

# Lightning Strike is Possible Cause of Fire on Ten Mile Island

## No evidence of a campfire was found

Rene Lefebvre, Andover Fire Chief

On Monday, June 8, the Andover Fire Department responded to a report of an outside fire in the area of Bradley Lake. Forestry units responded with the four wheel drive utility vehicle along with the rescue boat.

Arriving members were notified of a fire on Ten Mile Island. Portable pumps and forestry tools were brought out to the island by boat, and additional crews were also ferried out by boat.

The fire was slowly consuming grass

and old ground cover. The fire burned very deep, and high-pressure nozzles were needed, along with forestry tools, to root out the fire.

After the fire was extinguished, crews carefully searched the burned area looking for a cause. No evidence of a campfire was found; the fire appeared to have started in a very rough area of the island. The remote location and the depth of the burn are consistent with a possible lightning strike. The cause of the fire is listed as unknown/accidental.

No injuries were reported. Time out was two hours. 

## Minimize Risk While Having Fun This Summer

### Plan carefully, and remember COVID safety!

Rene Lefebvre, Andover Fire Chief

There are two basic ways to perform a task. One is to do the task in a safe manner, and the other is to be unsafe. I don't honestly think that people intend to be unsafe when they set out in the morning. However there are emergency rooms full of people who, with the best intentions, need patching up.

Working safely takes a bit more than declaring, "I am a safe worker." Completing a task safely takes planning and some risk analysis.

For example, say there are several boxes in overhead storage that you want. Before starting the project, take a few minutes to analyze the risk. How heavy are the boxes? Is a six-foot step ladder sufficient? Should I have a second person help? Is there anything on top of the boxes that I cannot see from the ground?

The idea is to look at each aspect of the task, consider the risk and do everything possible to eliminate or minimize the danger.

In truth, we all consider risk every day, especially when we operate a motor vehicle. Things happen fast on the highway, and your mind is considering risk, making calculations, and working to take the safest course of action.

One of the greatest risks for any task is to hurry. How many times have you

been rushing through a project, thinking in the back of your mind, "This is a bad idea," and then, bam! Off for a band-aid, or worse? I am not above that little lapse in good thinking.

Doing good work in general, whether around the home or in your shop, takes some planning. I am a planner by nature. I tend to plan in my mind and eventually on paper for weekend projects. I would like to think the planning is so my work will be safe but, in truth, I am an immature adult when setting out on a task and find myself missing something. I'm worse than a two-year old.

For that reason, I will visualize the task many times, making notes about hardware I may not have. If the project requires ladders, chainsaws, wood chippers, or my trusty tractor, time is spent planning for what could go wrong and how to minimize potential risk. Some things are downright nuts to do alone, so don't.

Summer is a time for family and friends to enjoy our beautiful state. We are truly blessed to live here. However, this year we face a danger we cannot see.

There are some very brilliant doctors who have studied the risk and have given us things we can do to be safe. Be sure to wear your mask, practice social distancing, and wash your hands often.

Safety means minimizing risk. We will get through this together! Be safe! 

### HLPA from page 6

watershed and not just along the shoreline. What your donation supports:

- The HLPAs support the State's VLAP program to closely follow the quality of our lake water. Samples are collected monthly and voluntarily driven to the DES lab in Concord for testing. This is a fee-based service.

- We provide and maintain the Porta-Potty by the boat launch for a fee and have contributed monetary resources to area organizations as appropriate.

- We support protection of our loons, bald eagles and fish, and encourage invasive weed monitoring practices.

Feel free to donate by mailing your check to PO Box 252, East Andover NH 03231. 

## GOT NEWS?

We don't have a fleet of reporters – we rely on *you* to let us know what's going on around Andover. Call or e-mail with news today!

### J&B Landscaping and Excavation, LLC

Jon Champagne  
Master Road Scholar

House Sites • Septic Systems • Driveways  
Walls • Lawns • Hydroseeding  
New & Existing Construction



Serving the area since 1992 • (603) 735-5212 • Free Estimates

# WALKER

AUTOMOTIVE  
Quality < Dependable > Friendly  
Automotive Service & Repair



Rt 11  
Wilnot Flat, NH  
Major & Minor  
Repairs



603-526-4716  
Foreign & Domestic  
Vehicles

[www.WalkerAutomotiveInc.com](http://www.WalkerAutomotiveInc.com)



## Summer Gala Cancelled

**Lake Sunapee Region VNA & Hospice announces that it WILL NOT HOLD ITS TRADITIONAL SUMMER PARTY this year.**

*This was an especially difficult decision because 2020 marks the agency's 50th Anniversary. While saddened not to be gathering together in this milestone year, the health of everyone is so much more important.*

*Rest assured we will be back next year with a big celebration honoring "50 years and counting" in service to you and the entire community!*

*Stay healthy...and thank you for the confidence and support that have made us an enduring presence for 50 years.*

107 Newport Road • New London, NH 03257  
[LakeSunapeeVNA.org](http://LakeSunapeeVNA.org)



Four  
Seasons

Sotheby's  
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

NEW LONDON  
259 MAIN STREET  
603.526.4050

Each Office Is Independently Owned and Operated.

Our Expertise is Local, Our Reach is Global.

Locally owned for over 110 years, we don't just work in the Lake Sunapee region, we live here too.