

*DLA is planning to host both the **Fri July 16 Spaghetti Dinner/Music on the Lawn** and **Wed Aug 18 Deer Lake Frolic** events in-person. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.*

***Fri July 16** includes the DLA Annual Business Meeting from 4:30-5:00pm, Spaghetti Dinner from 5:00-6:00pm, and Music on the Lawn featuring Deer Lake's Kelley Manbeck and friends from 6:00-7:00pm.*

Before you attend the July 16 events, please carefully read through Camp Hiawatha policies, described on page 5 of this Newsletter. DLA is grateful and thankful to Camp Hiawatha for their generosity to DLA, especially for their work to help us host the Spaghetti Dinner. Please join me in being grateful to Camp Hiawatha for our mutually beneficial partnership. We can show our gratitude by respecting and following Camp Hiawatha policy. (See July 16 event details in the Events section on page 5 below). Thank you.

***Wed August 18 Deer Lake Frolic** is meant to gather and build the Deer Lake community. The Frolic includes music, food, silent auction, kids games, and also serves as the primary fundraiser for DLA's operating fund. Tom Brown's grilled chicken is spectacular! Dinner tickets are \$12 (age 6 & under free) and are available from any Board Member, Neighborhood Communicator, or at the door. See more details about the 2021 Deer Lake Frolic in the 2021 DLA Events section on page 5 below. Thank you! -- John Davis*

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

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 DLA's Legacy Investment 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 may need to raise funds to enable us to maintain our current level of service. One way is to do so is for DLA to increase the size of our Legacy Investment Fund. Here's how you can help.

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. DLA would like to grow our Legacy Fund for clean water initiatives now and into the future. **Please consider a planned gift to our Legacy 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>

Deer Lake Frolic Silent Auction

DLA 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

2021 Firewise Deer Lake

Firewise encourages property owners to clear brush, downed trees and limbs, and other woody materials around their homes, cabins, and driveways to prevent the spread of fire and enable fire truck access. You or a hired-hand clear and stack the brush near the end of your driveway or near a road. It's picked up and taken away by the Firewise program. *For free if you're a current DLA member.* **DLA has been informed that there will be a Firewise pick-up this year later in July.** If you'd like to participate, please see our website for a description, instructions, dates, and contact information.

<http://deerlakeassociation.org/index.cfm?pageid=11054>

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](#)

and [Bunes](#) 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, septic systems 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. **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.

FiveStar Landscape Firms

Landscape firms performing Permitted work along our shorelines 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 our 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](http://www.lange-nursery.com) 218-380-6939
- [McNeil Excavating](http://www.mcneil-excavating.com) 218-259-6364
- [J.V. Tree and Landscaping](http://www.jv-treeandlandscaping.com) 866-232-5183

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

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>

Thank You DLA Board Members

DLA and I are profoundly grateful and thankful for Board Members and Officers willing to serve Deer Lake. Board Members may serve as many as two three-year-terms, and Officers may serve any number of one-year terms. Herb Lieffring has served as DLA Treasurer for 6 years. Diana Lieffring has served as DLA Secretary for 7 years. Both are retiring from their Officer positions in July. I can't tell you how grateful I am for their service. Thank you Herb and Diana! In addition, Hugh Cameron has served two full three-year-terms, a total of 6 years. Hugh has served on the audit committee and has been deeply involved in DLA's septic initiative. Thank you for your service, Hugh!

Continuing Board Members are David Duxbury, Margaret Duxbury, Eric Williams, Dan Greer, Elise Widen, and Beth Riesgraf-Wyman. Other officers are Dave Stark, Vice President; John Davis, President. We will likely have three Board openings in July 2022 as others complete their terms. Please send a note to beautifuldeerlake@gmail.com if you are interested in serving.

Deer Lake Station

Deer Lake Station is open for your use 24/7. The Station provides self-service 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, trailers, and gear that transport invasives from one lake or river to another. Lights enable Station operation at night. The Waders Rack makes it easy to rinse gear. The Station also provides tools for use only by the Itasca AIS Inspection Program, including 140°+ decontaminating hot water.

Station is located at the Deer Lake public access.
<http://deerlakeassociation.org/index.cfm?pageid=312044>

FiveStar Rental Firms

If you or your invited or paying guests rent pontoons, fishing boats, personal watercraft, paddleboards or other similar recreational equipment in Deer Lake, know whether those items were in infested waters prior to launch in Deer Lake. If you don't know or can't find out, assume waters were infested and decontaminate as described above. One strategy for is to recommend rental from a FiveStar provider like **R&R Rental** <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 businesses that take AIS seriously.*

Camp Hiawatha Sunday Services

I know many Deer Lake members attend 10am Sunday morning ecumenical service at Camp Hiawatha. Camp Hiawatha has asked me to inform you that this summer Camp Hiawatha will be holding service outside. Attendees are asked to bring their own lawn chairs. A coffee hour will be held outdoors following the service. Camp Hiawatha/VLM will offer coffee and treats. A free-will offering is collected following the service. Camp Hiawatha hopes to resume post-service brunch next summer. In the event of rain or other foul weather, the Sunday service will be held strictly virtually on the Camp Hiawatha Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=camp%20hiawatha>, similar to last year. (If in doubt, check the Camp Hiawatha Facebook page before driving over). Thank you.



2021 DLA Events

July 16, Friday

**** New this year****

***Music on the Lawn
and DLA Spaghetti Dinner/Business Meeting
at Camp Hiawatha in/near Baldwin Commons***

4:30pm DLA Business Meeting

5:00pm Spaghetti Dinner

6:00pm Music on the Lawn

Musical guest Deer Lake's own **Kelley Manbeck** and friends! Free-will offering at dinner for DLA to help DLA pay for the cost of the food, free-will offering during Music on the Lawn for Camp Hiawatha to help Camp Hiawatha pay for the cost of the music.

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 provides the facility, buys and cooks the spaghetti dinner, serves the food, and cleans up afterward. Camp Hiawatha generously donates the cost of the facility and their labor. DLA wants to show our thanks by following Camp Hiawatha policy.

1. We are planning to set up the Spaghetti Dinner food-line outdoors, but if there is inclement weather, then the food line will need to be indoors. Camp Hiawatha encourages masks indoors, but has no mask requirement **EXCEPT THAT A MASK IS REQUIRED WHEN GOING THROUGH AN INDOOR FOOD LINE.** So if you'd like to join us for Spaghetti Dinner, please **bring a mask just in case,** and please be respectful to Camp Hiawatha. Thank you for your cooperation.
2. If you'd like to bring your own alcohol to the July 16 events, 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

3. 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=1eGleOqMYBR3IDA0F5RRifYeLbLhyLxBi&usp=sharing> You are also welcome to arrive by boat.

Thank you for respecting Camp Hiawatha policy

August 18, Wednesday

DEER LAKE FROLIC

5pm gather; 6pm-dinner at 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!**

DLA Bear Island Trail Maintenance

July 9 – Friday 9:00 AM

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>

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

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>

DLA "Deer Readers" Book Club

July 27 4pm Book/author: American Dirt by Jeanine Cummins Leader: Joyce Erickson Host: Dick & Joyce Erickson

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.

July 20th, Tue at Pokegama – Tee Off 2 PM

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!!

