



How to tell if your fishing tackle contains lead (Pb)

Can you make a mark on paper with it?

YES

NOT Loon Safe

Your Tackle Probably Contains Lead

Please take to disposal or trade-in site.

Lead is dull and dark gray in color. It will leave a mark when scratched on paper. Lead alternatives like steel and tungsten tend to have a shiny appearance.

NO

Here's another test to be sure!

Can you dent it with your fingernail or with pliers?

YES

NOT Loon Safe

Your Tackle Probably Contains Lead

Please take to disposal or trade-in site.

While non-lead alternatives like tungsten are hard metals, lead is a soft metal that is easily dented by a fingernail or pliers.

Is your tackle painted or covered by another coating such as a rubber skirt?

Coatings on lead tackle DO NOT protect loons from lead poisoning. Coatings are quickly eroded by the grinding of the loon's digestive system, and the lead in the tackle is absorbed into the loon's bloodstream.

Did you know? New Hampshire law bans the sale and freshwater use of lead fishing sinkers and jigs weighing one ounce or less (lead poisoning from ingestion of this tackle is the #1 cause of adult loon mortality in NH). Whereas our laws have led the nation in protecting loons and other wildlife from lead, becoming stronger over time, the **date of purchase can be used to estimate the likelihood that fishing tackle bought here (if weighing one ounce or less) contains lead.**

Date Purchased	2016-Present	2010-2015	2000-2010	Pre-2000
Likelihood of Lead Content	Low	Moderate	High	Very High



If in Doubt... Please Take it Out (of your tackle box)!

Loon Preservation Committee's LoonSafe Initiative includes a Lead Tackle Buyback Program that will give you a ten-dollar voucher to spend on new gear at participating local tackle shops when you trade in one ounce or more of banned lead tackle.* If you simply want to dispose of your lead tackle for proper recycling, LPC and partners have established disposal sites throughout the state. See www.loonsafe.org for locations.

*One trade-in voucher per customer per season. Other terms and conditions apply. View full details, additional offers, & participating retailers at:

[HTTPS://LOONSAFE.ORG](https://loonsafe.org)