



# The Lake Harvey Association



## The Lake Harvey Association Newsletter | Summer 2024

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE | Karla Cornelius

#### HELLO SUMMER!!

What a glorious and welcoming 2024 Memorial Day weekend! To those of us fortunate enough to be here at our favorite place, it was an amazing gift. Boats touring the lake, jet skiers and kayakers cruising, kids at the beach and in the water (still a brisk 68 degrees), grills fired up, people gathered together having so much **FUN!** Prime time summer, and an auspicious beginning to what promises to be a fabulous season at our Lake Harvey.

Once again, we remain blessed with pure waters. We thank our Greeters, residents, visitors and our Town of Barnet for their vigilance, commitment and support. A healthy lake benefits us all, and its future depends on us all.

Please wash your watercraft to reduce the risk of AIS contamination, and report any suspicious plants along the shoreline. Help prevent erosion with lakeside plantings that filter water run-off. Remember to use phosphorous free fertilizers, that Vermont law disallows fertilizer use within 25' of the shore, and to avoid pesticide and herbicides that may leach into the lake. Maintain your septic system, and obtain a State permit if required for development projects and the clearing

of trees within 250' of the shoreline (visit <http://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/lakes-ponds/permit>). Responsible property ownership is key to our success.

Safe boating ensures enjoyment of our waters. Vessels must be operated at a speed of less than 5 mph (no wake) if within 200' of shore, a person in the water or other vessels. Wake sports, while still allowed on Lake Harvey and 29 other Vermont lakes, under the new rule of law must solely be enjoyed 500' distant from shore (see map within). Coast Guard approved PFD's are required for each person aboard, plus one throwable, and children under 12 must wear one at all times. Respect the rules, and each other.

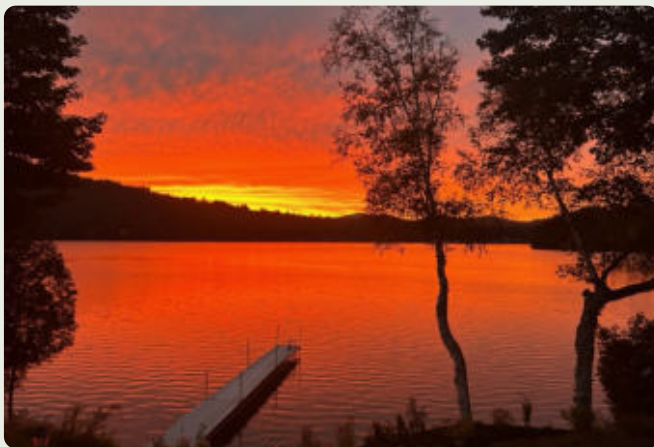
Other fun things to do abound. Our public beach is a haven and hive of activity for children of all ages. Go to [www.harveyslakebeach.net](http://www.harveyslakebeach.net) for info. Type in "pavilion" to reserve for a special event.

Our West Barnet pickleball court draws a competitive and social group of dedicated players. Download the "Team Reach" app and use our code "058210" to participate. If problematic, call Julie Murphy at 802 274-1900. Or just stay home for a comfortable day or evening with family and friends, and store up memories of special times.

Our LHA weekend begins Friday evening July 19th with our annual meeting and potluck. Saturday's activities include our wonderful Boat Parade, Ice Cream Social, Watercraft Raffle and awesome fireworks. Our 17th annual Donor Champagne Brunch, Sunday July 28th, rewards our contributors, and offers an opportunity to commingle and converse with new people and old friends. Be generous (see invite), attend and enjoy. See our Event Calendar for all, and details.

We share immeasurable enjoyment, treasured experiences, restorative beauty and life at its best. We are so very privileged, and grateful. Be or become a Lake Harvey Association member. And invite your friends and house guests to join as well. It's a great way to give back....

***Best wishes for a memorable summer!***



Credit Eric Goldberg

#### ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP | Town of Barnet

The purpose of planning for orderly development is to encourage and promote that kind of community growth which will preserve the health of the Town's natural environment, its scenic and architectural beauty, physical beauty, unique character, quality of life, and the economic welfare of its citizens.

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## A NOTE FROM THE TREASURER | Kyle Berge

The Lake Harvey Association is fortunate to have sustaining support from our members. Thanks to our generous donors, the Association has been able to build and maintain a healthy treasury position. As this newsletter goes to print we are well on our way to our goal of 100 memberships in 2024. Annual cottage dues remain at \$25.00 and are tax deductible, as are donations for lake preservation, fireworks and additional donations to be used at the Board's discretion. Thank you to all of our returning and new members! Your contributions support the Association's efforts toward preserving Harvey's Lake for this and future generations.

**Reminder: Annual membership dues and additional donations can be paid online by visiting Lake Harvey. Fun! Links to purchase raffle tickets, notecards, and ice out tickets can be found there as well.**

## APPRECIATIVE THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTORS:

### Platinum Donors

Jodi & Tim Van Leer  
Karla & Harry Cornelius  
Cecelia Johnson  
Julie & Pete Murphy  
Jenifer & Harold Miller  
Lisa Adler  
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Wanda & Robert Rossi  
Melinda & Steve Siri  
Sandra & Thomas Lang  
Lea & Bernd Weber

Listing 6/1/23 - 5/31/24

## IN MEMORIAM REMEMBRANCES

**David Price**, a former Lake Harvey Association board member, passed away peacefully on April 13th after a long battle with cancer. He was a grant writer extraordinaire, working with the town and Lake Association to obtain grants for our boat monitoring station. He was a dedicated member of the Dam committee and organized and updated our Lake Harvey directory. He loved kayaking on the lake, hiking in the Roy Mountain Wildlife Management Area as well as keeping the trails clear, and biking around Barnet and the surrounding towns. Those of us who worked or went adventuring with him will miss him deeply. -Emil Pollak



## IN MEMORIAM – REMEMBRANCES

This is a tough one, **Don Easter** (known as Donnie to me), long-time member of the Lake Harvey Association and West Barnet resident passed away April 7th. I am fortunate to say that I have been friends with Donnie for over 60 years. Always willing to lend a helping hand, one of my earliest memories with Donnie is him pulling my Easter dress out of my bicycle spokes when I was just six years old. Donnie generously took over as boat monitor supervisor over a decade ago. Many will recall his black jeep at the boat launch, and the man who always had a smile on and willingness to chat inside. He had found his calling and always worked diligently to keep Harvey's Lake pure. Donnie had high standards and he personally spent many hours ensuring things were in order to protect the lake from milfoil and other invasive species. We will all miss him.

