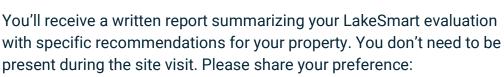
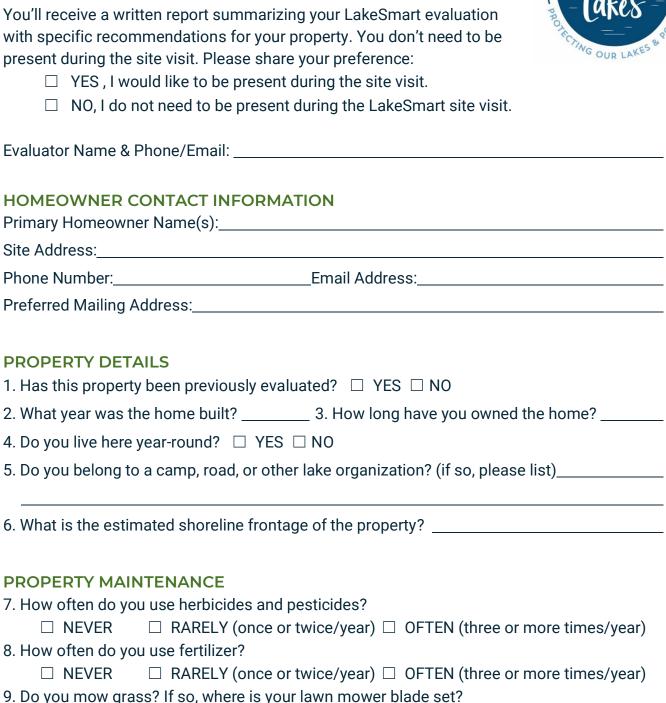
## LAKESMART HOMEOWNER QUESTIONNAIRE

Thank you for having a LakeSmart evaluation on your property! We are excited to visit your property, to discuss steps you can take to protect your lake and to recognize what you have already done. Please complete this form and return to your evaluator prior to their visit.





☐ HIGH

☐ MEDIUM

 $\sqcap$  LOW

☐ I DON'T MOW

Thank you for scheduling a LakeSmart visit and taking this step to protect your lake!
17. May we use photos for teaching/promotion (no names/addresses shared)? ☐ YES ☐ NO
PERMISSIONS The LakeSmart program is a voluntary, educational, and non-regulatory program. Information collected through participation in the LakeSmart program will NEVER be used for regulatory purposes and will not be shared without expressed permission of the homeowner.  16. May we post your name/lake on our website for participating in the program? □ YES □ N
15. Will you share these actions with three neighbors? ☐ YES ☐ NO
LOON SMART MERIT AWARD  14. Will you take the 5 actions (see next page) for the Loon Smart Merit Award? ☐ YES ☐ NO
13. Do you have a regular tank pumping schedule? ☐ YES; Frequency: ☐ NO
12. Do you know the size of your septic tank? $\square$ YES; Number of gallons: $\square$ $\square$ No
11. Do you know when your septic system was installed?   YES; Year installed:   No
for a link to a searchable database of septic permit applications, dating back to 1974.
If yes, please describe/sketch where they are below. If you do not know, visit <u>lakes.me/sep</u> for a link to a searchable database of septic permit applications, dating back to 1974.
10.Do you know where your septic tank and leach field are located? □ YES □ NO

## **LOON SMART MERIT AWARD**

Maine Lakes has partnered with Maine Audubon to recognize LakeSmart homeowners whose practices protect loons and their habitat. Standards include both land use on the property as well as the practices and commitments of property owner(s).

- LOON Smart
- Loons are visual predators, so minimizing runoff ar siltation to maintain water quality is critically important to their ability to fish and find food for their young.
- Loons are sensitive to disturbance, both on their lakeside nests and on the water. Being aware of where loons are and keeping a good distance away, especially in canoes and kayaks in wetlands and shallow water will help minimize stress.
- Loons nest right next to the water, where boat wakes can flood the nest and wash the eggs away. Keeping to headway speed as required in the 200' Boater Safety Zone will reduce that risk.
- Loons can pop up unintentionally in the path of oncoming boats. In fact, boat strikes are known to be one of the leading causes of adult loon mortality in Maine. Watching for loons while boating can help reduce this risk.
- Predators including skunks and raccoons can make quick work of loon eggs. Reducing attractants to keep these predators away from nesting areas will help improve overall nesting success.
- The ingestion of lead tackle and entanglement of loons in monofilament line are ever present problems for loons in Maine. Fish lead free and properly dispose of tackle and line to help keep our loon population healthy for years to come.

LakeSmart Awardees who qualify are given a Loon Smart sticker showing a loon and baby chick to add to their LakeSmart Award signs.

## **FIVE ACTIONS TO PROTECT LOONS**

To qualify for a Loon Smart Merit Award, adopt these 5 simple actions:

- 1) Fish lead-free
- 2) Remove monofilament line from the lake and its shoreline
- 3) Stay at least 200 feet away from loons and loon nests when boating
- 4) Maintain "no wake" speed within 200 feet of shore
- 5) Seal outdoor trash cans and feed pets indoors to deter predators