

# DEER LAKE ASSOCIATION

SPRING 2024

*Welcome to spring on Deer Lake! We hope you'll find this issue a "good read". This is a neighborhood newsletter - so if you've got something to share with other readers, send it my way! Abby Marier, editor [absma58@gmail.com](mailto:absma58@gmail.com)*

*Many, Many thanks to Dick Wyman, our newsletter format guy!*



DLA President Jeff Johnston

*"A lake is the landscape's most beautiful expressive feature. It is earth's eye; looking into which the beholder measures the depth of his own nature".*

*Henry David Thoreau*

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Hello DLA Membership,

Welcome to Northern Minnesota Spring after an exceptionally mild Winter season. The effects of Climate Change are becoming obvious in our seasonal shift of temperature and associated effects. We encourage all to be aware of these changes and advocate for actions that

are countermeasures to protect and sustain our environment.

“A nation that destroys its soils destroys itself. Forests are the lungs of our land, purifying the air and giving fresh strength to our people.”

Former U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt was active in expanding the National Park and National Forest systems. He also established the Civilian Conservation Corps.

The area in Minnesota where our Beautiful Deer Lake is found is resident to many projects that the CCC initiated and provides a testament to preserving our shared resources. We all look forward to enjoying and sharing these natural resources, responsibly, with others. Please join with us in common purpose and the promise of preserving these ecosystems.

Best Regards,

Jeff

## *Deer Lake Legacy Fund*

During 2023, inspectors were stationed at the Deer Lake public access for approximately 1665 work-hours, on-duty seven-days-per-week from Fishing Opener to Labor Day, plus additional days before and after. Last season alone, inspectors performed nearly 3300 inspections plus nearly 90 thermal decontaminations using equipment at Deer Lake Station to keep Deer Lake free from prohibited aquatic invasives like zebra mussels, spiny waterflea, and starry stonewort.



It's critical that we maintain or improve this level of service going forward. DLA has implemented multiple layers of defense, but inspections are Deer Lake's last line of defense. Unfortunately, however, funding for inspections is under threat and our current funding sources are not sustainable over time. And prevention costs are only a fraction of remediation costs.

DLA forebears established a Deer Lake Legacy Fund for this and similar purposes. Today 100% of the available annual spending goes to public access inspections, but that amount covers less than half the current annual cost. DLA seeks to raise additional Legacy Funds now and over the next few years, with a conservative goal to fund the entire annual inspections-cost from Legacy Funds. A \$1.2m professionally managed Legacy Fund would support \$60,000 in annual inspection costs.

DLA is asking you to consider a once-in-a-lifetime tax-deductible Planned Gift to help us reach this goal. DLA is a 501(c)(3) public charity. Donations to DLA are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

1. Would you be willing to make a once-in-a-lifetime Planned Gift to the Deer Lake Legacy Fund through your will or estate plan? There are multiple creative ways to do so, and the best methods don't even require writing a check. See the link below for creative examples and additional information.

2. Or, instead, you may prefer to offer a Planned Gift now when you can see and experience the joy, gratitude, appreciation, and benefit that comes from offering a large and important immediate-gift or gift-over-time. For example, a Deer Lake summer resident offered a Planned Gift over five years beginning in 2021. She chose to donate appreciated shares from a mutual fund. Donating appreciated shares to the Deer Lake Legacy Fund can be especially attractive now following the run-up in the stock market. Because it's a gift of shares, our donor doesn't have to pay capital gains tax on the shares AND she can claim a tax-deduction for the current value of the shares for the year she donates the shares. Another creative example: anyone age 70 ½+ can make a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) donation directly from an IRA. And a QCD can count as a required minimum distribution if the donor is age 72+. Neither the donor nor DLA pays income tax on such a donation.

Would you be willing to do something similar? Please consider a Planned Gift to the Deer Lake Legacy Fund. For additional creative ideas, please read through this explanation or contact Jeff Johnstone at [beautifuldeerlake@gmail.com](mailto:beautifuldeerlake@gmail.com). DLA also encourages you to seek the counsel of a financial planner, attorney, and/or tax advisor before offering a Planned Gift.