I would also like to mention Don's mother-in-law, **Barbara Dunbar**, who we lost last August. Barbara was always the keeper of Harvey's Lake history having first arrived in 1964 to the Roy's Campground before moving to her Pavilion Lane home in the 1980s. We both enjoyed our many boat rides around the lake where Barbara would fill me in on the history and I would fill her in on all the newcomers. Thankfully, Don and Bonnie were able to let her live out her 96 years looking out on the lake she so loved. Another fun fact about Barbara was how many children got to experience the lake at her house. Barbara was always welcoming and happy as a lark with kids around. I thought of her as a second mother, but I think everyone who knew her did. -Jan Sherman

## LAKE PROTECTION | Jackie Sprague

### FEDERATION OF VERMONT LAKES AND PONDS

Go to [www.vermontlakes.org](http://www.vermontlakes.org) for FOVLAP news, webinar events and legislative updates.

**Door Knocker Project:** If a small group wants to take this on - everything you need to create Harvey's Lake Door Knockers is here: <https://vermontlakes.org/resources/fovlap-door-knocker>

### GREETER PROGRAM

Joe Breidenstein will be the new Greeter Supervisor. Thank you, Joe, for taking this on. One greeter is returning and three new Greeters have been hired. The Town of Barnet was awarded \$20,553.00 from the Aquatic Nuisance Control "Grant in-Aid" Environmental Stewardship Program through the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (VTDEC). Many thanks to Ben Heisholt, Dylan Ford and Jackie Sprague for writing this grant.

Lake Harvey Association is sponsoring a Vermont Invasive Patrollers training on Thursday, July 11 with rain date of July 12. The day will be classroom learning for about three hours then to the lake to practice identifying plants.



Participants in the workshop will learn how to identify and survey for aquatic invasive species, survey for the presence of invasive plants and animals in a local lake or pond (or a section thereof) during the summer, and notify DEC staff of their survey(s) and submit suspicious samples for positive identification. Specific topics addressed include:

- The fundamentals of lake ecology
- The difference between native, exotic, nuisance and invasive species
- How invasive species are introduced and established
- How to identify common aquatic plants and animals, both native and invasive (the latter will be emphasized)
- How to conduct surveys for invasive species in their natural habitat

More information to follow on Lake Harvey Association website and social media, or contact Jackie at [jackie@sprague.org](mailto:jackie@sprague.org)

## LAKE HARVEY ASSOCIATION ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE | Red Dufresne

The Lake Harvey Association (LHA) directors recently formed an Environmental Committee. Since formation, the committee members have adopted ambitious plans for developing a database for water quality parameters for several of the tributaries that feed into Lake Harvey.

Routine sampling and analysis of these streams will be conducted beginning this summer, emphasizing phosphorus levels. This data will augment the work done through the State's Lay Monitoring Program that collects and analyses data from the center of the lake. The Environmental Committee will also be monitoring water quality on several inlet streams during storm events including when South Peacham Brook water reverses and flows upstream through the lake outlet channel and into Lake Harvey.

The Committee members will be sampling and completing much of the quality analysis using equipment to be purchased. The Environmental Committee also plans to purchase and institute a rainfall gauge and a lake water level recorder to sense and record actual water level elevation to track lake level changes due to rainfall events. Committee members also maintain the East side flow diversion intake to route agricultural runoff from the east side of the lake to Stevens River rather than into the lake. The Committee members also have tracer dye should any lake owners want to test their subsurface disposal system to ascertain if the system is adversely affecting the lake.

Contact any of the members to obtain tracer dye. Meeting minutes and water quality results will soon be available on the Lake Harvey Association site ([lakeharvey.net](http://lakeharvey.net)). The committee serves at the discretion of the LHA and testing & monitoring equipment is funded through the dues paid into LHA.

The Environmental Committee members include: Mark Mitchel who also serves as the Lay Monitoring Program Coordinator for the State, Ethan Sylvain, Jackie Sprague, Sherm Sprague, Tom Traina, Phil Sorrentino, who also serves as the Lay Monitor for Lake Harvey, and Red Dufresne. New members are always welcome. If you would like to join, please contact Red Dufresne at [Red.Dufresne.Harvey@gmail.com](mailto:Red.Dufresne.Harvey@gmail.com).



### IS YOUR PROPERTY LAKE FRIENDLY?

Sign up for a FREE Lake Wise Evaluation this summer!

Lake Wise is a Vermont Agency of Natural Resources initiative coordinated locally by the Caledonia County Natural Resources Conservation District (CCNRCD) that seeks to enhance lakeshores for lake health and awards lake-friendly shoreland properties.

Lake shore owners have an important role to play in reducing shoreland erosion, improving lakeshore habitat, and keeping Lake Harvey clean. A Lake Wise evaluation done by the CCNRCD is the first step! Lake Wise is a voluntary program but the more the merrier. Evaluations are approximately 1.5 hours and are scheduled at your convenience.

