



Introducing  
Membership Incentives  
Details on back

Dear Friends of the TPEPA,  
What a wonderful summer we spent on Trickey Pond!

The highlight of the season was our record-high number of baby loons! We had two pairs who each had several babies, and at the end of the summer we had a group of five adolescent loons fishing together. We hope you enjoyed watching them grow as much as we did! Thank you all for helping us keep them safe by not going on the islands where they nest, and by keeping your wakes low around them.

How else can you help our magnificent Trickey Pond? Of course, the most impactful thing you can do is to donate to the TPEPA, so there will be more hours of boat inspections at our public ramp.

Another helpful thing you can do is to ask those who have rented your home to please donate and to urge them to be added to our newsletter mailing list. Our aim is to educate renters about life on Trickey Pond and to help them become invested in protecting it. Encourage them to visit our new & improved website at [www.trickeypond.org](http://www.trickeypond.org).

In closing, please consider continuing your support of the TPEPA by becoming a member. Details can be found on the back of this newsletter.

See you soon!

The Members of the TPEPA

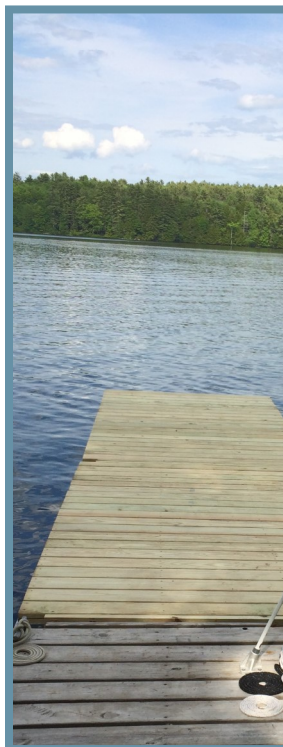
### Please Support TRICKEY POND

The primary purpose of the TPEPA is to raise money to take care of Trickey's pristine waters. Next summer, we hope to increase the hours that boat inspectors are at the public ramp to keep milfoil and other invasive species out of Trickey Pond, and we need your help to make this happen!

### Sign Up For AMAZON SMILE!

<https://smile.amazon.com>

Type "Trickey Pond Environmental Protection Association"  
0.5% of every purchase made  
will go towards protecting Trickey Pond



### How do I Connect with the TPEPA?



**"Like"**

**Our Page on Facebook**  
Trickey Pond Environmental Protection Association



**"Follow"**

**Us on Instagram**  
[@trickeypond](https://www.instagram.com/trickeypond)



**"Visit"**

**Our Website**  
[www.trickeypond.org](http://www.trickeypond.org)

# Young Loon Returned to Trickey Pond

By Martina Witts

Each spring and early summer folks on Trickey Pond eagerly await the sighting of their new baby loon chicks. This summer I saw two chicks with their parent loons for the first time on June 21<sup>st</sup>. A few weeks later I noticed that I would see only one chick with its parents. Where was the other chick? Did it succumb to the snapping turtles that were frequently spotted sunning themselves on the rocks near the islands? Or did a predatory bird whisk it away?

Fast forward a few weeks to July 17<sup>th</sup> when a baby loon was found on a road about 1500 feet from the pond. (It is unclear which road.) A game warden was notified and he brought the loon to a wild life rehabilitator in Bridgton, who wishes to remain anonymous, but who I have dubbed The Loon Whisperer. This gifted and patient woman, our Loon Whisperer, has been rehabilitat-

ing lost and injured loons at her home in Bridgton since 2002. This summer alone she has rehabilitated three loons. Her experience goes back to 1985 in California, where she rehabilitated loons harmed in oil spills. Her theory as to why this particular chick left the pond, is that it was freighted away by a rouge male loon that came to Trickey Pond. In an act of self-preservation the chick wandered off the pond.

For nine weeks, from July 17 to September 21, the chick was cared for in an eight-foot wide, two-foot deep pool. To provide protection and confine the loon, the pool was surrounded with welded wire screen and mesh above it. The loon, who is believed to be female based on her size, was fed capelin, a small forage fish of the smelt family found in the North Atlantic. The capelin was from Nova Scotia and is distributed by a company in Massachu-

setts. Forsythia branches were entwined in the screen to provide cover, and the loon also ate leaves from the branches. The chick was reported to be very adaptable to its temporary home and readily ate the food provided to her.



