*DLA’s* ***Annual Business Meeting, Spaghetti Dinner, and Music on the Lawn*** *begins at* ***5pm Fri July 15 at*** [***Camp Hiawatha***](https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/2/edit?mid=1eGIeOqMYBR3IDA0F5RRifYeLbLhyLxBi&ll=47.39927923888228%2C-93.6477407&z=18)*. 5pm Meeting, 5:30pm Spaghetti Dinner. Free will offering for dinner to help DLA defray food costs. Music on the Lawn from 6-7pm, featuring the Deer Lake Trio of Kelley Manbeck, Al Vann, and Tom Nelson. Bring a blanket or lawn chair to enjoy Music on the Lawn. Pass-the-hat for the Musicians. Please join us for our meeting, dinner, and music!*

*Please also help DLA show gratitude to Camp Hiawatha for allowing DLA to use Camp Hiawatha facilities by* [*parking in designated areas*](https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/2/edit?mid=1eGIeOqMYBR3IDA0F5RRifYeLbLhyLxBi&usp=sharing) *and respecting Camp Hiawatha* [*alcohol policy*](https://docs.google.com/document/d/12mfTAqGxdxGMFItEJzg-zsDMhavQB7ix/edit)*.*

*The* ***Deer Lake Frolic*** *Picnic is* ***5-7pm Thur August 18****, also at Camp Hiawatha****.*** *All are welcome. We’ll cook for you and your guests!**The Frolic picnic is a social event that includes music, food, silent auction, kid’s games, and also serves as the primary fundraiser for DLA’s Operating Fund. This year we are serving grilled chicken and sweet corn. Tom Brown’s grilled chicken is spectacular! We are grateful for the music of* [*John Perkins*](https://soundcloud.com/johnfperkins)*.*

*Dinner tickets are $12 (age 6 & under free) and are available from any Board Member, Neighborhood Communicator, or at the door. It’s the best social event of the season! See more details about the 2022 Deer Lake Frolic in the 2022 DLA Events section below.*

***Thank you for your membership!****! -- John Davis*

**2022 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. This is an especially helpful service following storms like this year.

**DLA has been informed that there will be a Deer Lake Firewise pick-up this year, sometime between Aug 8-11.** If you’d like to participate, you must complete and submit a Firewise Tracking Form **before August 1**. Details and Tracking forms available [here](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1HmMYNKOC_Z8annqJvIs8GWsgugEOKrl7/edit)

Firewise also intends to inform property owners and visitors about wildfire causes and prevention.

[**Firewise Campfire Guidelines**](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-yKi0lR7Zw7kewlS7CEshGpeV1PiZK6O/edit)

[**Firewise Property Owner Tips**](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mtsKvyovuoDAQbfyNK5j45l5IVkSWOYj/edit)

**Deer Lake Frolic Picnic Silent Auction**

Deer Lake Frolic is Thur 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

**Compensated Conservation Easements**

Do you own 20 or more acres of land on or near Deer Lake (e.g. either with or without Deer Lake lakeshore, but within the Deer Lake watershed). Would you like to receive payment of 60 - 80% of the *current* *fair market value* of your land to conserve it forever? This is possible through an initiative created by the Minnesota Land Trust (MLT). It’s called a *Compensated Conservation Easement*. If you’re interested or would like to learn more, please send a note to beautifuldeerlake@gmail.com

**What We Can Do**

Unfortunately, Deer Lake has lost 2-6' of water clarity over the past six years.  Here are ideas for what you can do to help conserve our Deer Lake heritage of fishing and family recreation in clean water:

**A. Phosphorus Reduction**

Phosphorus reduces water clarity and powers growth of green-algae and undesirable weeds.

1.  Keep in-place forested shoreline and natural ice-ridges that filter phosphorus from rain and storm water before it runs into the lake; or install a low-berm or vegetative buffer near your shoreline

2. Solve for shoreline erosion

3. Pump your septic tank every 3 years

4. Order a septic compliance inspection every 5-10 years once your system is 20+ years old.  *Septic systems installed 1996 or earlier are especially at risk*.

