

To All Runyan Lake Inc. Members:

A few Members have identified the breeding pair of Swans on Runyan Lake as Mute Swans. This is confirmed. There are currently 2 adults and 7 babies as of 5/28. Last year the adults raised two of their young to maturity. Prior to 2011 Runyan Lake has not had a nesting pair of Swans for at least 10 years.

The MDNR alleges Mute Swans are an invasive species of Swan which is displacing the native Trumpeter Swan. Mute Swans are often characterized by aggressive behavior, although the current Swans seem to be quite docile and tolerant of people. **This behavior may change at any time, so please be cautious when approaching the Swans, and be especially careful by preventing pets and children from approaching or harassing the Swans. Parents are often very protective of their young.**

There are also vastly differing points of view regarding Mute Swans, some of which can be read [here](#) and [here](#).

While the MDNR is advocating Mute Swan reduction, they place the entire burden of removal effort on our lake association by requiring a petition with at least 70% of the riparian Members approving Mute Swan removal in order to grant the permit. We are then responsible for hiring a contractor, however some grant money is available to offset the cost. Numerous phone calls to the various MDNR offices resulted in little assistance and no returned call from the waterfowl specialist.

As a result of the current Mute Swan behavior, along with the effort required to obtain a permit for removal, during the 5/25/12 Spring General Membership Meeting the Membership agreed to monitor the situation this year rather than take any action. It was requested information be posted on our website along with an informational email sent to Members. A web page has been created, accessed via our homepage, and this email is being sent to satisfy the informational email request.

Additional information about Mute Swans, and a link to the MDNR's Mute Swan webpage can be found on our new webpage [here](#).

This and other Runyan Lake community news is also posted at <http://www.runyanlakeinc.com>.

When you are talking with your neighbors, please inform those who are not on our e-mail distribution. Thank you.

This e-mail is sent to all RLI members who have provided e-mail addresses to Runyan Lake Inc. to receive Runyan Lake related information. If you wish to be removed from distribution, or need to advise us of a new e-mail address please [click here](#).

To ensure that you receive RLI e-mails in the future, and they do not get filtered into your SPAM or Junk Mail folder, please add RunyanLakeInc@aol.com to your list of approved senders. All our e-mails have the subject line starting with "Runyan Lake" so they are easy to identify. We are not responsible for actual e-mail delivery. If your e-mail address is incorrect, your mailbox is full, or your e-mail service rejects our messages or relegates them to your SPAM box, sorry, but you will miss our news!

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