*You and your guests are invited to the* ***Wed******Aug 18 Deer Lake Frolic. All are welcome.***

*The Deer Lake Frolic is meant to gather the entire Deer Lake community. The Frolic includes music, food, silent auction, kids games, and also serves as the primary fundraiser for DLA’s Operating Fund. DLA’s grilled chicken is spectacular!*

*Dinner tickets are $12 (age 6 & under free) and are available from any Board Member, Neighborhood Communicator, from* *beautifuldeerlake@gmail.com**, or at the door. See more details about the 2021 Deer Lake Frolic in the 2021 DLA Events section on page 4 below. Thank you!*

**Deer Lake Frolic Silent Auction**

Deer Lake Frolic is Wed Aug 18.  **Please consider donating items for our Deer Lake Frolic Silent Auction**.  Examples include created or purchased works of art, including paintings, photographs, pottery, jewelry; handcrafted items of value such as quilts or knitting; creative gift baskets, antique furniture, other treasures from your cabin that someone else could use, or services provided. We're especially looking for items that might sell for $100 or more.  Examples of services could include air-plane-ride, chef-for-an-evening, fishing guide-service, etc.  Frolic attendees bid on these items during the Frolic, with highest bid winning the item.  Funds go to DLA.  Donor can set a minimum bid. We ask only that if your Silent Auction item does not sell you take it home with you at the conclusion of the Frolic.  If interested in donating, pls send a note to beautifuldeerlake@gmail.com

**FiveStar Initiative**

DLA asks you to move your business to a FiveStar dock/lift remover this fall. FiveStar lake service providers that install/remove docks/lifts seasonally:

* **Grand Rapids Marine** 218-326-0351
* **Thousand Lakes Dock & Lift** 218-398-7553
* **JJ’s Barge Service** 218-244-5194
* **Northland Lake Svcs/Chad Schumacher** 218-256-9691
* **Matt Almquist/38Outpost** 218-259-9997
* **Paul Grooms/Grooms Property** 218-259-2157
* **Lake Home Helpers** 218-969-5028

*Dock installers can unwittingly infest Deer Lake with invasives (AIS) when coming here from infested waters.* FiveStar providers are DNR-certified, sign a contract agreeing to apply additional AIS safeguards, and agree to help us disseminate best practices. **Learn more about FiveStar** <http://deerlakeassociation.org/index.cfm?pageid=262011>

**Power Loading**

Low lake water-levels from drought may cause difficulty landing your boat at the public access this fall.  Power loading your boat can contribute to this problem.  Click this link to see DNR recommendations about landing your boat, especially during low water conditions. <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/water_access/powerloading.html>

**Deer Lake Public Access AIS Inspections**

Inspectors are generally present at the Deer Lake public access from sunrise to sunset 7 days per week. DLA currently pays about 30% of the cost of inspectors at the Deer Lake public access, including a payment from the Deer Lake Legacy Fund and

from a Community Action Program grant DLA has been awarded. The other 70% is paid by the Itasca AIS Program whose funding comes from the State of MN. DLA expects to have to pay an *increasingly larger share* in the future because of threatened state budget cuts and from proposed changes in allocation of resources among counties within the State of Minnesota. As a result, DLA has decided to raise funds to enable us to maintain our current level of service into the future. One way is to do so is for DLA to increase the size of our Deer Lake Legacy Fund. Here’s how you can help.

**Create a Deer Lake Legacy**

Up to 5% of Deer Lake Legacy 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. DLA would like to grow our Legacy Fund for clean water initiatives now and into the future. **Please consider a *planned gift* to the Deer Lake Legacy Fund**. Planned gifts can be immediate, given over time, or given later through your 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

More info and a library of examples here <http://deerlakeassociation.org/index.cfm?pageid=262012>

**Deer Lake Association of Itasca County, 4145 Washburn Ave So, Minneapolis, MN. 55440.**

**Free Decontamination Service**

Do you have invited or paying guests coming to Deer Lake? If your guest’s watercraft or other recreational gear has been or may have been in infested waters, please direct your guest to the Itasca AIS Program so that their gear can be decontaminated prior to launch in Deer Lake. It takes just a few minutes to protect Deer Lake. **Decontamination** includes applying verified 140° hot water for 10 seconds or 120° hot water for two minutes to critical areas of watercraft and gear.

