



LOON LAKE



PARK DISTRICT ASSOCIATION

Summer 2024

← CHESTERTOWN, NY 12817 →
www.loonlakeassociation.com

Officers

Kevin Wickert, President llpda.pres@gmail.com
Patrick Reed, Vice President llpda.vp@gmail.com
Lisa Deering, Secretary llpda.sec@gmail.com
Mary Flynn, Treasurer llpda.treasurer@gmail.com

Board of Directors

Sue Chambers ♦ Gail Holstein Danforth ♦ Jim Fregoe ♦ Barbara Kearney ♦ Rich McCrum
Andrea McDonough ♦ John Nick ♦ Ken Wade

Message From the President

Dear Members of the Loon Lake Park District Association,

As we reflect on the past year and look forward to the opportunities and challenges ahead, I am honored to address you all as President of our esteemed association. Together, we have navigated through various issues affecting our beloved lake and community, and I am proud to report on our collective efforts and successes.

One of the foremost concerns for our association has been the management of invasive species, particularly Eurasian Milfoil and other intrusive plants. Through our diligent invasives abatement program led by John Nick, we have made significant strides in combating these threats to the ecological balance of Loon Lake. John's leadership and the dedicated efforts of our members have helped mitigate the spread of invasives, safeguarding the pristine beauty of our lake for generations to come.

Another pressing issue on our agenda is the imminent rebuilding of the dam near the public beach. Last year, the temporary repairs using quick-setting grout served as a temporary fix, but it is imperative that we address this issue with a more permanent solution. The safety and integrity of our infrastructure are paramount. The Town of Chester, Warren County and FEMA are actively working towards a comprehensive plan to ensure the longevity of the dam while preserving the recreational and economic opportunities it provides.

Please take a moment to review our revised and improved events calendar for 2024. The LLPDA sponsors and hosts events during the entire lake season. Each year we offer a NYS boater's safety course, family hikes, fishing derby, summer social and much more. These events are paid for by your membership and are wholesome fun for all. Our annual boat parade is another great opportunity to share your pride in our lake and hold our "Stanley Cup" style trophy for a year as best boat in parade. Participating in each event provides association members great opportunities to make new friends and memories on our lake.

On behalf of the association, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to those who have contributed to our successes this past year. I would like to thank Gail Danforth for her invaluable efforts in publishing our annual newsletter, keeping our members informed and engaged. To Vice President Patrick Reed, your constant observance of local government and advocating for our community is truly commendable. Rich McCrum and the Invasive Survey Team, your work over the years to meticulously plot milfoil growth has proved invaluable in our conservation efforts. And to Mary Flynn, whose longstanding service as treasurer has been instrumental in ensuring the financial health and transparency of our association. Thank you to all our members and our remaining board members Lisa Deering, Jim Fregoe, Ken Wade, Barb Kearney, Andrea McDonough and Sue Chambers for their dedication and efforts in stewardship of our lake.

As we embark on the year ahead, let us remain steadfast in our commitment to preserving the natural beauty and community spirit that define Loon Lake. Together, we can overcome challenges, celebrate achievements, and continue to be stewards of this precious resource.

With warm regards,

Kevin D. Wickert - President, Loon Lake Park District Association

2023 Milfoil Status

The following report is garnered from the Loon Lake Invasive Survey Team results for 2023, the Lake Management Tracker Report by Brian Greene, Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator for the Adirondack Park Plant Invasive Program (APIPP), and edited by Richard McCrum the Loon Lake Invasive Team Coordinator.

Monitoring Locations

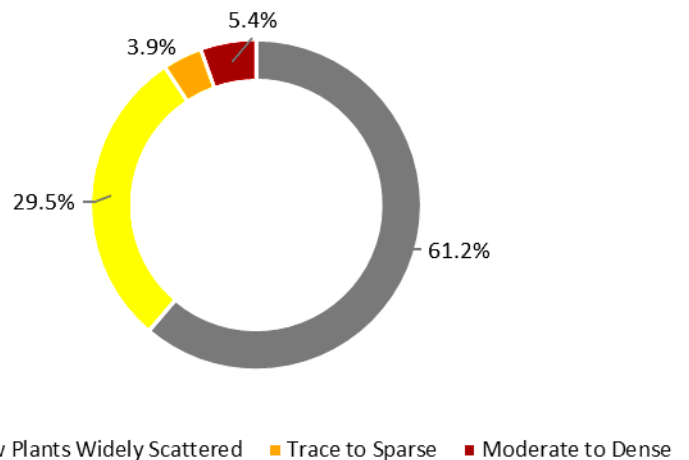
There are 255 monitoring locations created to assess the location and density of Eurasian Watermilfoil. These sites have remained constant since 2018. In 2021 APIPP created a publicly accessible Google Map showing the locations. It can be accessed here: <https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1KuwqZBWGMKwop-kU74gayEpbN3z5m8XD&usp=sharing>