For more information about Lake Wise, visit <https://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/lakes-ponds/lakeshores-lake-wise/what>

To sign up for an evaluation, call Kerry O'Brien at 802-424-3149 or email [Kerry.obrien@vt.nacrdnet.net](mailto:Kerry.obrien@vt.nacrdnet.net)





## 2023 WINNERS - CHILDREN'S STORIES



1st - Snow White

2nd - 3 Little Pigs



3rd - Goldilocks & 3 Bears



Most Humorous: Sleeping Beauty

Most Enthusiastic: Up

Most Original: Both Little Mermaids



For the past couple of years, we have put up with a lot of things that weigh on our minds. The threat of Covid has inconvenienced our lives. Many of the good times that we took for granted had suddenly evaporated. Family get-togethers, movies, proms, vacations etc., etc., Not to mention all the unrest in various parts of the world. Plus, we even had to put up with Tom Brady leaving us!

It's at times like this that we need a break . . .

Some place to go, something fun to do! What better time and place than:

## 2024 BOAT PARADE

"Summer In Vermont"

SATURDAY, JULY 20TH

Rain Date: Sunday, July 21st

Non-Motorized Group 12:30 p.m.

Motorized Group: 1:00 p.m."

- Don Burke



## BOAT MONITOR REPORT | Kathy Wirthwein

During the summer of 2023 boats were monitored between May 26 and September 26. The total number of boats monitored was about 1007 (launches and retrievals combined) including the extra kayaks in some groups. These included 213 fishing boats minus about 91 labeled as retrievals for a total of 122. This was about one quarter of our total. There were 4 "government visits" including 4 recorded launches and 3 retrievals. The recreational boats totaled 777 with 460 launches and 317 retrievals.

The launches totaled 582 and the retrievals 409. (I am leaving out the extra kayaks.) On individual days much did not match up. We launched 66 pontoons (close to my mid-season dock count of 62). Forty of these were retrieved before Sept 25. Other totals were: 242 outboards (192 retrieved), 34 inboards (18 retrieved), 16 jet-skies (10 retrieved), 150 kayaks (97 retrieved), 2 paddleboards, 7 rowboats (8 retrieved), 48 SUP (30 retrieved), 1 wake boat (retrieved Sept 24), 17 canoes (14 retrieved). While cruising around the lake by pontoon in July shortly after the flood, I counted the following boats either docked or visible on land: pontoons (62), outboards (7), inboards (22), jet-skies (2), kayaks (58), canoes (19), rowboats (2), sailboats (4), paddleboards (2).

Boats came from 45 different lake or river locations. Ten of these locations contained Milfoil and/or other invasive species (Zebra Mussels among others for instance in Lake Champlain). In ABC order, with "x" the number of times from each, the locations with milfoil were Arrowhead Mountain, Carmi State Park (2x), Lake Champlain (Keeler Bay in S Hero, Mallets Bay in Colchester, Benson Landing in Benson, VT (latter 2x), Connecticut River at Old Ferry Rd in Brattleboro (3x), Crystal Lake (6x), Lake Fairlee access (5x), Halls Lake (3x), Memphremagog (2x), Lake Morey (6x), Ticklenaked Pond (4x), Lake Willoughby (9x). Because some of these visits were not recent not all boats needed to be washed.

Our criteria for which boats should be washed include whether arriving from lakes with invasive species, and whether last used during the previous 2 weeks. Except for the invisible Lake Champlain zebra mussel larvae which can survive a month or more out of water, 2 weeks is considered adequate time for any boat attached invasives to dry up



and die. We assume plant seeds and invasives not on the lists can hide in dirt. For whatever reason, this year our on-the-spot iPad data entry system did not allow the list of washed boats to be transferred to the state of Vermont data base. However, Don Easter, our program manager, documented that we washed at least 40 boats, especially those visiting from known infested lakes, after we inspected boats and talked with their owners.

Our Greeter Station hot water pressure washer is superior, using heat to kill the microscopic Lake Champlain zebra mussels. Boats with inboard motors are now required by law to drain out all inside water when departing a lake. Serious fines are levied against those who violate our protective state laws. All - along with constant vigilance - contribute to our ongoing success. Most boats arrive owner washed. Greeter dedication and education and boater cooperation have resulted thus far in keeping our waters free of invasive species. So far, so good.

Thank you all - our Barnet Selectboard and residents, Lake Harvey Association members, and responsible lake residents and visitors - for your generous support. Your dollars, diligence and time make a difference.

**"PREVENTION IS THE ONLY CURE,  
HELP US KEEP LAKE HARVEY PURE!"**

## LOON REPORT | Jan Parsons



Credit James Hurt

### LOOKING BACK:

The Spring of 2023 saw a lot of loon activity on Harvey's Lake after ice out on April 10. Within days, nine loons were spotted and photographed - some were visitors waiting for their home lakes to open up. As a north/south situated lake, the ice melts more quickly on Harvey's than on some lakes. The southern pair of nesting loons were observed adding vegetation and fresh foliage to their nesting raft by early May. The female was on the nest consistently by May 22 and two chicks hatched on June 19. The northern loon pair built a nest far down the channel within sight of the beaver dam and were consistently nesting by May 25. The nest seemed safe until high water from heavy rain in June brought the water level within two inches of the top of the nest. The loons were absent from the nest frequently on June 18 and 19 but built up the nest adding additional straw and resumed constant coverage. Ultimately this nesting attempt failed. The loons continued to sit on the nest and do nest exchanges twice a day until the flood waters of the July 10 storm carried the eggs away. The channel was reopened to kayaks and canoes after the northern pair showed no interest in building a new nest.

At the time of the loon census on July 14, the southern pair of loons were observed with their two chicks. But on the night of July 20, one chick disappeared, likely taken in an attack by an intruder loon since the loon parents were making alarm calls for about 30 minutes that night. On July 28, the surviving chick was discovered beached in the northwest corner of the lake and taken to VINS for treatment. Details are in an article elsewhere in this newsletter.

