



Following a glorious fall season, I wanted to take a moment to share a few updates and announcements to close out 2024.

Water Safety:

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Effective 1/1/25 Boating Safety Certificates Are Mandatory For Anyone Operating a Motorized Water Vessel

As a reminder, starting January 1, 2025 all operators of motorized vessels need to carry a safe boating certificate while operating their vessels, regardless of age. Boating safety certificates are required for recreational boaters using motorized vessels, including personal watercraft. Operators of non-motorized boats, such as kayaks and canoes, are not required to have a boating safety certificate at this time.

Please **remind your family members** of this requirement. If you haven't completed a course yet, below is information on how you can do so.

Courses may be taken in person or online. While BMPOA is not endorsing any specific course, here are links to help you in the process.

If you would prefer to take a **classroom** class, they are held in many places and are about 8 hours.

https://www.register-ed.com/programs/new_york/252-new-york-safe-boating-course

If you would prefer an **online** class - this one was about 3 hours.

<https://newyorkboatingcard.com/>

For more information and a full list of courses, both in person and online:

<https://parks.ny.gov/boating/education.aspx>

Other things to know about Boating Safety Certificates:

- New York recognizes the boating safety certificate issued by your home state.
- Your New York State Driver License can now become an all-purpose boating, fishing, hunting and parks ID card. Anyone successfully completing the New York Safe Boating Course or approved online boating safety course may opt to have the anchor icon placed on your NYS DMV issues document.
- If you once had a NYS boat license, but have lost it, one of our members has had success with this site: <https://ilostmycard.com/>

Water Quality, Invasives and Loons:

Water Quality:

We completed our twice per summer water testing for E. Coli, conducted in July and September and we continue to have outstanding results. Approximately 20 sites are sampled around the lake and all are well below recreational thresholds. Thanks to Paul Powers, Patrick Duffy and Ed Chase for spearheading this effort.

Results from the Adirondack Lake Assessment Program (ALAP), which looks at 10 various water quality measures including alkalinity and transparency, will post its results in the winter and will be shared when available.

Invasives:

Big Moose Lake continues to be free from invasive aquatic invasive species. Prevention remains the #1 priority. We are so fortunate that Dunn's Marina continues to be a strong partner in this endeavor, with a zero tolerance boat washing policy for guests launching boats in the lake. All boats will be washed, even if they have been tagged at a wash station elsewhere.

After Prevention, Early Detection is the most Critical Goal. Kurt Pardue conducted his annual invasives survey of the lake (thanks, Kurt!) and found no aquatic invasives present.

You can be directly involved in the early detection process. We have introduced the Lake Protectors program in which a Protector adopts and monitors an area of the lake for invasive species. Protectors receive training on how to identify and report aquatic invasive species (online for convenience). Protectors then monitor the lake at least once between July and September. Most volunteers spend 1-2 hours to monitor. Please consider volunteering for this important program! Contact Paul Powers at pkpowers@gmail.com

Loon Friendly Lake Certification:

We again have been formally recognized by the Adirondack Center for Loon Conservation for our efforts to support our loons, including managing fishing line recycling collection tubes, lake cleanup efforts and educational efforts including signage and pamphlets available for residents and renters. Thanks to Barry Levin for coordinating this certification! More information can be found at: <https://www.adkloon.org/>

Announcements:

Bridges

Higby Rd at Constable Creek

The culvert has been replaced! The hole is history and the bridge is complete! Thanks to the Town of Webb for completing the project!

Mays/Constable/West Mountain trail (from Judson Rd.) – The bridge replacement on the trail crossing Constable Creek is finished.

Tennis Court: The Public Tennis Court by the Firehouse has been resurfaced and lined for both tennis and pickleball. Thanks again to the Town of Webb for undertaking this project.

Capital Campaign Update:

Thanks to your generosity we are well on our way! As many of you saw last summer, we have replaced the roofs on both the Strack House and the Association Center, refinished the floor in the Association Center and purchased, new, modular furniture.



We are excited to announce the next major milestone - we have now begun on the Pavilion! The concrete pad and walkway are complete, the door has been installed and we have contracted to have the pavilion constructed in the spring. We then look forward to the final touches of replacing and enhancing grilling and kitchen components and a new sign.

We've had tremendous participation with many contributions at the High Peaks (\$5,000+) and Adirondack Guide (\$2,500) levels. **There is still time, and need, to participate. We are just \$18,000 short** of our stretch goal. Your donation can make the difference. No amount is too small. If you haven't participated yet, please consider a tax-deductible donation by sending a check to:

Richard Widdicombe, Treasurer, BMPOA, 1711 Sherman Dr. Utica NY 13501

or click [HERE](#) to make a donation online

Suggested Donation Levels:

~ High Peaks \$5,000 ~ Adirondack Guide \$2,500 ~ Hiker \$1,000 ~ Paddler \$500 ~ Camper \$250 ~

Winter Reminder – Boat House Bubblers

Although there is no ice yet, please prepare to make others aware of boathouse bubblers by using a light, strobe or thin ice sign. These markers will help alert lake users of dangerous open water or thin ice.

Wishing you a wonderful Holiday Season,

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