Data

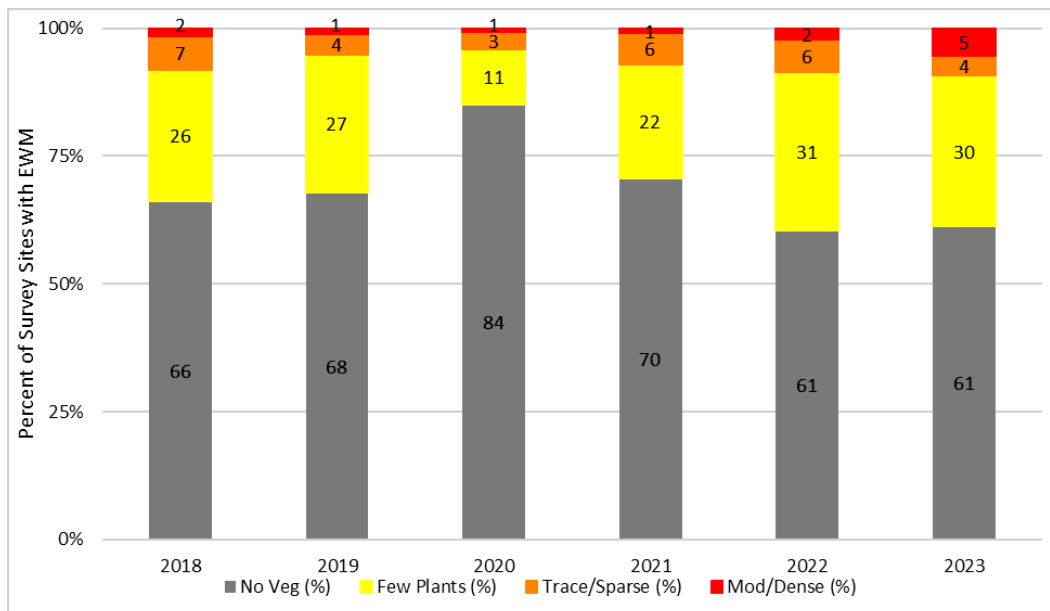
In 2023, volunteers divided up the monitoring locations and collected 258 observations. A few additional points have been collected in 2022 and 2023 to document a large growth area in the boating channel of the upper wetland.

EWM Abundance	Count	Percent
None	158	61.2
Few Plants Widely Scattered	76	29.5
Trace to Sparse	10	3.9
Moderate to Dense	14	5.4

Loon Lake 2023 EWM Abundance



Because volunteers have monitored Loon Lake for six years, we can begin to look at trends in EWM Abundance.



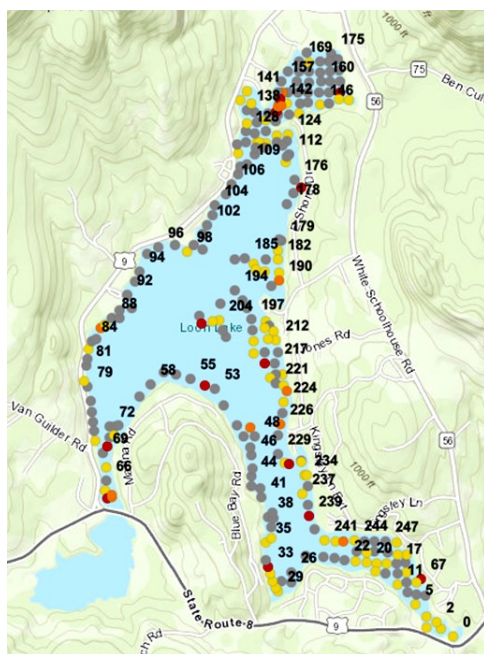
Overall, 2023 held fairly similar to 2022. The biggest change was a doubling of the number of sites that have moderate to dense abundance.

