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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – photos included

Lake Hopatcong Foundation's Virtual Lake Loop Challenge is back

Lake Hopatcong, N.J. (October 7, 2021)—The Lake Hopatcong Foundation's annual "Lake Loop" fundraiser returns for a second year as a virtual challenge that will run from October 8 -15. Participants can have fun, get active, and win prizes, all while supporting New Jersey's largest lake.

Walking, running, biking, paddling, doing yoga, jumping rope – any activity counts toward a group goal of 2,021 hours/miles. Along the way, participants can take part in special challenges, fun contests, virtual fitness classes, and more. Participants are also encouraged to create or join fundraising teams to support a healthy and vibrant Lake Hopatcong.

"The Virtual Lake Loop Challenge is a great opportunity to help improve the health of Lake Hopatcong, as well as the community that surrounds it," said Lake Hopatcong Foundation Executive Director Kyle Richter. "I know I'm excited to challenge myself, cheer everyone on, and support our lake."

A special awards ceremony and celebration will be held for participants and their cheering sections on Sunday, October 17 from 12:30 - 3:30 pm at Hopatcong State Park. The afternoon will include live music, food, and a beer tent. All registered participants will receive a free food voucher as well as their first beer free (for 21 and older). For all other guests, food and drink will be available for purchase.

"We hope this year's Lake Loopers will grab a chair and join us for an enjoyable afternoon at Hopatcong State Park to celebrate their efforts," said Lake Hopatcong Foundation Development Director Caitlin Doran. "I can't think of a better way to celebrate than to gather lakeside with food, drink, entertainment, and of course, camaraderie."

Registration is \$25 (kids 12 and under free) and is now open at <u>lakeloop.org</u>. All who register are automatically entered into a prize drawing, just for signing up.

All money raised will support the Lake Hopatcong Foundation's many programs and initiatives focused on fostering a vibrant and healthy Lake Hopatcong and its surrounding community. Those efforts include advocating on behalf of the lake in Trenton, preventing the spread of invasive species, improving on-the-water safety, bringing lake education and programming to the community, and increasing recreational opportunities.

"Peer-to-peer fundraising is a simple and easy way to harness the power of the lake community," said Doran. "This is our opportunity to get everyone to join in and invest in the lake we all love."

The Lake Hopatcong Foundation is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to protecting the lake environment and enhancing the lake experience by bringing together public and private resources to encourage a culture of sustainability and stewardship on and around New Jersey's largest lake, for this and future generations. To learn more, visit <u>lakehopatcongfoundation.org</u>.

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