

DLA and Covid-19

DLA has modified or cancelled scheduled DLA events, service projects, and community activities. See the 2020 DLA Events Schedule section below.

2020 Deer Lake Non-Frolic

After thoughtful consideration, DLA decided we are **unable to host our annual Deer Lake Frolic** this summer at Camp Hiawatha. We plan to host the Frolic again in 2021.

The Frolic serves as a fun way to see friends and neighbors. It's our annual picnic, gathering, celebration, and the only fundraiser for DLA's Operating Fund. The Frolic produces about ½ of DLA Operating Revenue each year. The DLA Operating Fund is how we pay for Deer Lake water quality testing and for the portable toilet at Deer Lake public beach, for example. So to continue that good work this year we need to find a way to make up for that lost revenue.

For 2020, we're proposing something small, fun, and maybe more suited to the times:

The Deer Lake Non-Frolic and the Donate to Deer Lake Challenge:

1. **In lieu of buying Frolic tickets this year, DLA is asking members to make a one-time tax-deductible donation to DLA/Deer Lake.** Click here to donate online with a credit or debit card <https://bit.ly/DonateDeerLake>
2. After making your donation, **go out on Deer Lake and take a picture of yourself/your family enjoying Deer Lake.**
3. **Post your pic to [DLA Facebook](#)** and ask others to Donate too!

More about the Deer Lake Non-Frolic <https://bit.ly/2020NonFrolic>. DLA's paper-check address is DLA, Herb Lieffring Treas, 36264 Christmas Point Trl, Grand Rapids, MN 55744.

Camp Hiawatha

DLA is supportive to, dependent upon, and grateful and thankful for our beneficial partnership with Camp Hiawatha (CH). Many DLA members engage with CH in various ways throughout the summer. Some of these interactions change with covid-19. While CH is currently closed to campers, certain facilities of the camp can be open for use this spring and summer by Deer Lake property owners, guests, and area residents under specific conditions and with advance notice or permission. These can include pickleball, walks, hikes, cabin rental for guests, online worship services, project volunteers, and possibly the

availability of curb-side or dock-side pick-up of home-cooked food if there's enough interest. Please click here for more info. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1abvtFQnBD6p-ToQHax9hH850-3umjl3U/view?usp=sharing>

2020 \$\$ Septic Incentives

DLA raised funds and offers to partner with Deer Lake property owners during 2020:

1. DLA offers to pay the cost for voluntary septic compliance inspections for eligible property owners with systems 15+ years old.
2. For those whose systems fail that voluntary inspection, three incentives totaling up to \$6000+ are available:
 - DLA offers to write you a cost-share check for 10% of the cost of your septic replacement up to **\$2000**.
 - A local reputable licensed septic installer is offering a **\$500** discount to his usual fee.
 - Itasca County is offering zero-interest 10-year-term loans for eligible property owner septic replacements. Loans are secured by the property itself and paid back through the property tax process. Interest savings compared to a conventional loan could total **\$3000+**. Residential, seasonal, and commercial properties eligible.

2020 \$\$ Shoreland Incentives

1. DLA offers you a disinterested shoreland expert to provide an assessment and options to reduce or eliminate rainwater runoff and shoreline erosion. **Free and no obligation.**
2. DLA offers to write you a cost-share check for 25% of project cost up to **\$1000** to help you pay for an eligible runoff or erosion mitigation project implementation.

You can help by talking to your neighbors about the role septic, rainwater runoff, and shoreline erosion play in Deer Lake water clarity. Please contact beautifuldeerlake@gmail.com to learn more and determine if your property is eligible.

Create a Deer Lake Legacy

Up to 5% of Deer Lake Legacy Investment Fund assets can be spent annually on Deer Lake. Right now, that's the source of funding for additional inspection hours at the public access. We'd like to grow our Legacy Fund for clean water initiatives now and into the future. Please consider a *planned gift* to this fund. Planned gifts can be immediate or accomplished through a will or estate plan. A planned gift can provide a current income tax deduction, can enable you to avoid capital gains tax, and can reduce your estate taxes. **There are many ways to create a Deer Lake legacy without writing a check.** Examples include:

