



December 2021

Dear Friend,

Do you have enduring memories of Lake Leelanau?

Are they memories of your children and grandchildren gathered around your table? Or perhaps teaching a child to steer a boat, bait a hook or learn to water ski? Or sipping a cup of coffee on your porch as you watch the sun rise?

Many of us love Leelanau County for the lake's clear waters and for the unspoiled beauty of the surrounding countryside. The ties which bind us to this landscape are not only the achingly beautiful vistas of land and water but also the many rich experiences—often with friends, family and loved ones—which remain with us year after year.

Protecting the beauty and clean clear waters of Lake Leelanau is the primary work of the Lake Leelanau Lake Association. This year alone, your Association raised and spent approximately \$100,000 on efforts to remove and prevent the spread of Eurasian watermilfoil, the most invasive aquatic weed in North America. This sum does not include hundreds of hours volunteers spent organizing and supporting these efforts, nor does it include another \$40,000 in grant funds spent by the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, our partner in this initiative.

This work was made possible thanks to generous donations from individuals and businesses, including supporters of the Association's Spring Auction. Next year, our continuing fight to protect Lake Leelanau from this and other threats will involve similar expenditures, which we hope to fund again with donations from supporters like you. Looking ahead, a public foundation, the Friends of Lake Leelanau Foundation, is being formed whose resources will help underwrite the cost of these essential measures.

As you consider year-end contributions to your favorite charities, we gently request that you consider a year-end contribution to the Lake Leelanau Lake Association to help us preserve and protect the clear waters of Lake Leelanau for generations to come.

With appreciation and warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom".

Tom Hiatt
for the Board of Directors
Lake Leelanau Lake Association