## Learn More and Get Involved!

There are many ways that you can learn more about water, milfoil and the importance of water quality to an ecosystem. Here are a number of local resources that we recommend:

*Visit the LEA Lake Science Center at 51 Willett Road in Bridgton Maine. Here you can speak with professionals, learn more about tests, and train to become a water tester.*

**Take a course, or sign your child up for a class this summer! Classes offered are "Modern Environmental Monitoring" (ages 16+), DIY Sensors and Aquatic Plant ID (ages 15+), and Eco Explorers Day Camps (ages 7-11).**

*Download and read the LEA Homeowner's Guide- <http://www.minelakes.org/what-you-can-do/homeowners-guide/>*

**Perform a Clean Lake Check-Up on your property to make sure you are not causing runoff into the lake. To sign up for a check-up this summer call Colin Holme at 207-647-8580 x 13.**

*Request a free property evaluation from LakeSmart, a program that helps you landscape in an environmentally sound way. If your property is shown to be lake-friendly, the LEA will recognize you with a LakeSmart Award and LakeSmart signs to display at your shoreline and on the road. To sign up for a consultation this summer call Colin Holme at 207-647-8580 x 13.*

**Train to be a Courtesy Boat Inspector (CBI) for the Trickey Pond boat ramp! Spend a day sitting by the pond in your favorite chair, with the occasional under boat check! If you are interested in becoming a CBI in the Sebago Lake Region, call Mary Jewett at 207-647-8580.**

On September 21<sup>st</sup> the almost three-month-old loon arrived back at Trickey Pond in a dog crate in the back of a Jeep. The crate was placed at the water's edge, and with the door open, the loon unceremoniously made her way into the water. I snapped a few pictures and then the Loon Whisperer, my husband and I moved from shore to dock with binoculars in hand observing the loon for about 30 minutes as she reacquainted herself with Trickey Pond. The Loon Whisperer was looking for four signs of successful reintroduction to the pond. In no particular order, she wanted to observe the loon dive, stand up and flap, move away from potential threats (in this case boaters) and make a vocalization that might be answered by another loon. Success! Our young loon accomplished all four activities in under 30 minutes.

As I write this, I hear my favorite Trickey Pond sound, the call of a loon, and I choose to believe it is her.

To learn more about loons visit <https://www.audubon.org/field-guide/bird/common-loon> or

[https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Common\\_Loon/id](https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Common_Loon/id)

# Striving to be *LakeSmart*: One Homeowner's Experience

By Martina Witts

If you are like me, you probably wonder what you can do to preserve and protect Trickey Pond. One answer is to be *LakeSmart*.

*LakeSmart* is a program of The Maine Lakes Society sponsored by the Lakes



Environmental Association (LEA) in its service area. It is "an education and reward program that assists lakefront homeowners to manage landscapes in ways that protect water quality.

The program is free, non-regulatory and voluntary. Participating homeowners receive individualized suggestions for keeping pollutants in stormwater out of lake waters. This type of contamination is the leading cause of damage to lakes." (2019, September 22).

I contacted the LEA to express my interest in participating and they connected me with Roy Lambert, a volunteer at Maine Lakes Society. I explained I wanted to have my property evaluated to ensure I was doing no harm to Trickey Pond.

Roy emailed a brief questionnaire asking about the location of our septic and leach field and how we maintain it, our use of fertilizers and herbicides, the age of our home, and our mowing habits. Afterwards, we scheduled his site visit. I chose to be present for the evaluation, but it is not required that the homeowner be present since a detailed written report is provided to them.

Upon his arrival, Roy explained the process: he would walk the property, make notes on his observations and take photos. When he was done, we walked the property together and he shared his observations. He pointed out the areas of the property that were already landscaped and maintained in an environmentally friendly manner and the areas for potential improvement. The entire visit took about one hour.

As the evaluator, Roy submitted a written report to the LEA with his recommendation. In this case, he

recommended that my property be awarded the *LakeSmart* designation. Eight days later I was notified that my *LakeSmart* award was confirmed. We will receive two *LakeSmart* signs to display on our property if we wish. I found the final report to be extremely informative and appreciated the detailed suggestions outlining how we could do even more to make our property environmentally friendly.



We look forward to implementing many of these recommendations next season.

By sharing my experience with the *LakeSmart* program perhaps you too are motivated to take action and learn more about what you can do to preserve the beauty of Trickey Pond for the next generation. Once 15% of the lakeshore property owners are certified as *LakeSmart* Awardees Trickey Pond will be designated as a *LakeSmart* Gold lake. This distinction would be a credit to all of us.

