



Waukewan and Winona Watershed Protective Association

P.O. Box 451, Meredith, NH 03253

Website: WWWPA.org Email: info@wwwpa.org

An Environmental Organization Protecting the Waukewan and Winona Watershed

Message from Dave and Deb

Our Mission

"The mission of the Waukewan and Winona Watershed Protective Association is to encourage and support long range planning, responsible lake level management and sound conservation techniques to preserve the ecology, environment and natural beauty of the Waukewan and Winona Watershed. It serves as a voice for its members in matters of group concern with regard to the environment and seeks to assist with scientific studies, education programs and the preparation and dissemination of educational materials"

After the warmest year on record, the "slow" season of 2017 has begun with what feels like a normal winter.

The summer of 2016 was another busy one in the watershed.

Once again our association hosted two well attended seminars. The first, called "A Helping Hand for Wildlife" was led by Emily Preston, wildlife biologist with the Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Program at the NH Fish and Game Department. This presentation focused on NH's wildlife, their habitats, threats to both, and the actions that need to be taken to conserve both rare and common species. Our second seminar was led by Dr. Lindsay Rustad, Research Ecologist with the US Forest Service.

Dr. Rustad spoke about the effects of shifting weather patterns on our forests and environment and gave us an idea of how we can prepare for the extreme weather events that are the result of climate change.

Membership in our organization is open to shore owners of Lakes Winona and Waukewan and Hawkins, Bear and Otter Ponds. Call any member of our Board for information. We hope you have a safe and fun winter.

Dave Reilly and Deb Corr
Co-Chairmen

Volume 6, Issue 1
Page 1
Winter 2017

Articles in this Issue

- Hiking the New Fogg Hill Trail.
- Winter Watershed Safety Tips.
- Lake Winona Lake Host Program Seeks Volunteers for 2017..
- Looking Back at Our Loons This Past Season.
- TRASH!



Fogg Hill Bog, September 10, 2016
Photo by Deb Corr

We were all urged to return when the leaves had fallen as the view from the top would be more expansive then.

The Fogg Hill Conservation Project is yet another example of how our community organizations, along with local government officials, can work together in partnership.

Hiking the New Fogg Hill Trail by Sharon O'Donnell

Members of the Lakes Region Conservation Commission and many volunteers worked hard all last spring and summer to create a trailhead parking area and trail on the recently conserved 43 acre parcel abutting the LRCT Fogg Hill Conservation Area. The Waukewan and Winona Watershed Association partnered with LRCT to assist them in their endeavor to purchase this additional parcel, and several WWWPA members participated in a hike on Saturday September 10, 2016 to celebrate the success of this wonderful conservation effort.

Approximately 50 people participated in the Fogg Hill Hike. It was a perfect fall day with lots of sunshine. Lakes Region Conservation Trust provided well in-

formed guides so hikers were split into two groups. As we ascended the hill, our guides pointed out how the trails were developed in a low impact fashion, utilizing existing pathways and areas where logging had taken place in the past. Our guides also pointed out bear and deer markings as well as trees that showed places where moose had chewed the bark and branches.



Winter Watershed Safety Tips by Lee Callahan (reprinted from Fall/Winter 2012-13)

Protecting the watershed in the winter while maintaining a safe environment under snowy and icy conditions requires a balanced approach. Removing snow and ice in a timely manner and keeping it from blocking drains, doorways and emergency exits is very important. However, care needs to be taken in the choice of materials we use to manage snow and ice on our roads and walkways.

Sand is probably the safest and cheapest but it won't do anything to melt ice. **Rock Salt** is readily available and cheap but can be very harmful to the environment. **Magnesium Chloride** is made for melting ice and is safe for the environment. **Calcium Chloride** is effective but can damage plants, metal and concrete. A more



Hawkins Pond in the Distance
Photo by Bernie Volz

expensive but wonderful alternative is a product like **Safe Paw Ice Melter** that works down to -2 degrees and is safe for the environment, pets and children. **Potassium Chloride** is somewhat less damaging to plants but is less effective overall. **Calcium**

Magnesium Acetate (CMA) has low toxicity and is less damaging but is relatively expensive and may be hard to find. One note: **Never** use fertilizer as a melting agent!