For the second year in a row, in 2023, no loon chicks survived to fledge in the Fall at Harvey's Lake. The combination of increasingly heavy rain storms during the nesting season impacting the northern pair and the presence of intruder loons harassing the southern pair, will continue to provide challenges to Harvey's Lake resident loons.

There was an additional loon mortality case at Harvey's Lake in 2023. A loon was observed on June 18 on the shore of the Harvey's Lake Condos. The loon biologists were consulted and suggested giving it a day or two to recover in case it was a temporary condition. It left the next day but was later observed by a number of people coming to shore along the northeast area of the lake. By the time I learned of the new behavior and arranged for Chris and Red Dufresne to attempt a rescue, the loon was deceased. Loon Biologist Eloise Girard took the deceased loon to the Center for Wild Bird Rehabilitation at the Vermont Institute of Natural Science in Quechee where it was preserved until a necropsy could be done. The loon died from *Aspergillus*, a common mold or fungus which is a known fatal respiratory disease for the Common Loon.

Overall, 2023 provided successful results for the Vermont Common Loon population. 108 Common Loon nesting pairs were identified. Seventy three pairs successfully hatched 111 chicks with 78 surviving

through August. The increased nesting rates in recent years are explained by several new nesting pairs each year. The decline in surviving chicks per territorial year is explained by more pairs not nesting, and slightly lower nest success (68%) and chick survival rates (70%). These figures are well above the threshold numbers to maintain an stable and sustainable Loon population for Vermont.

### THIS SPRING 2024:

Ice Out occurred on April 1. Loons appeared at Harvey's within a few days. The southern pair have been adding vegetation to their nesting raft which had been prepared for them by Chris and Red Dufresne and have been defending their territory from intruder loons. No reports yet on the northern pair but they often start nest building in the channel by mid May. A major change on Vermont lakes in 2024 this summer will be the legal presence of boats doing wake-sports on thirty lakes. The new rules regarding wakesports contain a provision designed to protect nesting loons on lakes where wakesports are being allowed in certain defined territories. In The Use of Public Waters in Vermont document, SECTION 3.6 states:

#### "Protection of Loon Nesting Sites:

Between May 1 and July 31, all persons and vessels are prohibited from public waters within 300 feet of any loon nesting site that the Secretary or Secretary's authorized representative has identified by signs and buoys or other clear on-site markings." Harvey's Lake is one of the lakes where this section applies. This protective language is a direct result of the testimony that Loon Biologist Eric Hanson gave at one of the public comment sessions in 2023, warning of the danger to loons nesting on rafts in areas of wakesports activity. It remains to be seen how this section will be publicized by the Agency of Natural Resources this Spring and Summer. But it will be publicized at Harvey's Lake with signs or buoys marking the 300 foot distance from the nesting raft at the south end of the lake. An added problem for the northern loons may be the presence of a pair of eagles observed working on a nest in a tall pine tree at the Harvey Lake beach earlier this Spring. It is not certain as yet but the area where the eagles are seen is very much in the nesting neighborhood of the northern loon pair. As of early April, the plan was for volunteers and state biologists to visit the beach and see what the eagles are doing. The Harvey's Lake Beach Facebook page is a good source of information. If the eagles do decide to nest in the beach area, they will be a constant threatening presence to the northern loon pair. By May we should have a better insight into the eagles' nesting location.

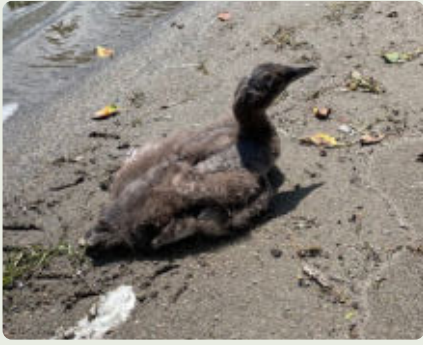
Many thanks and much gratitude to the numerous volunteers around the lake who watch over and care about our loon families. Chris and Red Dufresne monitor the nesting raft at the south end of the lake and help revegetate the frame in the Spring. The Dufresnes also put out the floating sign to keep boaters at a distance during nesting season. Bonnie Easter takes care of the nesting sign that goes in the channel at the north end of the lake. The late Don Easter, in charge of the Greeter station for many years, was a wonderful loon observer, ever vigilant about the comings and goings of the loon family at the south end of Harvey's Lake. We will miss Don so much and are very grateful for his many contributions to our lake community.

If you see a loon on the beach or in shallow water, appearing ill or acting strangely, please contact me at email: [jpeacham@aol.com](mailto:jpeacham@aol.com); 802-633-3174 (landline) or 508-314-0922 (cell). Please remember that loon preening behavior, often called "extreme preening", can often look like a loon is in distress. The Harvey Lake Beach Committee posted a helpful video showing loon preening behavior on their Facebook page in December.

Contact info for our Loon Biologists, Eric Hanson and Eloise Girard: email: [loon@vtcostudies.org](mailto:loon@vtcostudies.org). Telephone: 802-586-8065. Best wishes for an enjoyable and relaxing summer for all on Harvey's Lake in 2024.



## HARVEY'S LAKE LOON CHICK RESCUE | Jan Parsons, Loon Monitor



The first phone call on the morning of Friday July 28 reported a loon sitting under a tree in the Harvey's Lake beach parking lot, about 500 feet from the beach. Alert beach attendant Amelie Rijnbout had noticed a large loon, but not black and white, that quickly vanished into the woods as she approached. When I arrived, Amelie

and I could not locate the bird, but a few hours later Christine Fletcher reported a loon on shore near her camp. The same loon as reported earlier, this was the surviving chick from the south end of the lake, a mile and half away. When I was unable to reach our two Vermont Ecostudies (VCE) loon biologists, I called the Vermont Institute of Natural Science (VINS). The Center for Wild Bird Rehabilitation on the VINS campus in Quechee has the capacity to care for loons in distress with their new small pool. I delivered the loon chick that afternoon. The initial diagnosis was that the loon was emaciated but feisty (it was trying to bite, which was a good sign). VINS staff member Bren Lundborg said later that initial blood work indicated that the bird might have a slight infection and very low lead level.

