

Lead Facts

- An estimated 1 fishing weight is lost every 6 hours of fishing per person.
- 2700 metric tons of lead fishing weights are produced every year—primarily to replace lost weights.
- According to studies by Tufts University, over the last 30 years, lead poisoning accounts for up to 57% of adult loon deaths.
- Up to 25% of dead eagles are the victims of lead poisoning
- New Hampshire, Wisconsin, New York, Minnesota, Maine, and Vermont have banned or limited the use of lead sinkers. Massachusetts has banned the use of lead sinkers only at Quabbin and Wachusett reservoirs.
- Up to 25 species of birds are affected by lead poisoning with up to 31% of endangered Trumpeter Swans being killed by lead poisoning.

What you can do...

- Replace your lead fishing weights with non toxic weights. Use only environmentally friendly fishing gear, like circle hooks and non lead sinkers.
- Tell others about the dangers of lead in the environment.
- Call your legislator and tell them that you are concerned about lead in the environment and want to ban the use of lead sinkers.

Published 05/2007