the results and will consider them carefully as we make our recommendations to the board.

Key Committee Update

Submitted by Carleen Madigan and Patty Cogswell

As of June 15, the Key Committee has distributed 70 keys to the boat launch. If you still need a key, please email loonlakehoainformation@gmail.com. We are charging \$10 to cover the cost of making the key. You must provide a copy of your deed, indicating deeded lake rights, or show that you are a waterfront property owner.



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Painted Trillium (Trillium undulatum) near Loon Lake in early May
Photo provided by Sylvia Karman

Lake Steward Update

Submitted by Carleen Madigan and Patty Cogswell

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Lake Steward Fund! We reached our goal, and a steward is now on duty Friday through Monday, 9:30am to 6pm, until Labor Day. Thanks for your support!



Red Trillium (Trillium erectum) seen around Loon Lake in early May
Photo provided by Sylvia Karman

Protecting Our Lake Environment

Submitted by Carleen Madigan and Patty Cogswell

As you're thinking about spring garden projects, please be very careful about bringing garden plants and amendments to the lake.

The Asian Jumping Worm is rapidly making its way across New York, and is incredibly destructive to deciduous forests in particular. Here is more information: <http://warren.cce.cornell.edu/gardening-landscape/warren-county-master-gardener-articles/invasive-asian-jumping-earthworms>

In order to avoid algae blooms on the lake, avoid using lawn fertilizer. If you must fertilize, choose one with slow-release nitrogen and no phosphorus, and wait until fall to apply it. Here is more information:

<https://lakegeorgeassociation.org/science-protection/citizen-science/lake-friendly-lawn-care?fbclid=IwAR1N3OloTIU-KkzriWXiZVRIVjDhzTdzOAh6czgpTdChkcoBOeT98O85yLI>



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Bristly Haircap mosses (Polytrichum piliferum) blooming on the former Loon Lake golf course. Photo provided by Sylvia Karman

Best Practices for Boating on Loon Lake

Submitted by Carleen Madigan and Patty Cogswell

Prevent the Introduction of Invasive Species

Loon Lake is one of the most pristine lakes in the Adirondacks. We currently have NO invasive species, and we'd like to keep it that way. Invasive species not only affect the natural habitat of the lake, they make swimming, boating, and fishing less enjoyable for everyone. Trying to get rid of invasive species after they become established can cost tens of thousands of dollars a year.

Please help us keep the lake clean and healthy by following these practices:

One boat, one lake. The best way to avoid introducing invasive species at the lake is to not take your boat to other lakes where invasive species may be present.

Drain, wash, dry, and disinfect. The second-best way is to clean your boat thoroughly every time you use it on another lake, before launching it at Loon Lake.

No outside boats. We strongly recommend that renters and other guests not be permitted to bring motorboats to the lake. If your guest does bring a boat, we ask that you direct them to the nearest boat wash station, so that they can clean their boats before they arrive. The closest boat wash station to Loon Lake is at 4468 NY-3, Saranac Lake, NY 12983



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Best Practices for Boating on Loon Lake (continued)

Be a Safe and Considerate Boater

Please review the state boating safety guidelines online at:

https://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/nysparks/ny_boatersguide_20/index.php#/p/54.

In particular, it's important to:

- Have a life preserver for each person on the boat.
- Outfit your boat with a headlight, or bring a strong flashlight, if you anticipate boating at dusk.
- Give way to paddlers.
- Slow down. This is a small lake and isn't suited to large, fast boats. Be especially mindful of slowing down to minimize wake along the shoreline, in order to prevent erosion and to avoid disrupting loon nests.
- Watch for swimmers. There are often people swimming across the lake, who may be difficult to see in the water.
- Watch for anglers. If you see anglers on the lake please slow down, to avoid disturbing the fish.
- Admire loons from a distance—do not approach them.



Twinflower (Linnaea borealis) arrived mid-June at Loon Lake this year.

Water Testing

Submitted by Stuart Lucks

The LLHOA sponsors extensive testing of water quality through the summer. There are two main parts to this - and volunteers are needed to continue this critical effort.