It was an unusual situation that the chick had been ignored by the parent loons for so long. Chris and Bob Dufresne, our loon observers at the south end of Harvey's, had reported that one of the two chicks, hatched on June 19, had disappeared after an extended period of alarms the night of July 20. An attack by intruder loons appeared to be the most likely cause. By July 23 the parents were no longer feeding their surviving chick, possibly because they were defending their territory. The chick stayed in the area as late as July 26 doing its best to dive and find food but at the age of five weeks was not skilled enough to catch much. Between July 26 and the morning of July 28, the loon chick made its way to the north end of the lake where lake residents first saw the loon beach itself. It then waddled on its belly to the distant parking lot, not easy for any loon, least of all a hungry one. Human attention caused it to return to the beach where it had come ashore.

Eric Hanson's memo to Loon Volunteers on August 10 picks up the story. "Three days after Jan Parsons brought the loon chick to VINS, Bren and Center Director Grae O'Toole had the loon x-rayed which revealed a sinker and hook, and lead levels had tripled over the weekend. The sinker was lead. VINS transferred the bird to the Center for Wildlife (CFW) in Cape Neddick, Maine. There, the loon chick was put under anesthesia and the gizzard was essentially washed out (lavage). It took two attempts over two days to wash the sinker out. Now the chick is being treated for lead poisoning (chelation) and we will see if it can bounce back. This is the first time this procedure has been performed on a Vermont loon and only works if the lead has been very recently ingested. Most times, it's too late by the time we know the bird is in trouble (beaching). If the bird can improve in health, he/she will likely be transferred to the Biodiversity Research Institute and their translocation project in western Massachusetts where they can feed

and care for the loon in large holding pens for several weeks."

The loon chick received major attention on the Facebook page of the Center for Wildlife with numerous pictures of the lavage process, and a delightful video of it taken on August 11 enjoying fresh bait fish in a pool during recovery. BRI staff brought the chick to the holding pens on August 14. BRI project director Lucas Savoy noted in an email to me on August 21, "The chick has acclimated well and has been feeding and diving at normal rates. This loon has had quite a ride and so many folks, including you, have aided in its recovery." After the chick spent several more days in the pens behaving normally, the BRI staff unfortunately found the chick dead. Lucas Savoy said "We suspect it had some underlying health issues that would have prevented its surviving after release. We noticed it had underdeveloped wings. These wings appear to be stunted and I am not sure if this loon would have ever had the ability to fly". The University of New Hampshire Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory found that the loon likely died from respiratory problems. Fungal disease in the lungs is a common reason that loons die in captivity, and demonstrates how difficult it is to treat and rehabilitate loons.

So, the second chance given to this loon chick, with care, feeding, diagnosis and treatment of lead poisoning at VINS and CFW, proved to be of short duration. Did the parent loons stop feeding the surviving chick because they could sense a development problem with the stunted wing growth or was competition from other adult "intruder" loons causing the parents to neglect the chick? If the chick had not ingested the lead sinker, could it have survived and resumed normal growth?

These are among a number of issues to be pondered about the short life of this loon chick. I asked Eric Hanson for any comments and recommendations he would like to share: "There were many factors going against this loon chick but we know that the lead sinker was in the process of poisoning this bird. It is a rare chance that rehabilitators have a chance to bring a loon back from certain death. Ingestion of lead fishing tackle, line and hooks account for 42 percent of the over 160 loon mortalities in Vermont over the past 30 years. And despite the Vermont law banning the sale and use of lead sinkers less than one ounce since 2007, at least 12 Vermont loons have died from lead poisoning in the last five years alone. As a result, VCE has partnered with lake associations and the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department to install lead tackle collection tubes at over 26 lakes across the state in 2023. This is an easy way for anglers to rid their tackle boxes of lead fishing gear. If you would like to add a collection tube at your access area in 2024, contact Eloise Girard at [loon@vtcostudies.org](mailto:loon@vtcostudies.org) and learn more at the VCE website: <https://vtcostudies.org/projects/lakesponds/common-loon-conservation/vermont-loon-conservation-project/loons-and-lead-tackle>. Together we can reduce the damage caused by lead to all wildlife and make our lakes more healthy."

In conclusion, we at Harvey's Lake will remember the details of this loon chick's short life and its brief second chance after its diagnosis and treatment of lead poisoning at VINS and the CFW. Our Lead Tackle Collection Tube is in place at the Fish and Wildlife Boat access and there will be signage and handouts available to residents and visiting anglers in 2024. If the loon chick had not ingested that lead sinker, this story might have had a happy ending. We will be doing more to make Harvey's Lake safer for our two pairs of nesting loons.

### Resources:

The Center for Wild Bird Rehabilitation at the Vermont Institute of Natural Science. 149 Nature's Way, Quechee, Vermont 05059. <https://vinsweb.org>. Facebook and Instagram.

The Center for Wildlife, 375 Mountain Road, Cape Neddick, ME, 03902. <https://www.thecenterforwildlife.org>. Facebook and Instagram.

The Biodiversity Research Institute, 276 Canco Road, Portland Maine 04130. Center for Waterbird Studies, Loon Program, Common Loon translocation. [Briwildlife.org](http://Briwildlife.org). Facebook, Instagram.

Postscript Winter 2023-24: A necropsy conducted on the Harvey's Lake chick at the University of New Hampshire Veterinary Diagnostic Lab found that the cause of death was lead fishing gear.



