

# Wentworth Watershed Association



## The ZEPHYR

SUMMER 2021

### Happy Summer!

Welcome back to summer in the Watershed! We were busy working on many important initiatives during the winter months and are excited to share with you what's been happening and what is planned for the summer. Thanks to your continued support, many of the programs and activities continued virtually or in a modified way during Covid. Read on for news on how we're monitoring water quality, protecting the watershed, and educating our members and community.

Julie Brown  
Executive Director

### Get Ready to Have Some Fun!

Our summer line-up began on Saturday, June 26, with a kickoff event at Winnepesaukee Winery and will culminate at the End of Season Celebration Saturday, October 9. In between, we have many fun and educational events scheduled including the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Boat Parade, Island Heritage Paddle, Lights Out in the Watershed to witness the Perseids Meteor Shower, and the traditional Camp Dinner at Camp Bernadette.

Visit our website for additional details and to register for events.



### Are Fireworks Allowed at the Lake?

In Wolfeboro, the answer is no. Consumer fireworks are not allowed in Wolfeboro. Please visit the town of Wolfeboro website to review the ordinance. Fireworks can be triggering for people with PTSD, pets and wildlife. They also pollute and contribute to phosphorus loading in surface waters. To learn more about the environmental impacts of fireworks, visit the DES website and search for the Fireworks and NH's Lakes Environmental Fact Sheet.



### Filling Your Boat with Gas? Don't Have a Safety Syphon? You Need One!

One important way to keep our lakes clean is to prevent gas from contaminating the water. If you don't already have a safety or shaker syphon you can purchase one for under \$15 to avoid accidental spills. To see how this simple syphon works just *Google* "Boat Hacks: How Not to Spill Gas When Filling Your Boat".

### Are Your Furry Friends Enjoying Summer in the Watershed?

Be sure to pick up pet waste and properly dispose of it. Pet waste in the watershed leads to nutrient loading and in turn, algae, and bacteria blooms in the lakes.

## Loon Chronicles

The loons of Lake Wentworth began their arrival, as usual, soon after ice out in early April. Throughout the spring the loons established their territory. A battle was observed between two male loons as part of the mating process, truly something to see.

Currently, we have one nesting pair in Brewster Heath. Undoubtedly, they are the same pair who have mated in this same area for several years, sometimes successful and sometimes not! It is still early, so it will not be surprising if one or two more nests are discovered on one of the lake's islands. In the past there have been nests on Mink, Brummet, Big and Little Bass islands.

As a reminder, loons and their nests need space for a successful breeding cycle. You will see signs warning of the nesting loons at the mouth of the Heath so please stay 150 feet or more from the loons and their nest.

The annual Loon Census will be conducted this year on July 17, 2021, from 8:00-9:00 am. As always, we are looking for volunteers. If you would like to participate, please contact Hugh Crawford (603) 630-0815 or Peter Kent (860) 309-0443 by cell or text.

~ *Hugh Crawford*

## Lake Hosts Still Needed

The Association is always looking for volunteers to Lake Host at Mast Landing.

The job of the Lake Host is to greet boaters and educate them about aquatic invasive species (AIS) by distributing brochures, doing a brief survey and offering courtesy boat and trailer inspections to look for hitch-hiking plants. The goal is to encourage all boaters "*Clean, Drain & Dry!*" method to prevent the spread of AIS.

Working as a Lake Host is a great way to help protect our lakes for anyone who has a few hours a week to spare, and who likes to chat with people while they are trailing their boats. If you would like to learn more or know of anyone who might be interested in volunteering, please contact Susan Goodwin: [sgwolfe66@gmail.com](mailto:sgwolfe66@gmail.com).

## WWA Calendar of Events

Event	Date
Timed Kayak or Swim!	All summer!
Ben Baldwin Fishing Derby	Sat. July 3
Light up the Watershed	Sat. July 3
Boat Parade	Sun. July 4
Rain Date – Boat Parade	Mon. July 5
Stamp Act Island Walk	Sat. July 10
Introduction to Map & Compass	Sun. July 11
Loon Count	Sat. July 17
Tree & Shrub Identification Walk	Sat. July 17
Lake Wentworth History	Wed. July 21
Island Heritage Paddle	Sat. July 24
Mushroom ID Walk	Sun. July 25
Naturalist Paddle	Sat. July 31
Rain Date – Naturalist Paddle	Sun. Aug 1
Annual Meeting	Sat. Aug 7
Lights Out in the Watershed – Perseids Meteor Shower	Wed. Aug 11
Rain Date – Lights Out	Thurs. Aug 12
Camp Dinner	Sat. Sept 4
Mushroom ID Walk	TBA
Tree & Shrub ID Walk	Sat. Sept 25
Fall Colors Paddle	Sat. Sept 25
End of Season Celebration	Sat. Oct. 9

## Have You Pumped Your Septic Tank Recently?

Please check your household logs to confirm that you have had your septic system pumped in the last 2-3 years. If not, please schedule septic maintenance with your service provider.

Malfunctioning septic systems release bacteria, viruses, and toxic chemicals into our local waterways. Fertilizers and other nutrients cause increased vegetative growth leading to low dissolved oxygen levels and increased potential for cyanobacteria blooms.

Learn more about what you can do to protect the watershed and prevent your septic system from malfunctioning at:

[www.epa.gov/septic](http://www.epa.gov/septic)

## Lake Minded Quiz

Wondering how you can protect the lake and your lake neighbors? Take the quiz below to learn more!