**If you or your guest need or want a hot-water decontamination, call 218-256-4243 or request a decon from the inspector at Deer Lake public access.** Depending upon staffing that day, the inspector will perform the decon for you at Deer Lake Station or will call for a trained professional to be sent over to Deer Lake Station. Otherwise we’ll direct you to the nearest staffed mobile decon station.

**218-256-4243**

**FiveStar Rental Firms**

Another property owner AIS prevention strategy for invited or paying guests who are renting watercraft, trailers, or recreational gear is to use and recommend rental from a FiveStar provider like **R&R Rental** [https://www.rrrental.com](https://www.rrrental.com/) or

**Grand Rapids Marine** <https://www.grandrapidsmarine.com/> who have invested in their own decontamination equipment and have agreed to decontaminate watercraft and gear between rentals. ***Please patronize FiveStar businesses who take AIS seriously.***

**Septic Systems and Deer Lake**

Unfortunately, Deer Lake has lost 2-4’ of water clarity over the past seven years. We know the culprit for this decline: phosphorus. Ineffective and failing septic systems are one of the key sources for phosphorus in Deer Lake. DLA is asking your help to reverse this

water quality decline. We know that septic system replacements can have a significant impact to lake water quality because a successful septic replacement initiative on neighboring Wabana Lake resulted in a 7’ water clarity improvement.

**Septic System Best Practices**

1. Most septic systems have a filter that must be cleaned regularly (usually annually)
2. Pump accumulating solids from your septic tank regularly (usually every three years). [Scooters](https://www.yellowpages.com/cohasset-mn/mip/scooters-septic-service-537196443) and [Bunes](https://www.bunessepticservice.com/) are examples of local firms who will pump your tank.
3. Likely any filter, over time the *filtering soil* under your drain-field becomes saturated and ineffective. Once your system is 20+ years old, order a voluntary septic compliance inspection every 5-10 years. This inspection determines whether your soil filter remains effective and filters your effluent. DLA can recommend licensed inspectors. DLA also offers to pay the cost of septic inspections for eligible property owners who use DLA’s contracted inspector. See below.
4. Take care what you send down the drain into your septic.

Septic systems are designed to filter effluent for 20 – 30 years, but risk releasing pathogens, phosphorus, and other nutrients into the water table and Deer Lake once drain-field soil becomes saturated. In practice, septics sometimes last less than 20 years, other times more than 30, depending on use and maintenance. **On average, at 20 years of age 40% of septic systems need replacement**.

How can you know whether your 20+ year old system is contributing pathogens and phosphorus to Deer Lake? **Order a septic compliance inspection**.

An inspection is different than a tank pumping. Inspection is required by law when you sell your property or apply for a building permit, but waiting until you apply for a permit or sell your property may cause your sale or building project to be delayed while you remedy. **Best to act now.** A voluntary inspection is a simple procedure involving only hand-drawn soil-borings near your tank and drain-field.

**2021 $$ Septic Incentives**

DLA raised funds and offers to partner with eligible Deer Lake property owners during 2021:

1. DLA offers to pay the $350 cost for voluntary septic compliance inspections for eligible property owners with systems 20+ years old.
2. For those whose systems fail that voluntary inspection, DLA offers two $ incentives:
* 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.

**Eligible property owners include:**

* Those whose septic system is 20+ years old
* And whose septic systems have not undergone a septic compliance inspection in the past 10 years
* And whose property is not for sale or recently sold
* And who have not applied for a building permit or are otherwise under legal obligation to inspect and replace their septic system

**To learn more or to order a septic compliance inspection, send a note to** **beautifuldeerlake@gmail.com**

**Deer Lake Shoreland**

Almost any improvement we make to our lakeshore properties requires one or more permits, **especially work we do on or within 50' of our shorelines**.  <https://www.co.itasca.mn.us/567/Shoreland-Alterations>  The purpose of the permitting process is to preserve Deer Lake water quality for ourselves, our children, and future generations.  Fortunately, there are numerous ways we can accomplish our recreational goals while preserving property values and our longtime heritage of family-enjoyment in clear-water.  The permitting process is meant to enable property owners to gain an understanding about which choices will have a positive or neutral impact to the lake.