## BARNET DAM COMMITTEE REPORT | Red Dufresne



*Dam Committee Members Complete Decking*

The Barnet Dam Committee (BDC) included Dylan Ford, George Coppentrath, Joe Mangiapane, Don Easter, and Red Dufresne with Richard Downer serving as a technical advisor. With the death of Don Easter, Richard Downer has agreed to serve on the committee. We miss Don's guidance given to committee members but look forward to the benefit of Richard's expertise and historical knowledge dating back to before 1970. Our goal remains to improve the water quality in Lake Harvey by reducing backflow from the South Peacham Brook during heavy storms and spring runoff. The desired dam improvement project concept includes:

1. Replace the stop boards with aluminum or fiberglass planks.
2. Removal of a portion of the existing concrete spillway to allow installation of an inflatable bladder or a crest gate system as necessary to pass a 100-year flood to the Stevens River without backwatering Lake Harvey. The bladder or gate would be automatically controlled by various water level sensors to lower the level at the dam to prevent backflow into the lake.
3. Reducing the level of the east fish ladder concrete wall to improve spillway capacity.

4. Remove the silt on the upstream side of the dam to allow renovation of the lower-level drain gate and operator which is currently inoperable and install a bar rack to prevent logs and debris from collecting in the drain outlet channel.
5. Complete ancillary site improvements which include re-grading the riprap below the dam, providing erosion protection on the western portion of the downstream side of the discharge channel. Construct an upstream spur dike to divert flow to the east side of the dam and remove silt from the east side of the dam.

These improvements require a dam alteration permit under 10 VSA Chapter 43 from the State of Vermont which can be an arduous process. Representatives of the Vermont Dam Safety Program suggested the BDC complete an engineering study to assess the potential hazard analysis as a first step. The Harvey Lake Dam was listed as a "significant hazard dam" by default and if it was proven to be a "low hazard dam", the permitting process would be much more straightforward. After discussions, the BDC agreed to retain McFarland Johnson Engineering to complete a Hydraulics and Hydrology (H&H) Study to ascertain the hazard potential of the dam. This report has now been completed and was recently accepted by the State, which shows the dam to be a low hazard dam. The schedule and budget for construction of the dam improvement project has not been completed at this time. However, construction experts from Fairbanks Mill in St Johnsbury are preparing a preliminary estimate of construction at no cost to the Town. After discussions with the State, BDC will be required to prepare a Preliminary Engineering Report and Basis of Design and after acceptance by the State final design preparation of Drawings and Specifications will be prepared for public bidding by contractors.

Other minor tasks which do not require a permit include safety improvements such as grating and railings as well as repairing the broken drain gate stanchion which would not require a state permit. Some of these items have been completed or are in progress and scheduled for completion in 2024.

### LAKE HARVEY ASSOCIATION IMPLEMENTS A "NO WAKE ZONE"

#### "No Wake Zone" - Preserving the Serenity:



To ensure the well-being of both residents and visitors, Lake Harvey Association implements a "No Wake Zone" policy. Within 200 feet of any shoreline, all boats and watercraft are required to operate at a no-wake speed. This means that vessels must maintain a speed that creates no disruptive waves, minimizing their impact on the tranquil environment and shoreline. Also Pursuant to 10 V.S.A. §1424, the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, Wake boats have a 500' "no wake" requirement (ref. map on the back).

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#### Why is a "No Wake Zone" Necessary?

1. Preserving Shoreline Integrity: Waves generated by high-speed watercraft can erode shorelines and cause damage to sensitive ecosystems. By implementing a "No Wake Zone," Lake Controlled Area strives to protect the natural habitat and maintain the beauty of its shores.

2. Ensuring Safety: A "No Wake Zone" prioritizes the safety of swimmers, kayakers, and others enjoying water-based activities near the shoreline. By minimizing boat-generated waves, the risk of accidents, collisions, and injuries is significantly reduced.

3. Enhancing Peace and Quiet: The "No Wake Zone" policy contributes to the peaceful and serene atmosphere that draws visitors to Lake Controlled Area. By discouraging excessive noise and disturbance, everyone can enjoy the tranquility and immerse themselves in the natural surroundings.

#### Respect the "No Wake Zone" and Preserve the Serenity:

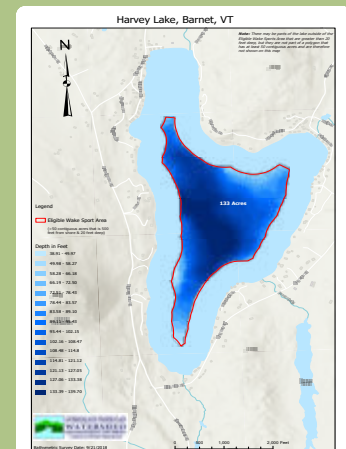
We kindly request all visitors and boaters to adhere to the "No Wake Zone" policy within 200 feet of any shoreline. By doing so, you contribute to the preservation of this serene and captivating environment, allowing future generations to experience its beauty.

Remember, in Harvey's Lake, we treasure the harmony between humanity and nature. Let us work together to protect this treasure and create lasting memories in this magnificent setting.

### LAKE ELIGIBLE WAKESPORT ZONE

The Department of Environmental Conservation's rule, which went into effect on April 15, 2024 restricts wake sports to lakes that have a surface area of at least 50 acres and a depth of 20 feet.

Even then, surfing must be undertaken at least 500 feet from shore.





## THE HARVEY LAKE WATER TUB | Kathleen Monroe



*Photo provided by the late Barbara Dunbar from her husband Harold J. "Junior" Dunbar's collection*

How did that water tub come about on Harvey Mountain Road? Tony Faris, Mosquitoville, recommended I call East St. Johnsbury's Thaddeus Thresher. On a blustery winter Sunday in 2023, I posed my question. Thresher exclaimed, "About time to make another one! That one's kinda old. I visited the tub this past summer and saw it was in a bad state of repair. I plan to make a new one. Of course, it will be a little different."