Whichever material you use outdoors to deal with ice and snow can eventually drain into our watershed. De-icing materials should be used sparingly, using only enough to accomplish the goal of safe travel, either on foot or by vehicle.

The water bodies in the Waukewan and Winona Watershed are a precious resource, and every care should be taken to preserve them while balancing the need to be safe. Go out and have fun this winter!

Lake Winona Lake Host Program Seeks Volunteers for 2017 by Dave Reilly



Lake Winona, Winter 2017
Photo by Deb Corr

As we reported in our Spring/Summer 2016 newsletter, Lake Winona was able to institute a Lake Host Program in the summer of 2015 with the help of several dedicated volunteers and four paid lake hosts.

The Winona Improvement Association, founded in the late 1940s, seeks to expand and improve on the Lake Host Program next summer at the Winona boat launch.

The Lake Host program is a courtesy boat inspection administrated by the NH Lakes Association in cooperation with a local participating group such as the LWIA. Its purpose is to prevent introduction and spread of invasive species such as Variable Milfoil and Asian clams from one water body to another via watercraft of all kinds. Infestations of these and many other species are of great concern because they disrupt the ecological balance of water bodies, are difficult and expensive to control, make water bodies dangerous and unpleasant to navigate, and may affect shoreline property values.

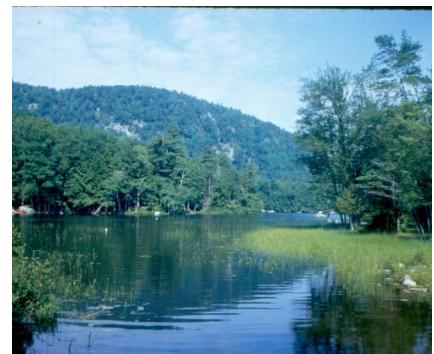
The new Lake Host Coordinator for Lake Winona is Nora Foster. Ms. Foster writes:

"Volunteers are greatly needed for Lake Winona's Lake Host program—volunteers are an important part of all area Lake Host Programs.

In addition to volunteers, we are also seeking two to three paid Lake Hosts. Our Lake Host program will begin **June 3, 2017**, with Lake Hosts managing our boat launch every weekend through Septem-

ber 3, 2017. Both volunteers and paid hosts are required to attend a one hour training session. The 2017 training sessions have not been set yet by NH Lakes, but there are typically seven sessions available from mid-May to June. Program and position details are available at <https://nhlakes.org/education/lake-host/>."

Volunteers and those interested in a paid Lake Host positon on Lake Winona should contact Nora Foster at norafoster1@gmail.com or 603-677-6281.



Entrance to Lake Winona, 1950s
Photo by Bill Fairbanks



Looking Back at Our Loons This Past Season by Janan Hays

Winter's chill is in the air, snow blankets the ground, our lakes have iced in and the loons of Hawkins, Winona and Waukewan have long since flown to the ocean. Waukewan's only fledgling was the sole straggler, staying through the first full week of December as it continued to enjoy fishing at the lake and didn't appear in any rush to leave.

Unfortunately, it was not a productive year for our nesting loons. The Hawkins pair female suffered an injury earlier in the season due to a fight with an intruder. The female did recover, however the pair did not produce any chicks. Happily, there was a resident pair on Winona again this season, and although they briefly tried out the new loon raft that was floated by LPC, they, too, did not nest. Of the two nesting pairs on Waukewan, only the Jenness Cove pair produced a single chick which, fortunately, survived the season. The Snake River pair nested, but due to human encroachment in the nesting area, they abandoned their nest and eggs.

