June 2026

LFA Board of Trustees:
David Roth
President
Lisa Johnson
Recording Clerk
Vicki Smith
Treasurer
Katherine Babbott
Sean Brown
Stuart Fairbairn
David Forbes
Ben McLaughlin

Board Members Emeriti:
Nick Harvey
David Matthews
Renee Snow

Dear LFA Members,

The mission of the Lake Fairlee Association is simple: to preserve, protect, and enhance the ecology and natural resources of Lake Fairlee and its watershed. Thank you for helping make that work possible through your support, volunteerism, and involvement.
For the latest news and updates, visit the Lake Fairlee Association website: www.lakefairleevt.org

📣 **Two Special Events, Saturday June 13:**

- **LFA & Treasure Island Community Event (1:00-4:00pm):** The LFA and Thetford Parks & Recreation invite you to enjoy Treasure Island's beautiful 11 acres, including demonstrations (and participation!) in the old-time sport of logrolling. Food truck arrives at 1:00. Logrolling 1:00-4:00. Admission to Treasure Island will be free to watch or participate in logrolling.

AND after the logrolling:

- **LFA Member Gathering (4:00–5:30pm)** Doug Tifft and Bonnie McAdam are once again generously hosting a lakeside gathering for LFA members. Come reconnect, enjoy the loon cam, and celebrate the start of summer together.

🗓️ **Annual Meeting Saturday, August 1 – Social starting at 5:00pm, meeting starts at 5:30pm.** Held at Horizons Day Camp. Important: **Proposed amendments to the LFA Bylaws** will be presented; the amendments will be voted on in their entirety, and will be ratified or rejected via a 'Yes or No' vote. Please review the proposed bylaws in advance at www.lakefairleevt.org/lfa-bylaws

🪶 **Loon News: Nesting Season:** Lake Fairlee's loons are back for their 11th nesting season! Thanks to Sean Brown and "Loon Ranger" Doug Tifft, Vermont's only LoonCam is up and running again. Launched in early May, the floating nest has already attracted loons, ducks, geese, beavers, and even a juvenile eagle. The loon pair has been actively defending and building their nest, and over 1000 LoonCam followers are once again chanting the annual rallying cry: "Egg, egg, egg!" Watch the LoonCam here: www.youtube.com/live/mFSGKt0sV60

💧 **Water Quality & Milfoil Monitoring:** The Water Quality Action Committee continues participating in the LaRosa phosphorus monitoring program, beginning in June. Milfoil sampling by Arrowwood Environmental will also take place this season. If you spot Eurasian water milfoil, please report it here: tinyurl.com/Milfoil-Report-Form. Your observations help volunteers identify problem areas, place warning buoys, and coordinate treatment efforts.

🏄 **Wakesports Update:** In July 2025, the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation and the Agency of Natural Resources proposed amendments to the Use of Public Waters Rules (UPWR) related to wakesports. After extensive scientific review, public meetings, and stakeholder input, the Vermont Legislative

Committee on Administrative Rules (LCAR) approved the amendments on May 21, 2026. When the new rules take effect on June 11, wakesports will no longer be allowed on 12 Vermont lakes, including Lake Fairlee. This outcome is supported by the LFA Board, all summer camps on the lake, the Selectboards of Thetford, Fairlee, and West Fairlee, and a majority of LFA members. More information is available at the Vermont DEC Lakes & Ponds Rulemaking Page: www.tinyurl.com/VTDECRulemaking

🚤 **Thank You, Greeters!** A huge thank you to our dedicated boat launch greeters, who inspected roughly 3,000 watercraft last season to help protect Lake Fairlee from invasive species. We're grateful that our full greeter team has returned for 2026!

🙏 **The LFA Needs You:** Please consider joining the board. We are seeking to fill a few board positions, including **Treasurer and Clerk.** Board elections for three-year terms will take place at the August 1 Annual Meeting. To learn more, reach out to a board member.

We are also looking for volunteers. We especially need help with: Water quality sampling, milfoil management, grant writing, and general stewardship projects.

Your lake needs you! If you'd like to get involved — whether occasionally or in a leadership role — please reach out to a board member through the website: www.lakefairleevt.org/board-members

💰 **Membership & Donations:** The Lake Fairlee Association's work depends on your support. We hope you'll consider becoming a member, renewing your membership, or making a donation to support ongoing lake stewardship efforts. If you have already joined or contributed, thank you.

You can join and contribute:

- By mail:
  Lake Fairlee Association, Inc.
  P.O. Box 102
  Fairlee, VT 05045
- Online at: www.lakefairleevt.org/become-a-member-donate

And finally, we are deeply saddened by the recent passing of longtime LFA member and Treasurer Ridge Satterthwaite. Ridge brought wisdom, generosity, humor, and compassion to the Association and greater community for many years, and he is greatly missed. A memorial service is planned for September 2026.

Sincerely,

Your LFA Board of Trustees

Important Links to:
Being a Good Lake Neighbor: www.lakefairleevt.org/being-a-good-lake-neighbor
VT DEC Shoreland Best Management Practices & Lake Wise: www.tinyurl.com/VTShorelandBMPs