



BRI'S ADIRONDACK CENTER
FOR LOON CONSERVATION



BRI'S ADIRONDACK CENTER FOR LOON CONSERVATION 2016 HIGHLIGHTS



➤ ***Opening of the new Adirondack Loon Center!*** On July 16, we were thrilled to open the doors of the new Adirondack Loon Center at 47 Main Street in Saranac Lake. Since then, more than 2000 people have stopped in to visit our new “nest” to learn about loons, tell us about their favorite loon experiences, and to find the perfect loon gift for their loon-loving friends and family.

We are extremely grateful to all who helped make the Adirondack Loon Center a reality with their financial and in-kind support! A special thanks goes to our dedicated staff and our summer intern Giulia Bellardini for all their hard work in renovating the space and establishing the gift shop. Also, a big thanks to our landlord, Bill Madden; the staff of Adirondack Hamlets to Huts - Jack Drury, Joe Dadey, and Duane Gould, who we share the space with; and the many people at BRI who helped us tirelessly behind-the-scenes to create our new abode.



➤ ***Loon Rescues:*** Throughout 2016, we received many reports of loons potentially needing rescue. We follow up on all these calls – fortunately, many of them are actually people misinterpreting normal loon behavior (e.g., taking a bath) or mistaking a colored leg band for a lure. However, some birds truly do need assistance, and these birds we attempt to rescue. This year, we successfully rescued 8 loons who were either iced in on a pond that froze over too quickly, had come down on land, or were tangled in fishing line.

➤ ***Adirondack loon research update:*** Our intrepid field staff was once again quite busy this summer looking for more than 300 banded loons on more than 90 Adirondack lakes and ponds. This is part of our NYSERDA-supported study to assess the impacts of mercury pollution on Adirondack aquatic ecosystems using the Common Loon as a sentinel species. Additionally, we sampled 20 loons (11 adults and 9 juveniles) on 12 lakes to expand our understanding of their overall health and mercury exposure.



Our trail cameras were back in action again last summer, snapping photos at loon nest sites throughout the Park to help us to understand more about factors affecting loon nesting success. Rory Keating, our 2015 intern, examined more than 65,000 photos captured from our 2013-2015 cameras, which have provided many interesting insights into loon nesting behavior and threats they encounter during incubation. Rory’s report summarizing these results will be available on our website soon.

➤ ***Please welcome Audrey Hyson, Mike Lynch, Tim Flannery, and Kevin Williams to our staff!*** We are excited to have Audrey manage our gift shop a few days a week and Mike to keep our website and social media updated one day a week. Tim is finishing up his last year at Paul Smith’s College and assisting us in the gift shop part-time while Kevin is our 2016 intern who is helping to design our future exhibits and with many other projects. We are most grateful to our many private and foundation donors who have provided support for these positions – it is enabling us to do so much! ***Thank You!***

Follow our work throughout the year at www.briloon.org/adkloon, on our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/adkloon, and now on Instagram at [www.instagram.com/adkloon!](https://www.instagram.com/adkloon/)

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