With funding through Warren County and the Town of Chester, Aqualogic has been contracted again this summer to provide milfoil remediation services. In addition, the town will continue to operate the boat launch, conduct inspections and provide free washings if necessary.

Year	Pounds of EWM Removed	Contract cost	Actual Cost
2017	42,665	\$90,000	\$90,000
2018	23,075	\$90,000	\$77,605
2019	18,150	\$75,000	\$75,000
2020	8,250	\$59,150	\$59,150
2021	8,757	\$59,150	\$59,150
2022	4,095	\$59,962	\$59,962
2023	4,360	\$71,500	\$71,500

Key Points

- ◆ EWM is persistently established in Loon Lake.
- ◆ Overall growth in EWM was stable from 2022 to 2023.
- ◆ There was a doubling in the number of sites with moderate to dense EWM in 2023.
- ◆ From 2018 to 2023 the locations with EWM has increased by 5% to 7% .
- ◆ The natural plant species in Loon Lake are abundant, continue to increase and are healthy for the lake
- ◆ The long term point intercept monitoring indicates that EWM is rebounding (to 24% of locations) in Loon Lake and coming closer to the historic high level in 2012 (32%).
- ◆ Comparing the methods of a professional point intercept monitoring methodology and the volunteer lake management tracker methodology indicate similar results, but the LMT results indicate a higher frequency of EWM.
- ◆ Volunteers are key to monitoring the lake! It is because of their hard work and dedication that we have quality data that allows the evaluation and assessment of the current condition of EWM in the lake.



2024 Lake Management Tracker

Describe Eurasian Watermilfoil Abundance

- Few Plants Widely Scatter
- Trace to Spare
- Moderate to Dense
- None

Huge thank you to all our Invasive Survey Team Volunteers and the Town of Chester!





The LLPDA's foundation and success is based on Volunteerism and Community Partnerships.

Those willing to give of their time and service is greatly appreciated and continues to be the force behind fulfilling the LLPDA Mission of Stewardship.

For information on volunteering, email llpda.info@gmail.com and/or attend the Annual Meeting at the Town Municipal Center on July 7th at 9:30

Boat Parade Marshalls - Joanne and John Nick

Boater Safety Course - John Nick

Buoys - Patrick Reed ♦ **the buoys will be installed the 1st week in May and removed the 2nd week in October**

Education & Newsletter - Gail Danforth, Proof Readers: Sue Chambers and Andrea McDonough

Family Hike - Marti Townley

Fishing Derby - Steven Ziamandanis, Jim & Nancy Fregoe, Peggy Carol

Paddlefest - Patrick and Robin Reed

Marv Cole Golf Tournament - Arnold Jensen, Tom Sliva, Sue Silva, Linda Thorsen, Tom Thorsen, Kathy Belanger, Beth Cole, Ralph Smith, Barbara Smith, Joe Benedict, Ken Shea, Marti Townley, Joe Benedict, Shep Peck, Laura Peck, Jeff Kennicut, Terry Thomas

Invasive Remediation Evaluation - Brian Greene, Brian Baily, Brad Bloss, Dave Detoro, Jeff Kennicutt, Arnie Berlin, Nancy Berlin, Teresa Caputi, Jeff Caputi, Don Chase, Mona Obermann, Seth Obermann, Frankie Gabriele, David Pitaniello, Dan Sisto, Frank Sisto, Peter Deering, Andrea McDonough, Bill Sherry, Barb Kearney, John Wainwright, Jo Wolf, Russ Danforth, Paul Gregory, Sue Sliva, John Coberg, John Hagmann, Richard Konig, Richard McCrum, John Nick

Loon Friendly Lake Program - Gail and Russ Danforth, Loon Lake Deli, Town of Chester, Loon Lake Marina, Chester Shores, Loon Lake Club, Birchwood Cottages

Summer Social - Kevin Wickert

Membership Drive - Ken Wade, Barb Kearney

Water Carnival - Doris Gargan, Barbara Kearney, Andrea McDonough, Jim & Nancy Fregoe