1. From an IRA if age 70½+

2. Appreciated stock
3. Donor advised fund
4. Beneficiary designations
5. Life insurance
6. Charitable Gift Annuity or Remainder Trust

Deer Lake Association of Itasca County, 36264
Christmas Point Trl, Grand Rapids, MN 55744.
More info and a library of examples
here <http://deerlakeassociation.org/index.cfm?pageid=262012>

FiveStar Landscape Firms

Landscape firms performing permitted work along your shoreline must be careful to avoid transporting invasives (AIS) via barges and other machinery and gear when they move from one lake or river to Deer Lake and your shoreline. **FiveStar landscapers** are DNR-certified, apply additional AIS-prevention safeguards, allow us to review their operations, and agree to help identify and disseminate AIS best practices. If you're hiring a landscape firm this year, **please request bids from FiveStar Landscapers**

- [Lange Nursery & Landscape](#) 218-380-6939
- [McNeil Excavating](#) 218-259-6364
- [J.V. Tree and Landscaping](#) 866-232-5183 or 612-987-9992

More info about Landscapers, the Itasca FiveStar Initiative, and other FiveStar providers:
<http://bit.ly/FiveStarLSPs>

Help Prevent Aquatic Invasives in Deer Lake

- Know which waters are infested <http://www.eddmaps.org/midwest/tools/infestedwaters/map.cfm?showheader=1>
- Practice **Clean, Drain, Dispose and Dry** – remove drain plugs, then remove mud, weeds, and standing water when exiting any landing.
- Know whether your or your guests' owned or rented boats and gear have been in infested waters prior to launch in Deer Lake. If you don't know for sure, *assume waters are infested.*
- **Drain and dry boats and trailers in the sun for at least 5 days**, remove AIS manually, or decontaminate with very hot water - 140° for 10 seconds or 120° for two minutes when exiting infested waters.
- **Dry lifts/docks at least 21 days** before moving from one lake or river to another.
- **Don't let others use your private launch** unless you know where their boats have been. Owners can many times prevent unauthorized private ramp use when absent by strategically placing docks, lifts, and trailers so that others can't use the launch.
- Patronize **FiveStar** service providers when you:
 - Install/remove dock/lift

- Service boat and engine
 - Rent trailers, boats, and gear
 - Purchase used gear /equipment
 - Hire a landscaper
 - Refer family or guests to a local resort
- <http://bit.ly/FiveStarLSPs>

Deer Lake Station

Deer Lake Station is open for your use 24/7. The Station provides tools to help arriving and departing boaters perform Clean, Drain, Dispose, and Dry as required by law. Fresh rinse-water and hand-tools help boaters clean and flush the mud, weeds, and standing water from boats and trailers that transport invasives from one lake or river to another. Lights enable Station operation at night. The Station also provides tools for use only by the Itasca AIS Inspection Program, including 140°+ decontaminating hot

water. <http://deerlakeassociation.org/index.cfm?pageid=312044>

Firewise

DLA is in touch with the local Itasca County Firewise leaders. At this writing, Firewise brush pick-up for 2020 is still pending. We will let you know when we hear something one way or the other.

2020 DLA Events

July 11, *Saturday*

The **Pontoon Nature Talk** with Jeff Hines, retired DNR Wildlife Manager and Deer Lake resident has been **cancelled for 2020**. We look forward to offering this event in 2021.

July 17, *Friday*

DLA Annual Business Meeting

DLA Spaghetti Dinner
Music on the Lawn

DLA's **Annual Business Meeting** will be held via Zoom at 4:30pm, Friday July 17. The only business on the Agenda for this year's Business Meeting is the election of DLA officers and Board members. Officers are elected for one-year terms and Board Members for staggered three year terms. **All DLA Members are invited to participate in the Annual Business meeting.** To participate, please send an email to beautifuldeerlake@gmail.com and DLA will send you a Zoom meeting invitation. You may participate via video, or audio only. The meeting is expected to last for 30 minutes.

DLA had planned to hold our Business Meeting at Camp Hiawatha, followed by the annual DLA Spaghetti Dinner plus a new event, Music on the

Lawn. In addition to the decision to move the Business meeting to Zoom, **DLA has decided to cancel the Spaghetti Dinner and Music on the Lawn for 2020.** DLA Looks forward to hosting both the Spaghetti Dinner and Music on the Lawn at Camp Hiawatha in 2021!