Thank you for your consideration, generosity, and support.

## ***WARMER TEMPS & DEER LAKE***

Possible scenarios:

- More soil/ sediment run-off into the lake- affecting WATER CLARITY as well as forest FIRES- due to weather pattern of torrential rains followed by high temps and high winds.
- More AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species) due to warmer water temps and diminished lake depth.
- A decrease in water clarity can hinder LOONS from finding food. Loons depend on their eyesight for finding fish. This may impact their brood's overall survival rate.
- A possible decline of cold-water fish like walleye, and perch to more warm-water species like bass and bluegill because of the impact of warmer temps on production and food availability.

This is a WAKEUP CALL!!! Do what you can to avoid contributing to a decline in water quality by using Phosphorous Free Fertilizer (if you must use any at all), assure there is a buffer area between any lawn on your property and Lakeshore. See the following link for reference information on these topics: [www.dnr.state.mn.us](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us) › waters › water management section. Shoreland information for property owners | Minnesota DNR (Info from MN DNR & US EPA)

## ***CALENDAR OF EVENTS***

### ***at Camp Hiawatha***

These events have been scheduled with Camp Hiawatha Staff:

- **Saturday, May 18th** in-person and Zoom DLA Board mtg.
- **Saturday, June 8th** 10-12 noon ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING (8-9:30 a.m. DLA Board mtg)
- **Friday, July 19** 3-4:30 DLA Board Meeting, followed immediately by SPAGHETTI DINNER
- **Thursday, August 22** 5p.m. DEER LAKE FROLIC



## *CONCERT ON THE WATER at Camp Hiawatha*

We are discussing a potential Saturday **July 6th** 2024 Music Concert on the Water from 5-7 PM with VLM/Camp Hiawatha. This would follow a proposed Cornhole Tournament, 1-5pm. Please check with Nick Brown on details for the Cornhole Tournament.

## *BOAT-IN MUSICAL TREATS at Sherwood*

**Saturday, July 13** from 5-8pm. Come in your boat, canoe, kayak or whatever floating device you have and anchor off the old Sherwood Forest Camp beach. We will be entertained by the **Jason Schooler Band**. The band plays original folk/rock and country music. They perform regularly in the Duluth area. Please contact Betsy Brown for additional details: [betsysueb@gmail.com](mailto:betsysueb@gmail.com)

## *2024 DLA Golf Scramble*

This summer, we will be organizing a golf/dinner event on one Tuesday of each month. This is more of a fun, social event, as opposed to a serious competition, so all skill levels are welcome. We generally use a “scramble” format with a few special rules and contests thrown in. We will play nine holes at one of the area courses followed by dinner at the course or a nearby restaurant.

- **May 21st** (Tuesday): Blueberry Hills – Tee Off 2pm
- **June 18th** (Tuesday): Pokegama – Tee Off 2pm
- **July 16th** (Tuesday): Eagle Ridge – Tee Off 2pm
- **August 20th** (Tuesday): Blueberry Hills – Tee Off 2pm
- **September 17th** (Tuesday): Pokegama – Tee Off 2pm



Please watch for emails or Facebook posts in case of changes in course or tee time. Dinner location will be determined the week prior to golf. Non-golfers are welcome to join us for “dinner-only” if they like. If you would like to be added to email/text communication lists or have any questions, please contact Paul Askegaard at 651-230-3361 or email [askeupnorth@gmail.com](mailto:askeupnorth@gmail.com).

## *2024 Bear Island Trail Maintenance*

This summer is scheduled for **June 14**, **July 12**, and **August 9** (all Fridays). At these get-togethers, volunteers generally meet at the south end of the island around 9AM. The group will walk the trail, remove any fallen trees and branches blocking the path, pick up trash, etc. This generally takes less than one hour, followed by beverages, some goodies and fellowship. If you are interested in participating, please watch the DLA Facebook page for reminders or contact Paul Askegaard at 651-230-3361 or email at [askeupnorth@gmail.com](mailto:askeupnorth@gmail.com) to be added to communication lists for emails and text messages.



