As a wildlife rehabilitator, I see too many cases of lead poisoning in waterfowl and other fish-eating birds every year. Sadly, it is often difficult to save these animals in time, especially loons and other diving waterbirds, because they cannot be captured until they are very ill. It is devastating when we receive a lead poisoned bird, like a majestic common loon, and cannot get the lead out of their body fast enough. These birds are often healthy in every other way. Their only dilemma is that they ingested a tiny lead sinker. Watching them gasping for breath, and hearing their cries of pain, is heart wrenching. No animal should ever be harmed in this way, especially when we as humans are the culprits and should know better.

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Only after the last river has been poisoned;
Only after the last fish has been caught;
Only after the last tree has been cut down;
Only then will you find money cannot be eaten. - Cree Prophecy