[**Learn more about DLA's Septic Initiative**](http://deerlakeassociation.org/index.cfm?pageid=282026)

[**Learn more about DLA’s Shoreland Initiative**](http://deerlakeassociation.org/index.cfm?pageid=282027)

**B. Aquatic Invasives**

1.  If your guests bring an owned or rented boat to Deer Lake, or if you move your boat from Deer Lake to other area lakes for fishing or recreation, **please decontaminate prior to launch in Deer Lake**. Call 218-256-4243 to arrange for decontamination. Decons can likely be completed at Deer Lake Station located at the Deer Lake public access. More info below.

2.  Use FiveStar dock installers to prevent providers from unwittingly depositing invasives in Deer Lake and at your shoreline <http://bit.ly/FiveStarLSPs>

3.  Don't let others use your private launch unless you know for sure their boats have not been in infested waters

[**More info about how to prevent Aquatic Invasives**](http://deerlakeassociation.org/index.cfm?pageid=31697)

**Free Decontamination Service**

Do you have invited or paying guests coming to Deer Lake along with owned or rented boats or recreational gear? If your guest’s watercraft or other recreational gear have been or may have been in infested waters, please call 218-256-4243 to arrange for that boat or gear to be decontaminated prior to launch in Deer Lake. It takes just a few minutes to protect Deer Lake. Likely the decontamination can be performed at Deer Lake Station at the Deer Lake public access.

**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.**

**Deer Lake Public Access AIS Inspections**

Inspectors are generally present at the Deer Lake public access 7 days per week. DLA currently pays about 20% of the cost of inspectors at the Deer Lake public access. Current funding sources for the other 80% are not sustainable. DLA expects to have to pay an *increasingly larger share* for inspections in the future because of threatened state budget cuts and from proposed changes in allocation of resources among counties within the State of Minnesota and lakes within Itasca County. As a result, DLA is raising funds to enable us to maintain our current level of service. Please consider a donation to our Legacy Fund to help DLA pay for additional inspection hours at the Deer Lake public access.Thank you for your consideration.

**Create a Deer Lake Legacy**

Up to 5% of Deer Lake Legacy Investment Fund assets can be spent annually on Deer Lake. 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, Attn: Marc Fuller, Treas, 4145 Washburn Ave So, Minneapolis, MN. 55401.

[***More info and a library of Legacy gift examples here***](http://deerlakeassociation.org/index.cfm?pageid=262012)

**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 conserve our heritage of fishing and family recreation in clean water for ourselves, our children, grandchildren, and future generations*.  Fortunately, there are numerous ways we can accomplish our recreational goals while preserving property values and Deer Lake water quality.  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 help understanding your options prior to completing the Shoreland Alteration Permit application, DLA can help!** DLA will send an objective expert to your property to provide with you with ideas and options. No obligation.

**Deer Lake Shoreland Best Practices**

* Maintain or re-establish forested shoreline, or, if that’s not possible, establish a 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 or breached, 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

**2022 DLA Shoreland Offer**

DLA raised funds and offers to partner with Deer Lake property owners during 2022 in an effort to reduce the amount of phosphorus loading into Deer Lake from rainwater runoff and shoreline erosion:

1. DLA offers an objective shoreland expert – someone not trying to sell you something -- to provide property owners with options and ideas to reduce or eliminate runoff and erosion. **Free and no obligation**.
2. If you decide to move forward an implement a solution, DLA’s expert can create a simple plan that you can your contractor can work from. This design plan can also include native plant selection.

Please send a note to beautifuldeerlake@gmail.com to express interest or learn more. [More info](http://deerlakeassociation.org/index.cfm?pageid=282027) on DLA’s Shoreland Initiative.

**Septic Systems and Deer Lake**

Unfortunately, Deer Lake has lost 2-6’ 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.

**Septic System Best Practices**

1. Most septic systems have a filter that must be cleaned regularly (usually annually)
2. Pump 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. Order a septic compliance inspection every 5-10 years once your system is 20+ years old. **Systems installed 1996 or earlier are especially at risk.** **or earlier are especially at risk**.

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.

**Septic systems installed 1996 or earlier are particularly at risk.** 50%+ will fail if inspected. That means 50% of septic systems installed in 1996 or earlier are contributing to Deer Lake water quality decline.

**During 2022, DLA is inviting all eligible Deer Lake property owners with septic systems installed 1996 or earlier to volunteer for a septic compliance inspection.**

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 soil-borings near your tank and drain-field and a visual inspection of the interior of your tanks.