If you'd like to understand more about how your property impacts and interacts with the lake, or how you can accomplish your recreational goals without negatively impacting lake water quality, consider requesting a **free and no-obligation Shoreland Assessment from DLA**.  We'll help you understand your options before you apply for a permit. More info <http://deerlakeassociation.org/index.cfm?pageid=282027>

**Deer Lake Shoreland Best Practices**

* Maintain or re-establish forested shoreline, or, if that’s not possible, establish 50’ of vegetative buffer along lakeshore and tributaries. Buffers filter phosphorus and other nutrients from rain water before it runs into the lake, driving algae and undesirable weed growth.
* Keep natural shoreline ice-ridges in place or, if yours has been removed, establish a low berm. Ice ridges and low berms filter rain-water before runoff feeds phosphorus and other nutrients into the lake.
* Repair shoreline and tributary erosion because soils entering the lake contain phosphorus and other nutrients

**2021 $$ DLA Shoreland Incentive**

DLA raised funds and offers to partner with Deer Lake property owners during 2021 in an effort to reduce the amount of phosphorus loading into Deer Lake from rainwater runoff and shoreline erosion:

1. DLA offers a disinterested shoreland expert to provide property owners an assessment and options to reduce or eliminate runoff and erosion. (Disinterested means someone not trying to sell you something). **Free and no obligation**.
2. DLA offers to write you a cost-share check for up to $1000 to help you pay for an eligible rainwater runoff or erosion mitigation project.

Please send a note to beautifuldeerlake@gmail.com to express interest or learn more.

**DLA Volunteer Opportunities**

DLA is seeking volunteers to help with necessary DLA administrative functions. Specifically, we need additional volunteers to help with Membership, Communications, or Events functions. It’s a great way to get involved in DLA and meet other people around the lake. If you are interested in volunteering, please send a note to beautifuldeerlake@gmail.com

**Need space** for a meeting, family reunion, retreat, family celebration or other special event? Want to send your child or grandchild to camp on Deer Lake? Consider **Camp Hiawatha**, a Deer Lake FiveStar steward. <https://www.northwoodsretreatsmn.com>

**2021 DLA Events**

**August 18***, Wednesday*

[***DEER LAKE FROLIC***](http://deerlakeassociation.org/index.cfm?pageid=51750)

5pm gather; 6pm-dinner a*t Camp Hiawatha*

Music, games, food, silent auction. The Frolic is a great opportunity for the entire Deer Lake community to come together, including residents, guests, and visitors both from Deer Lake and the surrounding communities. All are welcome! The Frolic also serves as the primary annual fundraiser for DLA. **Please mark the date & plan to attend!**

**Dinner Tickets $12, children age 6 and under free.**  All welcome.

*We’ll cook for you and your guests!* **Grilled Chicken, corn-on-the-cob, corn bread, salad, and DQ ice cream treats for dessert!**

Best to buy dinner tickets in advance.  Dinner tickets available from DLA Board Members, Neighborhood Communicators, from beautifuldeerlake@gmail.com, or at the door.

**If you are unable to attend, please consider purchasing Frolic tickets anyway in order to support DLA's water quality work!**

**Camp Hiawatha and the Deer Lake Frolic**

When on Camp Hiawatha property, DLA is required to follow Camp Hiawatha rules. Their house, their rules. DLA is grateful and thankful to Camp Hiawatha for our mutually beneficial partnership.  Camp Hiawatha generously donates use of the facility and their labor. DLA wants to show our thanks by following Camp Hiawatha policy.

1. **Indoor Mask Requirement**

We are planning to set up the Frolic buffet line outdoors, but if there is inclement weather, then the food line will need to be indoors.  Camp Hiawatha has implemented an indoor mask requirement. So if you’d like to join us for our grilled-chicken dinner, please bring a mask just in case, and please be respectful to Camp Hiawatha.  Thank you for your cooperation.

