

Piping Plover Update

July 5, 2023



Photo Credit Krista Heyward, Indian Point

Our Piping Plover parents on Indian Point have done an amazing job and we are happy to report that 4 chicks have hatched out of the 4 eggs! All of the Plovers are doing well. The chicks will be foraging all over the beach for the next couple of weeks under the watchful eye of their parents. Chebeague & Cumberland Land Trust and Indian Island Association have a team of volunteers checking on them every day and we have installed signage and posted guidelines through several channels on Chebeague as well as through MITA and Portland Yacht Club. Maine Inland Fisheries & Wildlife and Maine Audubon have advised us on specific protocols to protect the birds. As a reminder, these birds are State and Federally protected species.

What can you do?

- No dogs on the beach until after July 31.
- Please give the birds space. If the parents are chirping at you, then you are too close.
- Pack out your trash which might attract predators.
- Refrain from using kites and drones in the area.
- Fill in sandcastle holes where the chicks might get stuck.

Thank you for your help protecting these adorable and endangered birds on Chebeague! FMI, please reach out to CCLT Executive Director Penny Asherman, penny@ccltmaine.org, CCLT Stewardship Coordinator Jonathan Dawson steward@ccltmaine.org, or Laura Minich Zitske at Plovertern@maineaudubon.org.