

# Loon Platform - Ann Lake Property Owners Association

5/26/2012 Kathy Garmes Taylor

2012 started off very wet and rainy, as a result, Ann Lake has the highest water level in years. High water is bad news for the loons. We have a pair of loons on the lake who have been very busy. They keep trying to build their nest in its usual location but the water is so high that it keeps getting swamped. Plus the vegetation that usually surrounds the nest is barely growing. The loons needed help! There had been talk for several years about building a platform for the loons. The initial thought was to attract a second pair of loons but this year, we needed to do something to help. A simple plan was found online.



We laid it out, notched the posts and put it together like Lincoln logs. Added a wire mesh base to hold the nesting materials

Laid a filter cloth across the bottom to retain soil for plants. Added the nesting & native plant material on top.

Added eagle protection!



We had to move the platform to where the loons normally nest. We put it on a row boat and towed that over to the nesting area.



Thanks to all the work of Kathy & Kent Taylor and Nancy & Scott Hedberg. A big thanks to Lake Ann Hardwoods who donated the wood for the frame; tell Mark thanks when you order mulch or wood from them!



The loons popped up as we arrived and started checking it out before we even got it off the row boat and into the water. We took it off the row boat and then towed it into position. It is located just to the south of where the loons had been trying to build their nest. They definitely were interested and kept checking it out.

So keep your fingers crossed that the loons are able to have a chick this year. We'll be putting the buoys out this week surrounding the area of the floating nest as well as the location where they nested last year.