Water Testing - Jim & Nancy Fregoe

Watershed - John Nick

White Schoolhouse Road Clean-up - Kathy Herold, Sue Sliva, Noelle McCrum, Peggy Carroll, Rose Cooper, Lisa Deering, Barb Kearney, Andrea McDonough, Noreen Wade, Joyce Jones, Patty Clement, Bill Sherry, Ken Shea, Marti Townley



2023 Snapshot

Sponsored Events & Committees at Work

Check out the LLPDA 2024 Calendar for a full schedule of events on **Page 10**



Summer Social



Annual Meeting



Loon Friendly Certification



Fishing Derby



Whiteschool House Road Clean-up



Fishing Derby



Boat Parade 2023 Winner



Mary Cole Golf Tournament



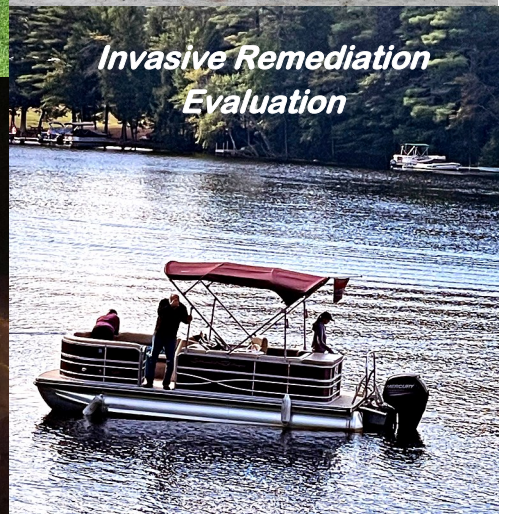
Water Carnival



Family Hike



Ring of Fire



Invasive Remediation Evaluation

Visit the LLPDA Website for Updates

www.loonlakeassociation.com



LLPDA Partnership with the Adirondack Center for Loon Conservation

Every year on the third Saturday in July, the Adirondack Center for Loon Conservation (ACLC) recruits volunteers from lakes across the Adirondacks to participate in the NY Annual Loon Census. From 8:00 AM to 9:00 AM, volunteers head out to their assigned lake with a map in hand to record the number of adult loons and their chicks as well as their exact location on the Lake. This summer will mark the LLPDA's seventh year of taking part in this event. Last summer, Loon Lake was the summer home to one loon pair and their chick.



2023
Natalee and Andrew, Field Research interns under Suny-EFS's Adirondack Ecological Center in collaboration with the Adirondack Center for Loon Conservation

Loon Lake was One of the ADK Lakes Chosen for Research Project

"In 2023 Adirondack Center for Loon Conservation received a federal research grant to fund a project focused on increasing common loon nest success in the Adirondack Park using nest rafts. Rafts are a great solution for many of the threats to nesting loons, such as fluctuating water levels, predation, and human disturbance. Per the requirements of the grant and established protocols, rafts are floated on lakes that have a documented presence of a pair that has not successfully nested in recent years. If a loon pair has been nesting successfully recently, floating a raft will not increase their nest success. **On Loon Lake, loons have successfully nested every year since 2017 with the exception of 2022. Because of this history, a raft does not seem like the best**

option at this time. However, the NY Annual Common Loon Census and other reports/observations from folks on the lake will greatly help with decisions to float a raft in the future. Should the pair on Loon Lake begin failing their nesting attempts in future years, Loon Lake will quickly become a suitable candidate. We greatly appreciate the Loon Lake community's dedication to conserving loons – our work would not be possible without such passionate community members!"

**Griffin Archambault, Research Biologist
Adirondack Center for Loon Conservation**



We all know that fishing lines can get caught on the bottom of our lake on things other than fish. Please, simply pull up as much of the line as you possibly can before cutting it. If you are out on the lake and find fishing line along the shoreline, under water or stuck in trees, logs or other places, **pick it up and recycle it in one of Loon Lake's fishing line recycling containers. Feel free to deposit any lead tackle you may have, we guarantee that it will be disposed of properly.**

Many thanks to the following community partners, there are eight fishing line recycling containers around the Lake:

- Loon Lake Deli**
- Town of Chester Boat Launch**
- Town of Chester Public Beach Fishing Area**
- Loon Lake Marina**
- Loon Lake Club**, located in the cove across from the Loon Lake Heights Beach
- Clarkson Road Extension**, located off the northern entrance of Clarkson Road at the entrance of Beach Lot D
- Chester Shores**, located on the main beach on a pavilion post
- Birchwood Cottages**, located on beach



In 2023, twenty ounces of line and hooks were retrieved and disposed of in a safe manner.



