

Detroit Lakes CHAMBER NEWS



Official Newsletter of the Detroit Lakes Regional Chamber of Commerce

DL Chamber is Here to Help

On June 1, the DL Chamber Office will open its lobby. We have been working from home and are ready to be back. Our meetings will all remain virtual and we will still offer curbside pick up. Members, locals and tourists are encouraged to call ahead—we will gather the information, materials, chamber bucks you need and have them ready for you.

All businesses and non-profits are tasked with keeping their employees and customers safe. The number of emails and information overload can make this all a bit daunting. One resource I have found helpful is the MN DEED website: <https://mn.gov/deed/newscenter/covid/> If you have questions you still need answered, please let me know. I can connect you with state and local groups. I also encourage you to participate in our weekly :45 Fill-up virtual meetings. Over 20 organizations are there to share their resources. ~ Carrie J, Your Chamber President.

Our monthly member meeting has gone virtual AND weekly!
Join us **Every Wednesday, 8:15-9:00am** for a Zoom :45 Fill-up.

Preregistration is required. Please email Carrie@VisitDetroitLakes.com to be added to the invite list and sent the log-in information.



Welcome New Members!

Beacon Restoration
Stefan Boehm, President
2687 Hwy 10 West
Detroit Lakes, MN

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www.beaconrestores.com

Beacon Restoration is the Lakes Area's only full-service restoration contractor. Specializing in Water, Fire, Mold, and Storm damage restoration services.

Better Every Day Consignments
Jennifer Morton, Owner
1275 Hwy 10 W
Detroit Lakes, MN

218-686-1353
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Better Every Day Consignments is a store for people in the Detroit Lakes and surrounding communities to sell and purchase gently used goods. We offer clothing, small furniture, home decor, tools, antiques, toys, and so much more!



Pictured: Jennifer Morton, Owner of **Better Every Day Consignments** with her First Dollar of Profit.

Member News:

S&S Promotions Group welcomes Chloe Dekraai, Promotional Consultant (pictured right) to their team.

Weum Chiropractic Clinic is celebrating their 40th year in Detroit Lakes. Congrats!

The Detroit Lakes Public Library is offering curbside service. Go to larl.org for more info.



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The Mission of the Detroit Lakes Regional Chamber of Commerce is to advance a vibrant business and tourism economy through service, advocacy, networking and innovation.

We're Working for You:

	<u>2020</u>	<u>YTD</u>
• Walk-Ins		359
• Phone Calls		857
• Visitor Guides Mailed		1139
• Website Visits		73,908

Member Renewals

Thank you to the following members who have renewed their membership from May 1—May 29, 2020. Chamber memberships renew at different times throughout the year. For a complete list, see business.visitdetroitlakes.com/list

Design 2 Sell
DL Bike Shop

Blood Drive
Saturday, June 6
Detroit Lakes VFW
7:30am—1:15pm

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Tourism Update



The last couple weeks have brought victories in opening of area businesses. Starting June 1, "recreational" campgrounds opened for the season. These campgrounds host RV owners for shorter stays than all season. This affects eight campground businesses that are members of the DL Chamber, two of which in the Detroit Lakes city limits collecting lodging taxes.

Many thanks to the City of Detroit Lakes in their support of restaurants by supplying picnic tables and working with liquor licenses. Dining establishments have also been severely impacted with two months of take-out only services. The latest ordinance allows outdoor dining (with restrictions) so providing seating that doesn't have to be moved in and outdoors is very helpful.

Lodging at resorts and hotels is beginning to move in a positive direction. In Minneapolis, room occupancy was at a low of 4 percent and increased to 10 percent. Visitors staying in Detroit Lakes hotels have a huge economic impact. Last year, \$270,730 was collected in lodging taxes. That means more than \$7.7 million was spent in Detroit Lakes city for overnight stays! From prior Visitor Profile Surveys, we know on average two people spend another \$200 per 24 hours while here.

Wondering about COVID? Here are comments from industry peers:
 "My best friend, age 36, her husband and 4 small kids all have it. They have struggled and say it is much worse than the flu."
 "My brother had it bad. He said exhaustion and fever was the worst. He's a personal trainer and had a hard time just making it upstairs."
 "My nieces were devastating tired with a high fever for two weeks."

- Cleone Stewart, Tourism Director

Sanford Detroit Lakes Clinic

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 Thursday: 9:00 – 4:00 pm
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So much to do at the lakes!

☼ **Local eats!** Enjoy your favorite foods on an outside patio or enjoy take-out on your boat. The lakes area has fun flavors to explore. From the farmers market to a full-service restaurant; a coffee shop to a food truck... you are sure to find a new place to satisfy your appetite.

☼ **Shopping galore!** Our retailers are ready to help you find what you need. Local boutiques, flea market vendors and a downtown filled with shops—there is something for everyone. From in-person shopping to private appointment to curbside delivery, these great retailers are ready to help.

☼ **Great outdoors!** Now is a great time to visit our local green spaces. From State Parks to local beaches, there are many places to enjoy time in nature. So grab lunch on the go and explore! Here are a few places to add to your 2020 bucket list: Sucker Creek Preserve, Tamarac Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Dunton Locks County Park, North Country Trail, and the Lakes Country Scenic Byway.

☼ **Active Adventure!** Walking, biking, boating, fishing, golfing, swimming or just enjoying a picnic in a new place. Watch for all the creative ways our local youth and adult sport groups are going to be offering activities this summer too.

For a full calendar of events:

<http://business.visitdetroitlakes.com/events>

Please let us know if you have events that should be on our website calendar.

Please make sure your employees know... as a member, your business takes DL Chamber Bucks!

- CHAMBER BUCKS are actual checks from the DL Chamber.
- Put CHAMBER BUCKS in your cash register just like other checks in your deposit.
- CHAMBER BUCKS are not meant to be redeemed for cash, however practice good customer relations and give change as you would for other checks written over the amount of purchase.
- CHAMBER BUCKS are being used by businesses and individuals in the community for gifts, incentives, bonuses, promotional prizes, special event drawings and more. Keep their gift excitement going by making it easy for them to redeem their DL Chamber Bucks.
- Any Chamber member can accept CHAMBER BUCKS.

Thanks for keeping our dollars local!