Our lake has participated in the Adirondack Lake Assessment Program (ALAP) for many years. This program is managed from a state-of-the-art facility at Paul Smiths College, and reports can be accessed at www.adklakes.org/reports. The tests measure characteristics of our lake water including road salt, chlorophyll, nitrogen, and acidity. Samples are



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Water Testing (continued)

taken in both the North and South Basins in June, July, and August. It's a great opportunity to be out on the lake, and anyone interested to learn how we do this and handle some of the sampling please contact Stuart at goodlux2@gmail.com.



White Lady Slipper graces a Loon Lake forest hillside

Photo provided by Sylvia Karman

The LLHOA also works with the Adirondack Research Group to survey and monitor for invasive species. This survey is done in late summer, and the report has been favorable that our lake is clean.....so far. A copy of the latest report is attached to the email carrying this newsletter.

No matter what part of the lake we live, play, or work - or whether we swim, motor, or paddle - there's nothing more important than assuring that the quality of our lake is maintained and enhanced.

GOINGS ON

Loon Lake Live!

Submitted by Catherine Beeson

Loon Lake Live will be back for a 26th year of concerts in July and August! Music for strings, french horn, flute, and harp will be featured this summer. Concerts are still free of charge and will be at Saranac Lake Free Library 10:30am Saturdays Jul 30, Aug 6 and Aug 13; Historic Saranac Lake Laboratory 7:30pm Wed Jul 27, Mon Aug 1, Mon Aug 8, and Fri Aug 12; Loon Lake Jewish Center 7:30pm Tue Jul 26, and Thu Aug 11, and TBD location - possibly a weather dependent pop-up in Loon Lake! - on Sun Jul 31 and Sun Jul 7. Complete details and donation info can be found on the website at loonlakelive.org.



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MORE GOINGS ON

Annual Meeting: July 31, via Zoom

Please join us on Sunday, July 31st at 10:00am, as we hear committee updates, vote on important issues concerning our community, and elect board members. A Zoom link will be sent in a future email.

Community Picnic: August 14

The annual picnic will be held at the main beach (a.k.a. Beach A) on August 14 from 12 to 2pm. The HOA will provide kosher hot dogs and side dishes. Come have a bite to eat, mingle with your neighbors, and enjoy the lake!

LAKE LIFE COURTESY

FRIENDLY REQUESTS from Your Neighbors

DON'T PARK YOUR VEHICLE OR EQUIPMENT ON THE ROAD

– Please do not make a habit of parking on, or otherwise obstructing, town and other shared roads. In addition to being extremely discourteous, it creates real safety issues especially at intersections, on turns, and, yes, even when parking across from the golf course to get cell reception.

At the boat launch: Please do not park your car in front of the boat launch gate, in the driveway of the Jackson camp, or in any spot along the road where it will be in the way of other people launching their boats.

In general: Try to avoid parking directly in front of someone's camp for long periods of time. Never park in a way that prevents other vehicles from passing safely.

DOWNED TREES – Paying attention to the health and condition of your trees that have potential for falling into the roadway and taking care of them proactively is the neighborly thing to do. This is especially the case if you are not residing here full time and available to quickly clear your tree from the roadway.

PLEASE SLOW DOWN – When you are driving around the many roads of Loon Lake, slow down and be mindful of the tendency for people, including small children, to walk, bike, run, and ski these roads. This is true for all roads in our community but a special request is being emphasized at this time for anyone travelling Blue Spruce Drive and The Garden Road.



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ABOUT LLHOA

Mission Statement

The Loon Lake Homeowners Association is now a 501(c)3, not for profit, organization and our mission is as follows.

“The LLHOA shall act to serve and inform the community around Loon Lake to encourage practices that protect the quality of the lake’s natural ecosystem, and promote a sense of community for its members. The LLHOA shall be set with the agreement of appropriate property owners to maintain areas of common access around the lake as specified in property deeds. The HOA may consider requests by members to represent the community’s interests to appropriate governing agencies.”



Lovely Lupine

Photo provided by Cynthia Martino

Communication

The renewed intention of this newsletter is to provide consistent communication to membership on issues effecting both seasonal and full-time residents. Our goal is to provide quarterly updates, expanded when possible/supported to monthly for the busiest months of June, July, and August. Please send any content suggestions, constructive feedback, or respectfully worded courtesy requests to llhoanewsletter@gmail.com

Current By-Laws and Minutes

The Board is working with our website administrator to add these documents to the website www.loonlakehoa.org