Do You Know That.....

New York State Citizens with dual residences have the right to choose where they want to vote? They do not have to vote where they maintain their primary residence?

Second homeowners have a major stake in the rural communities where they maintain a home, but most have no say in how their tax dollars are being spent, or in decisions that will affect the future of their community for years to come.

The Law clearly states that the term “residence” shall be deemed to mean “that place where a person maintains a fixed, permanent and principal home and to which he, wherever temporarily located, always intends to return.” (Election Law § 1-104 [22]).

Contact Warren County Board of Elections at (518) 761-6458 for more information.

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Brianna’s Law five year phase-in requirement process to get all boaters certified to operate a motorized watercraft ***is now in the final year to comply?***

Under this NYS law, new age groups are gradually added to those required to carry a boater card. If you were born:

On or after January 1, 1993 - must have completed a safety course beginning in 2020

On or after January 1, 1988 - must have completed a safety course beginning in 2022

On or after January 1, 1983 - must have completed a safety course beginning in 2023

On or after January 1, 1978 - must complete a safety course beginning in 2024

Prior to 1978 - must complete a safety course beginning in 2025

The LLPDA NYS Boater Safety Course will be held at Dynamite Hill Recreation Center on July 5th and 6th from 9am to 1pm. Refer to the Events Calendar on page 10 for registration information.

Online Boater Safety course information can be obtained by visiting NYS Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation website at : <https://parks.ny.gov/boating/boating-safety-class.aspx>

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If you are a paid member of the LLPDA, you will receive a **\$25 discount** on your septic tank pumping from ***Hometown Sewer Service*** in Warrensburg (518-623-2453)?

To receive the discount, please provide Hometown with verification (cancelled check, LLPDA sticker, PayPal receipt) that you are a current 2024 LLPDA member. Hometown will have a listing of associations that are current members. **Proper maintenance of septic systems is essential to help reduce the amount of phosphates in Loon Lake.**



Save the Date ~ Saturday July 7th

LLPDA Annual Meeting

Town of Chester Municipal Center Auditorium

The informal social with refreshment starts at 9:30AM.

The meeting starts promptly at 10AM.

President’s, Treasurers and Committee reports will be discussed.

The Town Supervisor will be present and both he and the board will be available for questions.



Loon Lake Dam Information – March 2024

The Loon Lake Dam has received several repairs over the past 25 years, the most recent being last year, the spring of 2023. The continued deterioration necessitates a full renovation, which started with engineering services. Core borings were performed late 2019 to assist GZA Geo Environmental of NY in planning the renovation. The engineering services along with the core boring expense was approved and paid by the Town of Chester (\$87,659). The Town of Chester applied for and received a grant to cover and pay for this expense; but the monies have not been received to date.



In April of 2023, when the town placed boards on the dam to raise the lake water level, it was soon discovered there were breaches. These findings required the lake level to be lowered, and a firm was hired to grout the leak paths. After inspections and approvals, boards were placed on the dam to raise the water level, albeit the snow pack and spring runoff had passed and it took longer than usual to raise the water to normal summer levels.

The Town of Chester, with the help of the Lake Champlain-Lake George Planning Board, applied for a grant to facilitate the full renovation of our dam. The grant to perform the dam project, tentatively scheduled to begin October 2024, is for \$720,000. Grants will be selected and awarded in the Spring of 2024.

John Nick - Chair



A Message from the Town of Chester Planning and Zoning Office

On June 13, 2023, the Town of Chester Town Board adopted Local Law No. 4 of 2023, a Local Law Regulating Short-Term Rentals, with an effective date of August 01, 2023.

In accordance with Article 3 of the Local Law, a Short-Term Rental Permit shall be obtained prior to using the Short-Term Rental Dwelling Unit as a Short-Term Rental. A Short-Term Rental Dwelling Unit is defined as the following:

SHORT-TERM RENTAL DWELLING UNIT – A Dwelling Unit, which may or may not be inhabited by the owner of record or their immediate family, that is rented, in whole or in part, for a period of less than thirty (30) consecutive days to any person or entity, but not including a Hotel, Motel, Inn, Campground or Bed and Breakfast, or Tourist Accommodation as defined in Section 2.03 of the Town Zoning Local Law.

