Downeast Lakes
LAND TRUST ®

Summertime, and the living is easy...

The long and hazy days of summer have returned to Grand Lake Stream! Birds nesting, fish jumping, mushrooms popping, trails winding, and the lakeshores calling out for bathing and basking. Downeast Lakes Land Trust has a busy summer in store for everyone looking to recreate and learn in the Downeast Lakes Community

Forest. Read below to view upcoming education programs and learn how you can help us steward the Downeast Lakes region!

Upcoming Events

Independence Day Extravaganza - A weekend-long celebration of community conservation in the Downeast Lakes!

July 2 - Annual West Grand Lake Race - SAVE THE DATE!!! Kicking off the Independence Day Extravaganza, this annual, community-favorite event is being held this year on Saturday, July 2nd. Same location, same race courses, but

a brand new date. Bring your boats, paddles, and PFDs, and make this flatwater paddling event a day of family fun! This year, the event is **FREE,** and donations to DLLT are gratefully accepted. Registration kicks off at 9 am at the Grand Lake Stream Town Beach. For more information, please call (207) 796-2100, or email Sarah Cote at scote@downeastlakes.org.

July 2 - Tunes and Trolling – Following the race, at 4 pm, bring your boat up to the cove near Leen's Lodge (if you need directions, please call DLLT at 796-2100). We will be hosting Alexander, ME's own Patrick Cormier for a music performance, live from an island in the middle of West Grand! Relax and enjoy the tunes from the water and jam out with other boaters.

Fourth of July!

Race For Grand Lake Stream – DLLT's annual road race to support the "Grand Lake Stream America" festivities. Race registration will be held from 8-8:45 am on the DLLT lawn, and the bus to the starting line will leave promptly at 9 am. Run back to the center of the village to kick off the morning!

Grand Lake Stream Parade – Starting at 11 am, hang out along Milford Road and Water Street to watch the celebrations of this grand village parade (look for the DLLT float!).

Tubing The Stream – At 1 pm, meet DLLT staff and volunteers at the West Grand Lake Dam parking area for a lazy river ride down Grand Lake Stream. DLLT will provide the tubes and shuttle service, and participants should bring a PFD and bathing suit. Take a few runs to cool off on the Fourth!

Summer Children's Programs

Join DLLT staff and volunteers for an exciting slate of summer children's programs! For children ages 6-16, these annual favorites provide something for everyone. These free programs meet every Wednesday from 9-12 pm, and kids should come dressed for the weather. Meeting locations are listed below for individual events. For more details or to pre-register, please contact Sarah Cote at scote@downeastlakes.org.

July 6 – Stream Exploration – Meet at Little Falls parking area (Water Street)

July 13 – Birds & Binoculars – Meet at GLS School Building (15 Water Street)

July 20 – Junior Forestry Program – Meet at GLS School Building

July 27 – Wilderness Survival Skills – Meet at the West Grand Lake Dam parking area (Shaw Street)

August 3 – Boat Trip (PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED) – Meet at the West Grand Lake Dam parking area

August 10 – Discover The Forest Hike – Meet at Wabassus Mountain Trailhead

Join Little Wild Ones!

Little Wild Ones is back! Starting on Thursday, June 2nd, bring your littles to the Grand Lake Stream School Building for nature adventures in the Downeast Lakes Community Forest. Hosted every Thursday during the summer from 10-11:30 am, these outdoor exploration programs are geared for ages 0-5. Free for everyone, and no reservations needed.

To view all upcoming DLLT Education Programs this summer, click here!

Volunteer Trail Work Days

Are you looking to get outside this summer? Want to have an impact in your local community forest? DLLT is hosting Volunteer Trail Work Days, every Friday throughout the summer! These volunteer days are a great way to meet new people, stay physically fit, and contribute to recreational opportunities in the Downeast Lakes Community Forest. Interested helpers will meet at the DLLT office in Grand Lake Stream (across from The Pine Tree Store) each Friday, and work from 9 am – 12 pm. Come dressed for the weather, and bring water.

For every time you attend – get a jar of trail mix AND we'll enter your name into the hat for an end-of-season drawing for a free cord of firewood! The more times you volunteer, the better your chances!

There is no need to pre-register, but if you have any questions, please email Susan Bard at sbard@downeastlakes.org.

July 1 – Privies – Dig privy holes for Stone Dam and Princeton Island campsites, finish privy construction, and paint privies.

July 8 – Campsites – Boat to water-accessed sites, level for tenting, rake fire rings, remove any trash, clear brush, replace old signage.

July 15 – Pineo Peaks, with the Maine Conservation Corps – Help finish clearing the southern section of Pineo Peaks Trail; bench cutting & blazing. Hike the finished northern section of trail.

July 22 – Geocaching – Check all 25 geocache sites; replace materials in boxes and replace any caches needed.

July 29 – Map & Compass – Update tree markers and education box materials. Complete the course!

August 5 – Trail To Tomorrow, Tower Hill Trail, Dawn Marie Beach Path – Basic trail maintenance.

More Volunteer Opportunities

Big Lake Milfoil Coalition Needs Your Help!

With the discovery of invasive water milfoil in Big Lake, the Big Lake Milfoil Coalition is jumping into action to combat this infestation. There are many ways you can help!

· Attend or participate online in Invasive Plant Patrol training, and help look for invasive milfoil on the lake
· Providing access points for survey efforts; including providing space for temp storage of small boats and/or trailers
· Join a local Invasive Plant Patrol Team
· Provide SCUBA support for survey/removal efforts
· Help outreach efforts to the community, including social media outreach

· Help construct survey team equipment
· Assist with mapping efforts (GIS projects)
· Donate to the removal efforts!

Upcoming In-person Trainings

July 14 - Invasive Plant Patrol Paddle
July 15 - Registered Maine Guide Training

For more information on how you can help, please email Susan Bard at sbard@downeastlakes.org, or call (207) 796-2100.

mailchimp