The construction of Harvey Mountain Road commenced in about 1803. Once it was determined that Danville would serve as Caledonia County's shire town, a tax of one cent per acre in Peacham and two cents per acre in Barnet and Ryegate were imposed to finance the building and improvement of a road from the Danville Court House (located between what is now the Danville Town Office Building and Danville Restaurant and Inn), to West Barnet along the west side of Harvey Lake "in the best direction available." Once the road was built and used officially, a watering

trough for horses was installed. Earlier tubs were short and oblong, and, at one time, a fence or "porch railing" was constructed by the tub to "tie the horses up, drop the reins over, and let 'em drink." The tub sited there before 1952 was such a tub.

James Loren Judkins, a carpenter, cooper, wheelwright, and blacksmith, bought what is now known as Ben's Mill in 1893. After the car replaced the horse, Judkins maintained the watering trough. In 1941, Judkins hired Ben Thresher, to whom he sold his business, including tub maintenance, in 1947.

Ben Thresher maintained the barrel for "the summer folk along the lake." Ben wanted to provide "the best spring-fed drinking water around" to Harvey Lake residents. Access to potable drinking water is valuable. After all, risk was involved in drinking lake water into which effluent escaped from camps and farms.

In 1952, Thaddeus Thresher and his cousin, Ben's son Mike, accompanied Ben to install a newly built barrel. Thaddeus described Harvey

Mountain Road as a trail at that time, "no more than what we'd call a 'cow path' today." They traveled in Ben's 1948 Willys Jeep, with a trailer attached to carry the replacement tub. The boys, both in about first or second grade, acted up while emptying the existing barrel of its silt. Ben growled, "I'm taking you damn boys home!!" Ben returned to the site the next day to finish installing the new barrel.

For years, Gilmore Somers (1917-2017) tipped the tub, emptied the silt, and stored the tub in his shed over winter.

The spring waters that feed the tub originate in a unique granite-rich property.

I was eager to take a photo from about the same vantage point as Junior Dunbar's, so I put a note on my calendar reminding me to shoot that photo after the foliage returned in the spring of 2023. May 28th was my target date. As it turned out, I was a day late!

A new tub had been built by West Barnet's Mike Lamp and installed by Lamp and Rick Trudeau. David Bogie supplied the wood and welded the ends of the hoops, which Lamp shaped using a hoop bender at Ben's Mill. Trudeau graded the spot, Shane Stevenson provided the gravel, and removed the old barrel. Fearing Thad Thresher was in his barn building his 2023 replacement tub, I rushed home to call Thresher. Phew! Just in time!

Folks frequently ask if the water is pure enough to drink. Rick Trudeau, caretaker of the property, takes a State-tested water sample annually. There have been no impurities to date, and the water has been drunk since the 1800s with no documented illness outbreaks of which anyone is aware.



*Thaddeus Thresher's water barrel installed July 1997 and removed on May 27, 2023, after 26 years of service.*



*Photo courtesy of Rick Trudeau*

# The Lake Harvey Association Newsletter | Summer 2024

## EVENTS

# SUMMER 2024 AT HARVEY'S LAKE

DATE	TIME	EVENT	CONTACT	
Seasonal	<i>Ongoing</i>	<b>LEVITT AMP ST JOHNSBURY MUSIC SERIES DOG MOUNTAIN</b> - 143 Parks Road, St Johnsbury	<a href="http://www.concerts.levittamp.org">www.concerts.levittamp.org</a>	
Aug 15 & 16 Aug 17	6pm 1pm & 6pm	<b>CIRCUS SMIRKUS - BIG TOP</b> The Circus Barn, Greensboro <i>The Imaginarium - Finale</i>	Info, Tickets & Camp Registration <a href="http://www.smirkus.org">www.smirkus.org</a>	
June 29	9:00 am - 5:00 pm	<b>ANNUAL BURKLYN SUMMER CRAFT FAIR -</b> Wildflower Inn, Darling Hill Ridge, Lyndonville	<a href="mailto:burklynarts40@gmail.com">burklynarts40@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.Burklyn-Arts.org">www.Burklyn-Arts.org</a>	
Jul 8 thru Jul 10	Jul 8: 8:30, 11:15, 2:00 Jul 9 & 10: 8:30, 11:00, 1:30	<b>WATERSKI CAMP AT LAKE HARVEY</b> Instructor: legendary Steve Dolgin	<a href="http://tickets.catamountarts.org">tickets.catamountarts.org</a>	
Jul 19	5:00 pm Meeting • 6:00 pm Potluck	<b>LAKE HARVEY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING &amp; POTLUCK SUPPER</b> Beach Pavilion	<a href="mailto:lakeharveyassociation@lakeharvey.com">lakeharveyassociation@lakeharvey.com</a>	
Jul 20		<b>LAKE HARVEY ASSOCIATION EVENTS</b>	<a href="http://www.lakeharvey.com">www.lakeharvey.com</a>	
	8:00 am	Mile long yard sale, West Barnet		
	12:30 pm	Boat Parade ( <i>non-motorized boats</i> )	<b>2024 THEME SUMMER IN VERMONT</b> Jan Sherman 802-535-2832	
	1:00 pm	Boat Parade ( <i>motorized boats</i> )		
	11:30 am - 2:30 pm	Barnet Fire Department's Chicken BBQ <i>West Barnet Church</i>		For reservations call Ron Morse, 633-2595
	4:00 pm	Ice Cream Social at Harvey's Lake Pavilion		Red & Chris Dufrense 802-633-3711
	5:00 pm	Boat parade awards, Watercraft Raffle winners announced at 5:00 pm on Facebook Page	Jan Sherman 802-535-2832	
	Dusk	Fireworks over lake		
Jul 20		<b>LOON WATCH DAY</b> (Annual one day count throughout Vermont)	Eric Hansen 802 586-8065	
Jul 28	11:00 am - 1:00 pm	<b>17TH ANNUAL LHA DONOR REWARD CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH</b> - Cornelius Cottage	RSVP: Harry & Karla Cornelius 802-633-2534	
Aug 3	9:30 am- 11:00 pm	<b>93RD DANVILLE COMMUNITY FAIR</b> - Danville Town Green	<a href="http://www.danvillevtchamber.org">www.danvillevtchamber.org</a>	
Aug 21 Aug 22 -25	Gates open 4 pm Gates open 7 am	<b>CALEDONIA COUNTY FAIR</b> 1 Fairground Road, Lyndonville, Vermont	802-427-4404 <a href="http://www.caledoniacountyfair.com">www.caledoniacountyfair.com</a>	
Sep 5	8:30 am Register 9 am Meeting	<b>FOVLAP ANNUAL MEETING</b>	Info at <a href="http://www.vermontlakes.org">www.vermontlakes.org</a>	
Sep 22	9:00am Register 10:00 Ceremony Walk follows	<b>ST. JOHNSBURY WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S</b> Welcome Center, 51 Depot Square, St. Johnsbury	Jenna Smith - 802 316-3839 ext 8015 <a href="mailto:jemsmith@alz.org">jemsmith@alz.org</a>	
Sep 28	9am - 3 pm	<b>BURKE FALL FOLIAGE FESTIVAL</b> East Burke	<a href="http://burkevermont.com">burkevermont.com</a>	
Oct 6	10 am - 4 pm	<b>AUTUMN ON THE GREEN - ARTS, CRAFTS, FOOD, FUN</b> - Danville Town Green	<a href="http://www.danvillevtchamber.org">www.danvillevtchamber.org</a>	



