

Thank you for your help in protecting our lake.
Lincoln Pond Association

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To: Lincoln Pond Campers

The Lincoln Pond Association welcomes you to our wonderful lake. Please take a moment to review these suggestions to help us keep this a memorable experience for all.

*******Fishing Request Please*******

We are requesting a VOLUNTARY CATCH AND RELEASE OF BASS until they are 16 inches instead of 12 inches. This will give them a few more years to eat the pan fish before they are removed, and you can have trophy size fish next year. Once again we are asking all fishermen to remove any pan fish that they catch.

Aquatic Pests (*Milfoil, Zebra Mussels, and Water Chestnuts*) Milfoil has choked over 200 acres of our 600-acre lake. We are participating in a Cornell University and Lake Champlain Basin Program study releasing *Acentria ephemerella* (milfoil moth) to control the milfoil naturally. However, we suspect that the pan fish (especially pumpkinseeds and yellow perch) are eating many of our caterpillars. To reduce predation, **keep all of the pan fish you catch** and dispose of them properly (eating them fried in beer batter works or you could bury them on land).

We do not have Zebra Mussels or Water Chestnut yet and we ask you clean all weeds and other organisms from your boats and trailers before launching in Lincoln Pond.

Boaters

1. Clean your boat before entering and after leaving Lincoln Pond. We need your help in preventing the spread of milfoil and the introduction of water chestnut and zebra mussels. It is NYS law not to transport noxious species from one lake to another. All bilge water and bait boxes should be drained and air-dried for a week. Scrap off any Zebra Mussels and remove any plant or animal material from boats and trailers.
2. NY State Law says **5 mph within 100 feet of shore, docks, piers, rafts, floats or anchored boats** or within 500 feet of a roped off swimming area. 5mph means no wake. In Lincoln Pond, the area between the causeway and the island, and the narrows at the north end by the dam are less than 200 feet wide and therefore are no wake zones.
3. **Stay 100 feet from all other boaters, anchored boats, swimmers, and fishermen.**

4. NY State Law says personal watercraft or “jet ski” operators must be 21 years old or have a **“Certificate of Instruction.”**
5. Remember there are others that do not want to hear constant motor noise all day. We are asking **recreational users**, such as water skiers and jet skiers, to **only operate between the hours of 10 AM and 6 PM.** This will let the fisherman fish in peace and quiet, and late sleepers get a few extra winks.
6. Make sure your **motor is in good condition** and is leaking as little as possible. Two stroke engines typically put half of their fuel into the water. Be careful when fueling your motor. Check rubber hoses for leaks. Regularly service your motor. Use propylene glycol instead of ethylene glycol for antifreeze.
7. Have a personal flotation device (PFD) for everyone in your boat. **Children under the age of 12 must be wearing a PFD**
8. Your boat must be registered with the State of NY.
9. It is illegal to drive a boat or personal watercraft under the influence of alcohol.

Fires - Be very careful with your campfires and only build them in designated protected areas. Before you leave be sure your fire is completely out. We have had two major fires on Lincoln Pond that have destroyed wildlife habitat.

Noise - There are other campers on the lake that can hear your “music” and “laughing.” We are glad that you are enjoying your stay; please let us enjoy ours as well. Please turn the volume down after 10 PM.

Litter - It is illegal to dump any material into the waters of NY. Please find the appropriate receptacle at the State Campgrounds or elsewhere.

Private Roads - Many of the roads around Lincoln Pond are private and are posted as such. You should ask permission before driving on them. All Terrain Vehicles should be licensed and insured unless on your own property.

Loons - We have a pair of loons that come back to Lincoln Pond every year. However, they have a hard time making it through the nesting period, which is the most vulnerable part of their life cycle. Loons usually nest within a foot or two of the water and will leave their nest whenever they feel threatened by waves. “We are finding that loons can nest on busy lakes as long as they have a quiet area,” says Eric Hanson, biologist for the Vermont Loon Recovery Project. In Lincoln Pond loons nest in Big Bay, which is the bay just before the narrows, in May and June. It is best to prevent boat wake in that area during nesting.