To begin the *LakeSmart* process, contact Cory Dunning from the LEA [cory@mainelakes.org](mailto:cory@mainelakes.org)

## More on Treating Algae Blooms

By Richard Meyer

I'm probably the only one who thinks it is interesting to read about the technical side of algae blooms. Nevertheless, here I go again. In the spring 2019 newsletter, I wrote about treating the algae blooms in East Pond in Kennebec County with alum. A similar situation arose in Lake Auburn. Lake Auburn is not only the drinking water source for Auburn, Maine, but it is also located in the front yard of the Lake Stewards of Maine (LSM) headquarters.

You may recall that an algae bloom is fed by high phosphorus content and is enhanced by warm water temperature. Treatment consists of adding alum (aluminum sulfate) to precipitate the phosphorus, thus taking it out of the water column. In Auburn, the treatment process had to be suspended because some of the material was not sinking to the bottom of the lake quickly enough, because the upper portion of the water was too warm this summer. It is anticipated that treatment will resume when the water temperature drops sufficiently. This treatment method is significant because they are using chemicals to treat algae in a drinking water supply. I know from experience that the treatment chemical is an extremely bitter astringent, yet not toxic.

Since Trickey Pond is part of the Portland Water District water shed, it is subject to PWD regulations and restrictions because it is the drinking water supply for a significant portion of the State's population. Previously, we had thought PWD would never allow a chemical treatment if a bloom developed, and I still doubt they would allow the use of the herbicide Roundup to treat an invasive plant infestation. However, it now appears there is a chance TP could be treated with alum if a significant alga bloom ever develops. On the other hand, it is still mighty expensive. The Lake Auburn treatment is a \$730,000 project, which scales to over \$100,000 for Trickey Pond. The cost for East Pond scaled to about \$185,000 for TP. As I said before, the best course of action is to prevent a bloom. Don't let the phosphorous into the Pond.



# TPEPA Membership Offers Many Rewards!

Loons nest. Fish jump. Childhood summers last forever. Whether you call Trickey Pond home for a week in July or 365 days a year, you know the beauty of her sunrise and the feeling of her clear waters. Help us protect our home so future generations can experience the magic of Trickey Pond.

New for the 2020 membership year, the TPEPA is pleased to offer a tiered membership structure, so you can choose how you would like to support our mission. Your membership donation helps:

- to stop invasive plants from entering Trickey Pond by paying the salaries of the courtesy boat inspectors at the public boat launch
- to ensure clean waters by funding annual water tests
- to educate residents as well as visitors about best practices for the environment from both land and on the water

Introducing  
TPEPA Decals!!



## Membership Levels

### Individual Membership .....\$50+

Receive semi-annual newsletter  
Membership certificate  
TPEPA decal

### Family Membership ..... \$100+

Receive semi-annual newsletter  
Membership certificate  
TPEPA decal  
One TPEPA t-shirt

### Lake Steward Membership .....\$150+

Receive semi-annual newsletter  
Membership certificate  
TPEPA decal  
Book, *Naples, ME Its History and Legends*  
One TPEPA t-shirt

### Business Sponsor ..... \$250+

Logo and business name displayed on our website, social media recognition on our Facebook and Instagram pages and in semi-annual newsletter  
Framed certificate of sponsorship suitable for display in your place of business  
One TPEPA t-shirt  
TPEPA decal

### Benefactor (for businesses or individuals) .....\$500+

Recognition at the public boat launch as "the" CBI sponsor for two dates of your choosing which includes listing on our web site, our Facebook and Instagram pages and signage at the boat launch for your two selected dates  
Logo and business name displayed on our website and in semi-annual newsletter  
Framed certificate of sponsorship suitable for display in our place of business or home  
Two TPEPA t-shirts  
TPEPA decal

### Gift Membership .....\$40+

Already a member? Give your friend or neighbor a gift membership! Includes one t-shirt and a membership letter mailed to the recipient.

Additional t-shirts may be purchased for \$25 each with any paid membership. To become a member of TPEPA, please visit our web site at [TrickeyPond.org](http://TrickeyPond.org)

Please make a tax-deductible donation this fall! Our hope is that every homeowner, friend, family member and renter will help protect Trickey Pond.

You can donate on the website with a credit card: [www.trickeypond.org](http://www.trickeypond.org)  
OR mail a check to TPEPA, P.O. Box 417 Naples, Maine 04055