EVENTS

# SUMMER 2024 AT HARVEY'S LAKE

DATE	TIME	EVENT	CONTACT
<b>NORTHEAST KINGDOM FALL FOLIAGE FESTIVAL</b>			<a href="http://www.lakeharvey.net">www.lakeharvey.net</a>
Oct 3		Peacham Day - Lunch, arts & crafts, special farmer's market, ghost walk, Italian dinner	
Oct 4		Barnet Day - Pancake breakfast, crafts, European coffee hour, wagon rides, tours, ham dinner	
Oct 5	10 am reg. 11 am race	Ducky Day - Rubber Ducky Race Ben's Mill, Barnet, Vermont	<a href="http://www.bensmill.com">www.bensmill.com</a>
Oct 5		Groton Day - Lumberjack breakfast, parade, music, world famous chicken pot pie dinner	
Year Round		<b>CATAMOUNT ARTS</b> - Music, film, dance, art, education, events	<a href="http://www.catamountarts.com">www.catamountarts.com</a>

**WATER SKI CAMP**  
WITH THE LEGENDARY STEVE DOLGIN PLUS SPECIAL GUESTS LUCAS ROBILLARD & KYLE BERGE

**\$135 PER PERSON**  
EACH SESSION LIMITED TO 16 SPOTS!

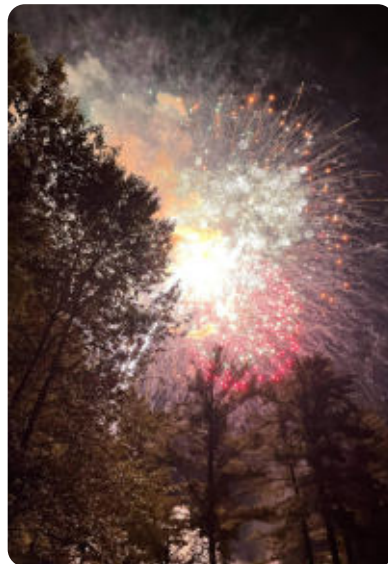
MON. JULY 8  
SESSION 1: 8:30 - 10:45  
SESSION 2: 11:15 - 1:30  
SESSION 3: 2:00 - 4:15

TUES. JULY 9  
SESSION 1: 8:30 - 10:30  
SESSION 2: 11:00 - 1:00  
SESSION 3: 1:30 - 3:30

WEDS. JULY 10  
SESSION 1: 8:30 - 10:30  
SESSION 2: 11:00 - 1:00  
SESSION 3: 1:30 - 3:30

*learn the art of water skiing*

ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT CATAMOUNT ARTS | OPEN TO ALL AGES  
REGISTER: [CATAMOUNTARTS.ORG](http://CATAMOUNTARTS.ORG) OR CALL 802.748.2600



**FREE! ICE CREAM social**

Sponsored by the Lake Harvey Association  
West Barnet Quick Stop



## SOCIAL MEDIA | Natalie Kitchel

What a wonderful year it has been on the lake! We have greatly enjoyed connecting with you on our social media pages. Thank you for sharing your photos, comments and questions with us. If you haven't done so, please find us on both Instagram and Facebook. We look forward seeing and hearing from you this summer!



**JOIN US ON FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM @lakeharveyassociation!**

### ICE OUT

The Ice officially went out at 4:50am on April 1st. 31 people picked the date, 3 within 15 minutes!! Kenneth Barrows, at 4:59am, was the 2024 WINNER!! People bought 491 tickets - 144 online and by mail, 27 at the WB Quick Stop, and 320 via Ridgeline Wealth Management (KUDOS!).



## 2024 - WIN THIS KAYAK!



**CONGRATS  
2023 KAYAK WINNER MICHAEL WORMSER!**



**CONGRATS AS WELL TO PADDLEBOARD RAFFLE  
WINNERS WERE BILL & DEB LAFERRIERE**

### KAYAK/PADDLEBOARD RAFFLE TICKETS

BIG THANKS to Steve Dolgin for donating the kayak (3 years in a row!), and to The Great Outdoors for contributing (again!) the O'Brien RIO paddle board complete package. SO appreciated!

**Buy your tickets at local stores or online  
at [lakeharvey.net](http://lakeharvey.net).**