1. If you’d like to bring your own **alcohol** to the Frolic, Camp Hiawatha allows you to do so, but has specified the following requirements. This alcohol policy was created and approved by the Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry Board who oversees Camp Hiawatha. Again, DLA wants to respect and follow Camp Hiawatha policy.
* Beer allowed in cans only. Beer bottles not allowed.
* Wine allowed (wine bottles are allowed)
* Hard liquor not allowed
1. If you are unfamiliar with Camp Hiawatha, here is a map showing the location of Camp Hiawatha on Deer Lake, and, in addition, the location of Baldwin Commons and authorized parking areas.  Camp Hiawatha has asked us NOT to drive our cars across the lawn at Camp Hiawatha.  Please do not park your car next to the chapel.  <https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/1/edit?mid=1eGIeOqMYBR3IDA0F5RRifYeLbLhyLxBi&usp=sharing>You are also welcome to arrive by boat.

***Thank you for respecting Camp Hiawatha policy***

**DLA Bear Island Trail Maintenance**

**August 6** – Friday 9:00 AM

 **(In the event of rain - ‘Rolex’ 24 hours)**

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 11, Saturday**

Coordinated again this year by Barb and Kerry Glader. Please join us for DLA Hwy 62 clean-up where we combine community service and fellowship!  Gather in the parking lot of the Baptist Church at 9:30 am, corner

of Hwys 62 and 177 on the east side of Deer Lake. [https://goo.gl/maps/7fd9J5frn5o](https://goo.gl/maps/7fd9J5frn5o%20)

Clean-up takes about an hour. Afterward, you’re invited to Barb and Kerry’s cabin for coffee, snacks, and fellowship.  Please call or email Barb if you’re able to join us! 320-761-0195 or kbglad@aol.com

**DLA “Deer Readers” Book Club**

**Aug 17 4pm** Book/author: Accidental President by A. J. Baime Leader: Jan Hill Host: Jan Hill

**Sept 8 Wed**, 3pm  Book/author: Northland: a 4,000 Mile Journey Along America’s Forgotten Border by

Porter Fox Leader: Don & Abby Marier  Host: Don & Abby Marier

(At this meeting we will also do book selection/voting for summer 2022)

**\*Please note:** tentative hosts were identified for each meeting, however the decision to have face to face meetings (vs zoom) will depend on the pandemic situation.

Deer Readers meetings begin at 4pm except the September session, which starts at 3pm.  Please contact Alice with questions adstark@goldengate.net

**DLA Golf Scramble**

We will be playing our Golf Scramble on one Tuesday of each month. This is a fun time, not a competition. In an attempt to even out the teams we insert in our “Rules of the Day” - fun challenges that make it more interesting. We will take pandemic precautions as necessary. Last year, for example, we had couples play together. If we still have limitations this year we’ll do something similar. For dinners, if we are still under restrictions, we will do something similar to 2020. We bought restaurant take-out and ate socially distanced at a participant’s home. Once the restaurants were open and had outside dining, we ate at these establishments. In May of 2021 we will determine how to handle this based on the situation at the time.

August 10th, Tue at Eagle Ridge – Tee Off 1 PM

September 7th, Tue at Pokegama – Tee Off 2 PM

New golfers always welcome to join us on the golf

course and former golfers, spouses and significant others who don’t golf welcome to join us for dinner!!

**Thank You DLA Board Members**

DLA is grateful and thankful for Officers and Board Members willing to serve Deer Lake. DLA Board Members may serve as many as two three-year-terms, and Officers may serve any number of one-year terms. Congratulations to Marc Fuller, Dave Freehauf, and Rebecca Arons who were elected at DLA’s July 16 Annual Business Meeting.

Dave Stark serves as VP, Marc Fuller serves as Treas, and Dave Freehauf serves as Secretary. Board Members include Rebecca Arons, David Duxbury, Margaret Duxbury, Eric Williams, Dan Greer, Elise Widen, and Beth Riesgraf-Wyman . John Davis serves as President.

DLA will have up to three Board/Officer openings in July 2022. **Are you willing to serve?** Please send a note to beautifuldeerlake@gmail.com to find out more.

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