

SUMMER 2023

# THE LAKE IROQUOIS MONITOR

RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND ACTION FOR A HEALTHY LAKE

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to yet another glorious summer in Vermont! Much is happening around the lake at this time of year. Here are a few of the highlights:

### Lake Wise Gold

We are proud to report Lake Iroquois is only the third lake in the state of Vermont to receive the coveted **Gold Lake Wise Award**! To achieve this milestone, 15% of lakeshore owners around the lake must be recipients of the Lake Wise Award. We anticipate formal recognition of the achievement and awarding of the special sign symbolizing this achievement at our **Annual Meeting to be held on Wednesday, July 19th from 5:30-7:30 at Chris Conant's camp at 744 Beebe Lane, Williston, Vermont**. All are invited. Watch your email for details nearer to that date.

If you are a shoreline property owner and wish to have an assessment done on your property, please contact Alison Marchione, Lake Shoreland Coordinator, to schedule a visit. She may be contacted at [Alison.Marchione@vermont.gov](mailto:Alison.Marchione@vermont.gov) or call at 802-490-6128. For more information on creating healthy lake shores and becoming part of the Lake Wise program, please go to <https://www.lakeiroquois.org/water/shoreline-health>

### Beebe Lane Stormwater Improvement Project

We are excited to report receipt of a \$320,000 Congressionally Directed Spending grant for FY23 in coordination with Senator Bernie Sanders' office on behalf of the Lake Iroquois Recreation District (LIRD). As reported in the Fall 2022 newsletter, we worked with LIRD to apply for and receive a \$50,000 matching grant toward the Beebe Lane Stormwater Improvements project. These implementation grants will fund needed improvements that address poor road design, which contributes to flooding and to the degradation of water quality from erosion and pollutant runoff into the lake. The upgrade in road conditions will also improve access to the beach and to the hiking trails around the lake.

### Aquatic Invasive Species Management

As part of our continued efforts geared towards early detection, we have an aquatic plant survey scheduled for early June. We urge you to keep a look out when you are around and on the lake and report any sightings of suspected milfoil or cyanobacteria (blue-green algae blooms). Just go to our website to file a report: <https://www.lakeiroquois.org/help/report-invasives>. We would also like to add that hand pulling is supported and highly encouraged by the Lake Iroquois Association and the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (VT DEC). Let us know if you find milfoil near your property that you hand pull so we can track this activity and keep a watch on the area.

I wish all of you the best summer possible spending time with friends and family out on the lake. I hope to see you at the Annual Meeting on July 19!

**Shannon Kelly—LIA President**

## BABY LOONS!



The beautiful loons are back and two babies have been spotted! Thank you Jane Clifford for reporting this great news!



*Photos by Ernie Rossi 2023*

## LIRD 2023 SEASON—THE BEACH IS OPEN!

The Lake Iroquois Recreation District is a municipal entity established to manage and protect the recreational assets of Lake Iroquois. The district covers 150 acres of open land from Williston Road to the public beach, including Beebe Lane, the public beach, playground, and walking trails.

The beach is open from Memorial Day to Labor Day. There is a fee (cash or checks accepted) to use the beach which is paid at the kiosk at the beach.

Information on beach rules and fees can be found [here](#)



## WE GET BY WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS!

Lake environments are dynamic, and the impacts of new development and stormwater run-off, cause increases in sediment, phosphorus, e-coli, and invasive species like milfoil, threatening the health and safe enjoyment of the Lake. Keeping Lake Iroquois healthy and clean is important to all of us who love this lake.

Interested in getting involved in helping the lake? Join the LIA board and work with a dedicated, knowledgeable, and fun group of people and help protect the health of our beloved lake. Not sure? Want to learn more? Drop Shannon an email at [info@lakeiroquois.org](mailto:info@lakeiroquois.org).

**We can't do it without you!**

## LAKE IROQUOIS PUBLIC BOAT LAUNCH GREETER PROGRAM

The LIA Summer 2023 greeter staff is trained and looking forward to meeting you!

Our role is to help educate boaters at Lake Iroquois about Aquatic Invasive Species and how boaters can take simple steps to help protect Lake Iroquois and other waterbodies in our region from their harmful effects. If you haven't been to Lake Iroquois recently, we welcome you to come and enjoy the Lake this summer! Eurasian watermilfoil has been largely remediated at the Lake, and the water clarity and health has vastly improved... it appears as healthy as it was over 20 years ago!

