



A new member of the Loon family residing this summer on Highland Lake gets a ride on the back of one of his parents. The other parent is close by.
Photo: Donna Baker Hartwell

One New Baby Loon Chick on Highland Lake

Donna Baker Hartwell provides regular updates on the Loons that live on Highland Lake in East Andover. We have consolidated her reports into one article.

June 28

I am happy to announce the arrival of the Highland Lake baby loon chick! DOB - June 28 (Full Moon) on a rainy day. I took these pictures this evening (29th). Both parents are attending their chick. The chick has spent most of its time hidden under a parent's wing. I was able to confirm that we have only one chick—after waiting for feeding time. One parent carries the chick- the other fishes for tiny minnows and feeds the chick off the back of the other "floating parent nest". This chick appears to be big and healthy. This evening, he/she swam for a few minutes alongside the parent. They will most likely spend Saturday near the nesting site (within the buoy lines



Although the baby Loon can swim independently, a parent is always nearby. Taken around July 7. Photo: Donna Baker Hartwell

) or close to the island. Perhaps, late Saturday or Sunday they will take their chick to the cove by the inlet (between the Agoos and "Five Oaks")

One of the parents is one that was banded in 2010-2011—green band on left leg and blue over silver on right leg. The mate is not banded. (so this is not the original mate.) As soon as the loon family has moved away from the nesting area, I will investigate the nest and see if there is any sign of another egg/chick.

The buoys will come down as soon as the loons move away from the island and Brad and I have a chance to remove them. The yellow caution lines on the island will be removed as well.

In the coming weeks we all hope that they remain safe. Please take extra care

when motor boating and give them a lot of space. It is a true gift that we have a mating pair on our lake.

June 30

Our loon family has moved to the north end of the lake. A parent and the chick were seen this morning about 8 AM in front of the Brennans. The other adult was enjoying time to swim and preen a short distance away.

I was able to check the nest and found one abandoned egg. Sarah Cantwell, loon biologist from NH Loon Preservation will pick this egg up. We probably won't know why it was not viable. The NHLPC will likely send it to a state lab; however, "our" egg will get lost among the other non-viable eggs sent there.

Statistics are that 50% of loon eggs laid hatch and 50% of chicks born will survive the first summer. (Pretty challenging odds- compared to other species!) It's a "partnership" that we have with our loons in protecting them.

I hope you all can catch a glimpse of our baby loon chick in the next few days/weeks. He/she is going to grow fast! Enjoy! We are blessed.

July 7

It was a beautiful COOL morning on the lake. (Saturday, July 7 at 6:30 AM). Both parents and chick were swimming off the south side of the island near the floating sign. At nine days old, the chick is spending more time in the water than on its parent's back. I caught her/him catching a quick nap while floating. The loon family has been seen all around the lake- spreading joy to everyone. Keep your eyes out for them.

July 8

I got an email from one of Loon News recipients expressing concern about jet-ski and water-ski activity which was near the loon family. Loons are protected by state law, and I believe that boaters are suppose to give them 100' of space. That said- if anyone feels that the loons are being threatened, you can always make a call of concern to the NH Marine Patrol.

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The American Legion Crosby/Gilbert Post 101 in Andover N.H. raised the American Flag on the Village Green as part of the ceremonies for the 4th of July celebration. Pictured left to right are Lloyd Perreault and Bill Leber.(not pictured are Levi Southworth and Don Clendenen)

Honor the Children Day at Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum

Press release

Honor the Children Day is sponsored by the Board of Trustees at Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum in Warner, New Hampshire. The Museum is celebrating children of the past, current and future with a special event to be held at the Museum on Saturday August 11 from 10 AM to 3 PM. Honor the Children Day is for children of all

ages and cultures to come and have fun at the Museum in a variety of activities. Later in the afternoon, the children can do the 'Honor Dance', using rattles they have made themselves.

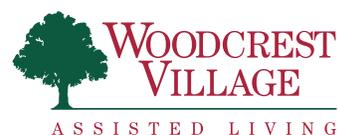
For more details call the Museum at (603) 456-2600, email info@indianmuseum.org, or visit our website www.IndianMuseum.org.



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