The territorial pairs on Hawkins, Winona and Waukewan endured quite a bit of harassment by intruder loons this past season with numerous fights wit-



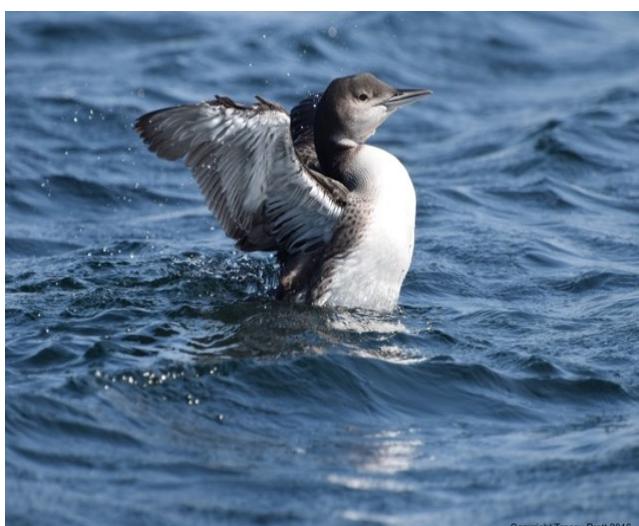
Loon Banding - Lake Waukewan, July, 2016. L-R: LPC Veterinary Intern, Janan Hays, John Cooley

nessed by lake residents.

In the dark early morning hours of July 8th, LPC Senior Biologist John Cooley, two vet and biology student interns and I, along with a couple of volunteers driving the capture boat, headed out on Waukewan in the cold drizzle and fog with the hope of banding the Jenness Cove adult loon pair. Due to the weather conditions, it took a few hours to locate and capture the Jenness Cove female. Unfortunately,

the Jenness Cove male remained elusive. Once captured, the work began with one person holding (no easy task) the large, strong bird while it was weighed, leg and bill measurements recorded, feather and blood samples taken and both legs banded. The physical exam and the samples taken give LPC a good indication of the loon's health. The bands are distinctly color coded for each loon so LPC can identify and track that particular bird over its lifetime. The Jenness Cove female is the only banded territorial loon on Waukewan at this point, so if you spot a band on a loon's leg next season, it is most likely her.

In the meantime with December behind us and with great relief, it looks as though her fledgling took off for its first migration to the coast in the nick of time as the lake iced in quickly. Hopefully Waukewan's fledgling arrived safely on the ocean where it will stay for the next few years after which, with luck, the young loon will return to our area in search of its own territory.



**Proud Baby Loon 2016
Photo by Tracey Pratt**



TRASH!

by Peter Tallman

How many of us have had “stuff” either blow out or accidentally fall off our boats, off a beach, or off a dock? Sometimes we make the effort to retrieve it, quite often not. A glance at the list below from the US National Park Service, Mote Marine Lab will tell us just how long this trash will be around for our children, grandchildren and future generations to deal with. The thing is, we can do something right now to mitigate the long-term effects of our collective carelessness by being aware and prevent more of it from happening. Whoever really gave much thought about that monofilament line that got snagged and left while we were fishing? Please do your part; I know I will do mine.

Time it Takes for Garbage to Decompose in the Environment

Glass Bottle.....	1 million years
Monofilament Fishing Line.....	600 years
Plastic Beverage Bottles.....	450 years
Disposable Diapers.....	450 years
Aluminum Cans.....	80-200 years
Foamed Plastic Buoy.....	80 years
Foamed Plastic Cups.....	50 years
Rubber Boot Sole.....	50-80 years
Tin Cans.....	50 years
Leather.....	50 years
Nylon Fabric.....	30-40 years
Plastic Film Container.....	20-30 years
Plastic Bag.....	10-20 years
Cigarette Butt.....	1-5 years
Plywood.....	1-3 years
Waxed Milk Carton.....	3 months
Apple Core.....	2 months
Newspaper.....	6 weeks
Orange or Banana Peel.....	2-5 weeks
Paper Towel.....	2-4 weeks

Who Are The Members of Our Board?

Dave Reilly, Co-Chairman

Lake Winona

rreillydave@aol.com

Deb Corr, Co-Chairman

Lake Waukewan

debcorr@metrocast.net

Janan Hays, Vice Chairman

Lake Waukewan

jhays@northstarnh.com

Bea Thibeault, Secretary

Lake Winona

beaticetbo@gmail.com

Peter Tallman, Treasurer

Lake Waukewan

ptallman@metrocast.net

Sharon O'Donnell, Member

Lake Waukewan

sharonptmc@aol.com



Snake River, January, 2017 Photo by Deb Corr