As a greeter team, we strive to serve you and the lake in as friendly and unobtrusive manner as possible. Our greeters are available to provide free and quick boat hot water pressure washing services when appropriate to help protect the Lake from the spread of invasive aquatic species, whether it be harmful invasive plants, zebra mussels, spiny water fleas, etc. The temperature of the washer is 140 degrees which is able to kill invasive species without the use of any chemicals.

Boaters are encouraged to wash and dry their own boats, but many people don't realize that the VT Dept. of Environmental Conservation recommends that boats be washed and then kept dry for a **minimum of 5 DAYS** in order to adequately prevent the spread of invasive species. Further information about this and other boat washing options are available on-line at: <https://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/lakes-ponds/aquatic-invasives/spread-prevention/watercraft-decontamination>.

When leaving Lake Iroquois, if you know that you intend to enjoy another water body in the near future, we are more than glad to pressure wash your craft on your way out! No CHARGE!

We staff the hot water pressure washer every weekend from Memorial Day through Labor Day, including holiday's. We are open Friday's from 12:30pm to 6:30pm, and weekends and holiday's from 6:30am to 6:30pm.

We hope that you enjoy the beauty of Lake Iroquois this summer! Thank you for your assistance and partnership in protecting Vermont's wonderful public waters.



Photo by Bob Donnis

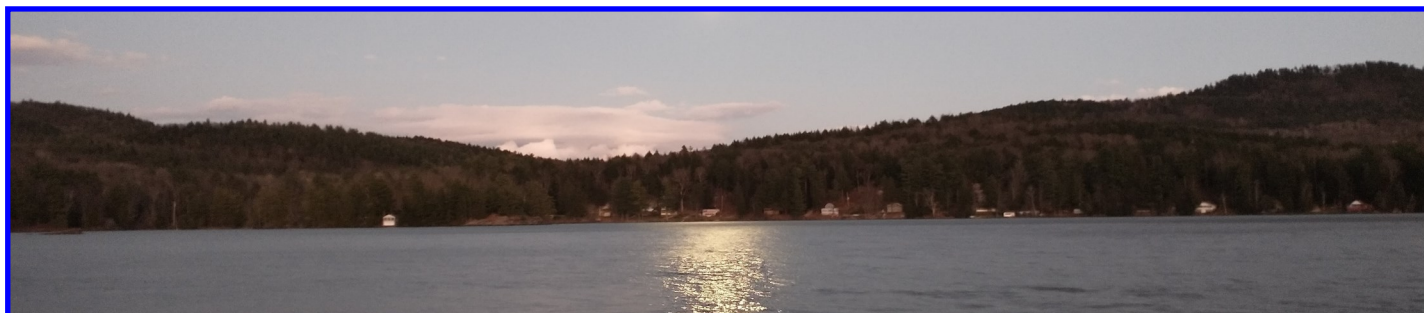


Photo by Pat Suozzi



## What the Lake Iroquois Association is doing for you!

Photo by Chris Conant



- Created a five-year lake management plan
- Conducts Lake Iroquois Ice-out challenge
- Distributes the property owners manual
- Reduced the Eurasian Watermilfoil invasion
- Coordinates/supports the Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH) boats to remove milfoil from Lake Iroquois
- Continues tributary sampling
- Manages Greeter and Boat Wash program
- Educates/supports property owners re: Lake Wise award/certificate
- Works with LIRD on the Beebe Lane Drainage and Water Quality Improvements implementation grant
- Performs aquatic plant surveys

*The Lake Iroquois Association is a 501(c)(3), tax-exempt, non-profit organization with the mission to maintain and enhance healthy ecosystems and appropriate public uses of Lake Iroquois and those aspects of its watershed which impact the health and well-being of the lake. This will be achieved through monitoring, preventive and management initiatives, research, education, advocacy and other actions, involving the cooperative efforts of property owners, town, state and federal officials and other interested parties.*

[www.lakeiroquois.org](http://www.lakeiroquois.org)

## COME ONE, COME ALL!

## THE LIA ANNUAL MEETING AND POTLUCK

## JULY 19, 5:30—7:30 P.M

The LIA Annual Meeting and Picnic will be held at Chris Conant's camp, 744 Beebe Lane on July 19, 5:30—7:30

Bring a dish to share—beverages will be provided—and join your lake neighbors and friends for a fun evening. Hear an update on happenings around the lake, and see the presentation of the Lake Wise Gold Award to Lake Iroquois.

Officers and Directors for 2024 will also be elected.

All are welcome. You don't have to be a member of LIA to attend.

Newsletter Editor: Suzanne Magee