# WARMER TEMPS and DEER LAKE - PLANT WHITE PINES

By Abby Marier

According to the MN DNR, of all the species of conifers, the EASTERN WHITE PINE is considered to be the species that will survive a variety of climate challenges. White Pines are fast growers and will provide the pine forests we love here in the northland. Seedlings of about 10-12" can be planted- May or June, to get established. Seedlings are easily planted by simply making a slit in the soil and putting the seedling's roots in the slit, and tamping the earth around it.



That's it! Easy!

Hopefully it will rain on your seedlings so they can get established. Staple bud caps on them to prevent deer browsing in the winter, or the Itasca soil and Water sells a spray that is said to be effective.

NOTE: Seedlings can be purchased at Itasca Soil and Water 218-999-4430 Ask for Andy Ahrens @Itasca SWCD or Austen Steer @ Itasca [SWCD.Org](http://SWCD.Org)

or Itasca Greenhouse, 26385 Blackwater Rd. Cohasset, MN 55721, Ph. 218-326-6261

Good luck!

## DEER READERS 2024 SUMMER SCHEDULE

The 2024 schedule for Dear Readers (the DLA book club) is below, including date, book to be discussed, discussion leader, and host (i.e. where we meet for that month). Meetings start at 4pm, with the exception of the September meeting, which starts at 3pm. Everyone brings an appetizer to share; the host provides beverages. Deer Readers is open to all DLA members. If you're interested, or have questions, please contact Alice Stark at [adstark@goldengate.net](mailto:adstark@goldengate.net).

- Tuesday **May 28** *Democracy Awakening* by Heather Cox Richardson, leader Dave Stark, host Jo Landwer.
- Tuesday **June 25** *Green Island* by Shawna Yang Ryan, leader Abby Marier, hosts Don & Abby Marier.
- Tuesday **July 23** *The Other Einstein* by Marie Benedict, leader Dick Erickson, hosts Dick Wyman & Beth Riesgraf-Wyman.
- Wednesday **Aug 21** *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus, leader Alice Stark, hosts Eric and Kathy Grimsrud.
- Wednesday **Sept 11** *The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride, leader Jack Jones, hosts Jack and Susie Jones.

# Lemon Bars

By Joyce Erickson

My all-time favorite springtime dessert, but truly delicious year-around.



Crust:

2 C Flour

- 1/2 C powdered sugar
- 1/2 C butter, softened

Mix above three ingredients until crumbly and press lightly into a 9 x 13 pan. Bake @ 350 degrees for 20-30 minutes, until light golden brown.

While crust is baking, mix well together:

- 4 eggs
- 2 C sugar
- 1/4 C flour
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1/4 C lemon juice (if possible, freshly squeezed lemon). Otherwise, bottled ReaLemon works.

Pour egg mixture onto hot crust and bake 25-30 minutes, golden brown. Do not overbake.

If desired, you can frost the bars with 1 C powdered sugar and 2-3 Tbsp lemon juice, mixed together. When I make these bars, I just sprinkle with a little powdered sugar.

After they cool, keep them chilled in refrigerator. Light, tart and delicious

# Deer Lake Association Membership

*Please renew your membership annually by **May 1** to take full advantage of our summer activities, initiatives, and communications, and to be listed in our annual DLA member directory. **New Members welcome anytime.***

**If you are already a DLA member**, please renew your membership one of two ways:

1. Online with a credit card <https://bit.ly/DonateDeerLake>. You do not need to complete the paper membership form each year. Let DLA know if your contact information changes [beautifuldeerlake@gmail.com](mailto:beautifuldeerlake@gmail.com).

**OR**

2. Mail your paper check to DLA at the address listed at the bottom of the [DLA Membership Form](#). You do not need to complete the paper membership form each year. Let DLA know *if your contact information changes* [beautifuldeerlake@gmail.com](mailto:beautifuldeerlake@gmail.com).