Short-Term Rental Permits are non-transferrable and do not expire. If a Short-Term Rental Dwelling Unit is sold or otherwise transferred, at any time that the new owner plans to utilize the Dwelling Unit as a Short-Term Rental, the new owner must apply for and obtain a new Short-Term Rental Permit within sixty (60) days of the planned date of rental.

A copy of the Local Law and Application, including instructions, can be obtained at the Town Planning and Zoning Office or found online on the Planning and Zoning microsite on the Town website at www.townofchesterny.org.

If you have any questions or need assistance in the Application process, please feel free to contact the Town of Chester Planning and Zoning Office at 518-494-7369 or via e-mail at zoning@townofchesterny.org.



27th Annual LLPDA Boat Parade ~ Saturday July 20th at 4PM



Once a year, for the past 27 years, the entire lake community gathers on the shoreline to cheer on the creatively adorned boats as they parade around the lake.

Last year Rich McCrum, LLPDA Board Member, came up with a new yearly tradition - the awarding of the LLPDA Trophy Cup to the most outstanding boat in the parade.

Last summer, the D'Andrea /Roach Family's creative "Milfoil Alien" boat won and they became the first family to have their name engraved on the Trophy Cup along with bragging rights for the entire year.

Again this year, judges will be stationed around the lake seeking out the most creative and fun boat that will be awarded the Trophy Cup at the end of the parade.

Please be mindful of the following:

- ◆ Although there is no established theme (idea is for folks to be creative) for the boat parade, it is a family friendly event, and the LLPDA would ask for entries to reflect this.
- ◆ Per the NYS and Town of Chester Navigation Laws and Regulations, be sure to have:
 - ~ a US Coast Guard (PDF) life jacket for each person on board.
 - ~ passengers less than 12 years of age wear a PDF.
- ◆ To ensure that your boat is not overloaded, check the Capacity Plate that is fastened near the steering area or the helm.

Starting working on your theme and let's make this the largest boat parade ever!

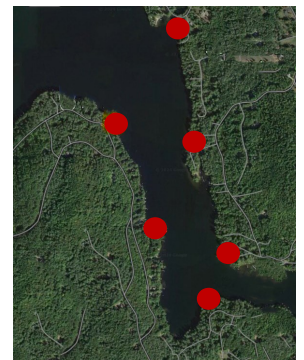
New 2024 Event



Per NYS Law, be sure to wear a life jacket and carry a whistle.

Paddle your human powdered craft in a 1.25 mile loop to the 6 flagged stations around the central area of the lake to have your entry form stamped and to pick up a playing card.

1. Pick up an entry form at the first station you paddle to.
2. Collect a minimum of five cards to enter.
3. Finish the loop by 4pm and turn your entry in electronically via a text.
4. Best hand wins!



**Friday, July 5th and Saturday, 6th ~ NYS Boater Safety Course
9:00 AM to 1:00 PM ~ Dynamite Hill Recreation Center**

Preference is given to children and LLPDA members ages 10 and up.
Register: Attention John Nick llpda.info@gmail.com by providing your name, age, contact phone number and email address.

**Saturday, July 6th ~ Children's Fishing Derby
Sign up at 9 AM at the Loon Lake Public Beach**

The event is open to all children up to the age of 16. The competition ends at noon with prizes awarded in various categories. Hot dogs, soda and chips will be provided for all attendees.

**Sunday, July 7th ~ Loon Lake Park District Association Annual Meeting
Town Municipal Center Auditorium**

The informal social with refreshments starts at **9:30 AM** and the meeting starts promptly at **10:00 AM**.

Friday, July 12th ~ Adult Summer Social ~ 5 PM to 8 PM ~ Panther Mountain Inn and Traven

The Association will provide appetizers and finger food.
Panther Mountain House will provide a cash bar.
Dress is comfortable and casual. **RSVP by July 5th - Attention Kevin Wickert**

Saturday, July 20th ~ Annual Boat Parade and Trophy Cup Awarding~ 4 PM

Whether you are a participant in the parade or an observer on shore, this event is one of the highlights of the summer season! To participate in the parade, **show up in your decorated boat at 4 PM near the Loon Lake Marina buoy.** We will motor counterclockwise around the lake.