1. **What color buoy signifies you should stay north and east?** A black buoy! Red buoy signifies you should stay south and west.
2. **How far can sound travel over the lake?** 1 mile. This means when you are playing music on a boat or at a house outside, that sound can travel far. Think of your lake neighbors, humans and wildlife, before you turn up the volume.
3. **What can you do to prevent algae and cyanobacteria blooms?** Maintain your septic system and infiltrate stormwater. Pumping your septic system every two years helps prevent leach fields from failing. Septic system failure causes nutrient loading in the lake and they are costly to replace. Do the lakes and your pocket book a favor by scheduling your system maintenance today!
4. **What can a big rainstorm help you identify?** Areas where water is sheeting off your property and causing erosion. Stormwater runoff carries sediment and nutrients into lakes and tributaries. Reach out to the WWA and ask for a free Lake Minded visit from our trained volunteers who will help you come up with low-cost stormwater infiltration solutions.
5. **When being pulled on a tube, do you need a life vest?** Yes! Any person being towed behind a boat must wear a life vest, including adults. Life vests must be worn at all times by children 12 and under by NH law while on a vessel. Additionally, a life vest must be available for everyone onboard.
6. **Can you walk around Stamp Act Island?** No. Stamp Act Island is a nature preserve and no one is permitted to walk inland, including pets. You can enjoy the North Beach after July 1st. Please remind guests that there are no fires allowed, there are no bathrooms on the island. Please be Lake Minded and Leave No Trace.
7. **How close can I get to those cute little baby loons?** Loon Watch suggests you stay 150 feet away – about half a football field. Although the loons are super cute, getting too close can cause them stress. Help keep our loon population safe by giving them plenty of space.
8. **How can you help prevent shoreline erosion?** Plant native shrubs along the shoreline. When cruising around the lake, you are responsible for your wake. Keep it small, stay well offshore, and do not repeat pass in the same area when towing.

*Of all the paths you take in life,  
make some lead to the lake...*

# Membership Matters!

**Renew or join today** to help the Wentworth Watershed Association continue its conservation efforts! WWA Membership is suggested at \$50 per adult. Gift Memberships and Additional Donations are greatly appreciated.

You can join or renew online right now at [wentworthwatershed.org](http://wentworthwatershed.org). If you prefer to send a check or have questions, feel free to call the office or stop by and we will get you signed up.

Providing your email will enable you to receive the *Zephyr* digital newsletter and invitations to events. Please encourage all friends and family members that visit the watershed to join. Pass the torch to the next generation so that they are informed about our conservation efforts and can learn how to be Lake Minded when visiting the watershed. The WWA does not share anyone's contact information.

Wentworth Watershed Association  
 PO Box 2235  
 Wolfeboro, NH 03894  
 (603) 534-0222  
[WentworthWatershed.org](http://WentworthWatershed.org)  
[info@wentworthwatershed.org](mailto:info@wentworthwatershed.org)

Our office and store are located at 591 Center Street, next to *All About Kitchens*.

We are open M-F from 9 am-2 pm

Stop by to say hello, buy merchandise, and to sign up to volunteer!

Wentworth Watershed Association is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All donations are tax-deductible to the full extent allowed by the law. EIN 04-3374499

Now that summer has finally arrived, it was wonderful to see so many of our members in person at the Summer Kickoff event at the Winnepesaukee Winery! Members heard about the Hersey/Hodge Land Conservation Project, as well as other activities that happens in the watershed year-round. We could not do this work without your membership, annual fund contributions, and your volunteerism!

## Your donations continue to support:

Milfoil Mitigation	Annual Report	Wolfeboro Water Summit	Cyanobacteria Monitoring
Ben Baldwin Fishing Derby	Brewster Heath Preserve	Tributary Water Quality Testing	Trail Building
Participation on Town Milfoil Committee	Naturalist Walks	DES Stormwater Grants	Liaison with Local Schools
Conservation Land Monitoring	Building of Outdoor Classroom	Heritage Paddle	Dive Team
Lake Minded Property Visits	Honoring and recognition of members	Scholarships Program at Kingswood	4 <sup>th</sup> of July Boat Parade
Citizen Science Projects and Training	Advocacy for Environmentally Conscious Planning and Zoning	Watershed Real Estate Threat Watch	Invasive Species Management on Land
Weedwatchers	Member Relations	Loon Census Communication	Project BloomWatch
In Lakes and Pond Water Quality Testing	Relationship Building with DES	Board Governance	Watershed Representative Program
Strategic Real Estate Advisory	Stamp Act Island Walk	Aquatic Invasive Species Monitoring	Event Production
Lake Host Program	Educational Material Distribution	Member Communications	Smith River Dam Liaison with Town
The Calendar	Land Acquisition	Office Operations	Donor Stewardship
Social Media	Member Database	Annual Meeting	Trail Maintenance
Financial Oversight	Merchandise	Camp Dinner	The <i>Zephyr</i>
Coordination with Other Lake Associations	Partnerships with Other Area Non-Profits	Program Planning	StormGarden Installation
Merchandise	Summer Kickoff Event	Land Monitoring	Mast Landing Advocacy
Naturalist Paddle	Press Releases	Volunteer Coordination	Interpretive Trail Planning