**If you are new to DLA or are reactivating a lapsed membership**, please join DLA by completing the [DLA Membership Form](#). This form provides DLA with basic contact information. Return the DLA Membership Form via email [beautifuldeerlake@gmail.com](mailto:beautifuldeerlake@gmail.com) or via US Mail to the address listed at the bottom of the form.

Pay your membership fee online with a credit card <https://bit.ly/DonateDeerLake> **or** make out a paper check to “DLA”, write “membership” in the memo line, and mail it to the address listed at the bottom of the [DLA Membership Form](#).

**Thank you for your membership!**

**And, check-out our website:** <http://deerlakeassociation.org/>



### DLA Membership Application rev07152023

Please renew by **May 1** to take full advantage of our summer activities, initiatives, and communications, and to be listed in our annual DLA member directory. **New Members welcome anytime.**

\_\_\_\_ **\$25 Annual Membership:** Any person, family, firm, association, corporation or other legal entity owning property or residing during all or part of the year within 1,000 feet of the ordinary high water mark of Deer Lake. Definition: "Family" shall mean any two adults who live in the same household and share a common budget. DLA encourages extended family or members of a cabin partnership who share a Deer Lake cabin but live separately, each to buy their own DLA membership.

\_\_\_\_ **\$500 Lifetime Membership:** Any person or family owning property or residing during all or part of the year within 1,000 feet of the ordinary high water mark of Deer Lake may purchase a Lifetime Membership via a one-time non-refundable payment. Definition: "Family" shall mean any two adults who live in the same household and share a common budget. **DLA asks extended family or members of a cabin partnership who share a Deer Lake cabin but live separately, each to buy their own DLA membership.** Valid only for the lifetime of the one or two persons named on the original Lifetime Membership application. Not transferable. DLA invests your membership payment and withdraws up to 5% annually to fund DLA operations.

\_\_\_\_ **\$12.50 Associate Annual Membership:** Any person, family, firm, association, corporation or other legal entity not qualifying for Annual Membership. Associate Annual Members have all the rights of Annual and Lifetime Members except the right to nominate candidates for Board of Directors or officers of DLA, or any vote of the membership unless actively serving as a director at the time vote is taken.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ Lake address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

eMail address (please print clearly) \_\_\_\_\_

*Please list here whatever personal e-mail address or addresses you wish us to use in our communications with you.*

**Our privacy promise to you: We will use your contact information only for official DLA communications, will NOT share it with any other organization, nor will we display it on our web-site.**

DLA periodically creates and distributes a members-only Directory showing DLA Members and contact information as you've listed it above. If you do **NOT** want your contact information to appear in the DLA Directory, please check here \_\_\_\_.

*DLA is a 501(c)(3) all-volunteer Minnesota non-profit organization. **Donations** of any amount to support our lake-water quality efforts and other work are encouraged, **welcome** at any time, and tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. You may include a donation if you wish. Donation amount \_\_\_\_\_.*

DLA is an all-volunteer non-profit service organization. Please consider volunteering! Check your areas of interest below:

**DLA Officer**\_\_\_\_ **Board Member**\_\_\_\_ **DLEAP Legacy Fund Committee** \_\_\_\_ **Lake Conservation Committee**\_\_\_\_

DLA Neighborhood Communicator\_\_\_\_ Golf \_\_\_\_ Book Club\_\_\_\_ Creative Endeavors\_\_\_\_ Bear Island\_\_\_\_ Road  
Clean-up\_\_\_\_

**Special interest:** volunteer to form a new committee:

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Deer Lake Assn web site <http://deerlakeassociation.org/>. DLA Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1426038024368278/>.

Pay your membership online with a credit or debit card <https://bit.ly/DonateDeerLake>, or by paper check. Return this  
completed form via email at [beautifuldeerlake@gmail.com](mailto:beautifuldeerlake@gmail.com) or via US Mail. **Marc Fuller, DLA Treasurer, 4145 Washburn  
Ave. So., Minneapolis, MN. 55410**