**2022 Deer Lake $eptic Incentives**

DLA raised funds and offers to partner with eligible Deer Lake property owners during 2022:

1. DLA offers to pay the cost for voluntary septic compliance inspections for eligible property owners with systems installed 1996 or earlier.
2. For those whose systems fail that voluntary inspection, DLA has arranged for Itasca County to offer zero-interest 10-year-term loans that you pay back through the property tax payment process. You don’t have to disclose assets or income because the loan is secured by the property itself.

**Eligible property owners include:**

* Those whose septic system was installed 1996 or earlier
* And whose septic systems have not undergone a septic compliance inspection in the past 5 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
* And who are not otherwise obligated by law to replace their septic system

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

**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**](https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Landscape-Company/Langes-Nursery-and-Landscaping-607626122735080/)218-380-6939
* [**McNeil Excavating**](https://www.facebook.com/McNeilExcavating/)218-259-6364
* **J.V. Tree and Landscaping** 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.** 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

**Thank You DLA Board Members**

DLA and I are 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. Dave Stark has served as DLA VP for five years, and as a Board Member for 6 years. Margaret Duxbury has served as a Board Member for 6 years. Both are retiring in July. I can’t tell you how grateful I am for their service. Thank you Dave and Margaret!

David Duxbury has agreed to stand for election as DLA VP at our July 15 Annual Business Meeting. Jeff Johnston and Nick Brown have been nominated to serve on the DLA Board to fill our two open positions. They will stand for election at the Annual Business Meeting 5pm, Fri July 15.

Continuing Board Members include Eric Williams, Dan Greer, Elise Widen, Beth Riesgraf-Wyman, and Rebecca Aronson. Other Officers include Marc Fuller, Treasurer; Dave Freehauf, Secretary; and John Davis, Presdient.

**DLA expects to have additional Board Member openings in July 2023. Please send a note to** **beautifuldeerlake@gmail.com** **if you are interested in serving.**

**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>

**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. Deer Lake 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](https://www.rrrental.com/) or

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



**2022 DLA Events**

**July 15***, Friday*

***DLA Spaghetti Dinner/Annual Business Meeting/Music on the Lawn at*** [***Camp Hiawatha***](https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/2/edit?mid=1eGIeOqMYBR3IDA0F5RRifYeLbLhyLxBi&ll=47.39927923888228%2C-93.6477407&z=18)***.***

5pm DLA Business Meeting, 5:30pm Spaghetti Dinner. Free-will offering at dinner to help DLA defray food costs. Music on the Lawn from 6-7pm featuring the Deer Lake Trio of Kelley Manbeck, Al Vann, and Tom Nelson. *Bring a blanket or lawn chair to enjoy Music on the Lawn*. Pass-the-hat for the musicians.

**August 18***, Thursday*

[***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 is the highlight Deer Lake social event of the year!

**DLA Bear Island Trail Maintenance**

**July 8** – Friday 9:00 AM

**August 5** – 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 10, Saturday**

Coordinated this year by Chad and Amanda 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 the Glader cabin for coffee, snacks, and fellowship.  Please contact Chad or Amanda if you’re able to join us gladerc@gmail.com or 763-516-6589.

**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>

**DLA “Deer Readers” Book Club**
**Revised SUMMER Deer Readers SCHEDULE 2022**

**Please note:**At this point, we will assume our book discussions will be in-person – at the home of the host listed for each meeting.  Meetings (other than September) start at 4pm (September meeting starts at 3pm).  Everyone brings an appetizer to share; host provides beverages.  Please contact Alice Stark with questions adstark@goldengate.net .

**July 26** (4th Tues) 4pm: Anxious People: A Novel by Fredrick Backman (Leaders: Don & Ellen Ardery,  Hosts: Ardery’s)

**Aug 23** (4th Tues) 4pm: The Sun Also Rises by Ernest Hemingway (Leaders: Dick & Joyce Erickson, Host: Jan Hill)

**Sept 14** **(WED) 3pm**: (earlier start time for Business meeting/voting and book discussion) Marcel’s Letters: A Font and the Search for One Man’s Fate by Carolyn Porter (Leaders: Don & Abby Marier, Host: Jo Landwer)

**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.

July 19th, Tue at Pokegama – Tee Off 2pm

August 16th, Tue at Eagle Ridge – Tee Off 2pm

September 13th, Tue at Pokegama – Tee Off 2pm

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!!

For more info or to sign-up contact Trish at *tjbogie@paulbunyan.net**218-326-3824*

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