DLA Yoga via Zoom

**** New this year****

11am-Noon for eight summer Wednesdays, June 24th-August 19th (no class on July 1st). Cost is \$60 for 8 classes. **RSVP Required.** Yoga led by Liz Power Hawkinson, new DLA member and Deer Lake property owner. Liz has been a registered yoga teacher since 2000. Liz is planning to teach gentler classes, with a focus on balance, flexibility, and bone/muscle strength. Beginners welcome. Liz has taught in studios, at an active retirement community, and at Mayo Clinic Health System, where she was employed prior to retiring. For more information and to reserve your spot in the class, contact Liz directly at lizpower.873@gmail.com

Need boat or engine service from a marine dealer? Choose a FiveStar marine dealer like Ray's Marine or Grand Rapids Marine who takes AIS prevention seriously. <http://deerlakeassociation.org/index.cfm?pageid=262011>

Bear Island Trail Maintenance

July 10 – Friday 9:00 AM

August 7 – Friday 9:00 AM

(In the event of rain - 'Rolex' 24 hours)

Bear Island Trail Maintenance will continue as scheduled despite covid-19 using social distancing procedures, including maintaining 6' distance outdoors. Coordinated again this year by Paul Askegaard. Bear Island was donated to the State of MN by DLA, who purchased it with donations from lake residents plus State matching funds. Once a month during the summer, DLA members spend about 1 hour keeping the walking trail open and removing trash. RSVP not necessary, just arrive on the south end of the Island at 9am on the scheduled day. If conditions are questionable, call Paul at 651-230-3361. **Please volunteer, especially if we have a bad storm during the month.** Bring gloves, wear long pants and bug spray, and bring any equipment you have (chain saw, clippers, loppers, small saw and/or garbage bag). Paul will provide coffee/donuts. Hope to see you there!

DLA Hwy 62 Clean-up:

September 12, Saturday

SUBJECT TO CHANGE Coordinated again this year by Barb and Kerry Glader. Please join us for DLA Hwy 62 clean-up. Gather in the Baptist Church parking lot at 9:30am, corner of Hwys 62 and 177. <https://goo.gl/maps/7fd9J5frn5o> Clean-up takes about an hour. Afterward, you're invited to Barb and Kerry's cabin for coffee, snacks, and fellowship. Please call Kerry or Barb if you're able to join us! [218-246-8397](tel:218-246-8397) or [320-761-0195](tel:320-761-0195).

DLA Golf Scramble

We're **modifying** DLA Golf for 2020 to meet social distancing and other MN Dept of Health requirements. Please contact Trish or Joan to learn more. \$2 per player prize money – Teams sent on Sunday before play

July 21st 2:30PM -- \$22 + tax inc. cart (everybody rides). Course: Pokegama

Dinner: Pickled Loon after Golf – **Subject to change** due to Covid-19. RSVP by: July 17th joanandger@aol.com or tjbogie@paulbunyan.net

August 11th -- 1 PM -- \$22 + tax inc. cart (everybody rides). Golf Course: Eagle Ridge

Dinner: 5:30 PM Cedar Creek Grille -- **Subject to change** due to Covid-19 RSVP by: August 7th joanandger@aol.com or tjbogie@paulbunyan.net

September 8th -- 2:30PM-- \$22 + tax inc. cart (everybody rides). Golf Course: Pokegama

Dinner: Forest Lake after golf – **Subject to change** due to Covid-19. RSVP by: September 5th joanandger@aol.com or tjbogie@paulbunyan.net

DLA Deer Readers Book Club

Tue July 28, 4pm via Zoom. Book: The Alice Network. Author: Kate Quinn. Leader: Mary Helen Pelton

Tue August 18, 3:30pm via Zoom (earlier start time so we can select books for summer 2021). Book: In the Midst of Winter. Author: Isabel Allende. Leaders: Don & Abby Marier.

Wed September 9, 4pm via Zoom. Book: Where the Crawdads Sing. Author: Delia Owens. Leader: Jo Landwer.

Deer Readers meetings begin at 4pm except the August session, which starts at 3:30pm. Contact Alice with questions adstark@goldengate.net