



Dear Friends:

August 7, 2020

**Things are not the same this year!**

In fact, a lot of things are different. We're wearing face masks, socially distancing when we would normally be shaking hands and giving hugs, picking up our groceries curbside instead of browsing the shelves and riding solo in our golf carts.

What else is different? The BLA had to cancel its annual raffle. There was no way to safely interact with Covid-19. This really hurts because the raffle proceeds account for about 30% of BLA's annual revenue.

However, there is one thing that has NOT changed; **your** BLA has continued to hoist its sails and press forward as aggressively as possible with the projects that take care of our lakes, our loons, our local neighbors and our summer friends. In fact, we've stepped up our investments in the last couple of years and are working harder than ever.

**Your donations are being used for the following:**

- BLA paid for a survey of Great Pond watershed and helped fund the lake management plan.
- BLA is funding a Long Pond survey this fall.
- BLA tripled its financial support of Youth Conservation Corps from \$5,000 to \$15,000 to fund more crews in order to complete more erosion control projects.
- BLA is contributing \$20,000 this year to co-fund a new 7 Lakes Alliance position to manage LakeSmart on Great Pond and Long Pond, coordinate YCC and work with property owners where erosion problems have been identified on our two lakes.
- BLA has allocated \$5000 for our new Septic Committee programs.
- BLA is spending \$33,880 for Courtesy Boat Inspectors at our boat launch 12 hours a day from Memorial Day through Labor Day.
- BLA is contributing \$120,000 this year to fund milfoil removal work in Great Meadow Stream and Great Pond.

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The plain truth is that we're spending more than ever to protect our lakes at a time when we are losing key revenues. So, we are writing to ask for your help because it is more important than ever.

**Here's how to help: 20/2020. Our goal is to beat Covid-19 by raising a minimum of \$20,000.**

Please support this appeal with the "Let's win a pontoon boat!" funds that you would have used for the BLA Raffle. If you don't customarily buy raffle tickets, but you love our lakes, please consider donating to sustain our work. You can send a check in the enclosed envelope or easily make a donation by credit card online at [www.belgradelakesassociation.org](http://www.belgradelakesassociation.org).

Our lakes, our loons, and those of us who love the Belgrade Lakes **thank you** for your generous donation.



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and  
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Our work is important. We are including a window decal to proudly state your participation!

# I SAVE LAKES!

We will all save them together.