Saturday, July 27th ~ Water Carnival ~ Loon Lake Public Beach

This fun event is for children ages 3 to 15. **Games Start at 9 AM** and when the festivities conclude at noon, prizes will be awarded. Soda and hot dogs will be served.

Sunday, July 28th ~ Family Hike ~

Panther Mountain- This new trail is 2.4 miles round trip and part of the Chester Challenge . It is a gradual incline to the top with nice views. Meet at Dynamite Hill at 9am. Bring water and snacks.

**Friday, August 9th ~ Marv Cole Golf Tournament ~ Cronin's Golf Course
8 AM check in ~ \$90 per person**

144 golfers each year have fun and raise thousands of dollars for local Town of Chester scholarships and charities. **Pre-Registration is required. Visit the LLPDA website: www.loonlakeassociation.com and click on the newsletter to find a registration form. For more information email Arnold Jenson at arnoldj1947@gmail.com**

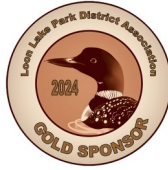
****New Event ~ Saturday, August 17th ~ Paddlefest Poker Run ~ 12pm to 4pm**

Paddle your human powdered craft to the 6 flagged points around the central area of the lake to pick up a playing card. Turn your cards in at the designated point on the water before 4PM. Best Hand Wins! Be on the lookout for more details.

Saturday, August 31st~ Ring of Fire ~ Sunset

The concept is to have bonfires on lakefront beaches at sunset so the shoreline of Loon Lake will be illuminated with a ring of fire. It does not need to be a big fire, but let's have as many participants as possible. We ask that everyone observe fire safety and common sense.





Loon Lake Park District Association 2024 Membership

*Membership Support is Essential for the
Continuation of the LLPDA Programing*

To join or renew your membership, please visit our website at www.loonlakeassociation.com and use PayPal, or return this form with your check payable to LLPDA, Inc. Residents of Chester Shores, Loon Lake Club, Loon Lake Heights, Forest Shores and Pine Ridge Associations, please note that your basic 2024 Membership Dues are included in your HOA fees. Should you wish to become a higher level sponsor, simply send the amount for that level minus the \$20.00 which has been provided by your HMO. **In appreciation, Platinum and Gold Members will received a 2024 sponsor decal as well as a lake map car decal.**

As a nonprofit organization (501c3), LLPDA membership dues are tax deductible

Membership Levels

- Membership-----\$ 20.00
- Family Sponsor-----\$ 30.00
- Gold Sponsor-----\$ 50.00
- Platinum Sponsor-----\$100.00

Name _____

Email _____

Home Mailing Address _____

Summer Address (include house number and street) _____

Contact Number _____

**Mail to Loon Lake Park District Association Inc
P.O. Box 301 Chestertown, New York 12817**

(Please send Golf Tournament Checks Separately)



2024 LLPDA Marv Cole Golf Tournament

**August 9th
Cronin's Golf Resort**

This tournament is always a huge success with a full complement of 144 golfers. A fun and charitable event that through the years has raised over \$100,000 for several community organizations.

As in prior years, only the first 144 PAID golfers will be included, so send in your registration form and check as soon as possible. All players must arrive by 8 AM for check in with an 8:30 AM shotgun start.

\$90 per person includes green fees, cart, beverages on the course, lunch, golf give away and prizes.



Registration Form

**Send a separate check payable to:
LLPDA-Golf Tournament**

Mail to: **P.O. Box 294 Chestertown, NY 12817**
For more information email Arnold Jenson
arnoldj1947@gmail.com

LLPDA Member's Name _____

**In advance of possible shirts being given out,
please list shirt sizes for team members.**

Name	Gender	Shirt Size

Contact Number _____

Email _____





P.O. BOX 301
↔ CHESTERTOWN, NY 12817 ↔

**To Learn More About the LLPDA's Mission of
Stewardship and Community
Sponsored Events**

Visit the Website
www.loonlakeassociation.com

Follow on Facebook
facebook.com/loonlakeassociation

Email
llpda.info@gmail.com

