

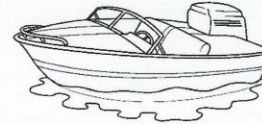
BE AWARE BEFORE YOU BUY YOUR WATERCRAFT
ELDA clarification regarding horsepower limitations

ELDA bylaws outline specific limitations to horsepower of watercraft on the lake. Currently limitations are expressed for gasoline powered motors, in horsepower. As motors are now available as electric, the board is clarifying power limitations for these motors, in-kilowatts (kW).

The conversion from HP to W is 1 HP = 746 W

For ELDA members, please be sure to use these conversions when considering an electric motor alternative:

- 0–19 HP corresponds to 0–14.2 kW
- 0–75 HP corresponds to 0–56 kW



Please keep these limits in mind when considering watercraft for use on Elk Lake.

Annual Dues

The board is happy to announce the annual dues and joining fee for 2026 is \$380, no increase. *The joining fee is \$380, and the dues are \$195 if you don't have any watercraft, \$205 with watercraft (and of course more if you have more craft). No changes from 2025.*

Elk Lake Boating Safety Reminder

-From the Boat & Safety Committee

As we head into another great season on Elk Lake, it's a good time to revisit some of the key boating rules that help keep everyone safe and ensure we're all enjoying the lake responsibly. Please take a moment to remind your guests of these rules as well, as they

apply to everyone using the lake. Elk Lake is unique—and with that comes a shared responsibility. Many of our rules are not just local guidelines but are governed by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and must be followed at all times.

One of the most important safety practices on Elk Lake is maintaining a predictable direction of travel. Boats capable of pulling skiers are required to travel in a counter-clockwise direction around the lake. This applies even when you are not actively towing a skier. Personal watercraft are strongly encouraged to follow this same pattern, as predictable operation is critical to your safety and the safety of everyone on the water. Fishing from ski boats is, and always has been, permitted; however,

operators must continue to follow the direction-of-travel rule unless they are operating at trolling or true no-wake speed. At those reduced speeds, boats may safely deviate from the normal traffic pattern when necessary for fishing, as they are no longer part of the primary flow of faster-moving vessels.

It is also important to remember that from sunset to sunrise, all vessels must operate at a speed that does not create a wake. This rule protects shoreline property, anglers, and other boaters when visibility is reduced. Personal watercraft (jet skis and similar vessels) are subject to stricter requirements under Pennsylvania law. All operators must have a Boating Safety Education Certificate, regardless of age, and must carry proof while operating.

Additionally, children 11 years old or younger may not operate a PWC, and there are further restrictions for younger operators carrying passengers. These are not optional guidelines—they are enforceable state laws.

Boating Safety Education Certificates are also required more broadly. Anyone born on or after January 1, 1982 must have a certificate to operate a motorboat over 25 horsepower, and all PWC operators must have one without exception. The certification is a one-time course, valid for life, and must be carried while operating your vessel.

A few additional reminders: the maximum motor size on Elk Lake is 75 horsepower. As electric motors continue to grow in popularity, it is important to ensure that any

electric motor complies with the kilowatt equivalent of this limit. Motors that exceed the allowable equivalent will not be approved for a lake sticker. All boaters must also follow regulations set by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and always operate at a safe and reasonable speed based on conditions, including boat traffic and water activity. Staying alert and operating defensively goes a long way in preventing incidents.

Elk Lake works because everyone buys into the same mindset: predictable behavior, mutual respect, and safety first. Most issues we encounter are not the result of bad intent, but rather simple misunderstandings of the rules. Taking a few minutes to refresh your knowledge helps keep everyone on the same page. If you are ever unsure about a rule, please review the bylaws or reach out to the Boat & Safety Committee.

Let's all do our part to ensure a safe, respectful, and enjoyable season on the water.

FACEBOOK

An Elk Lake Facebook page is run by Brian Devaney. To stay current on Elk Lake news and happenings (and just all-around lake thoughts, pictures comments), please join the Elk Lake Facebook page.

[Elk Lake Waymart PA](#)

[Fish Committee News](#)

746 new fish have been added to the lake in mid-March: 373 brown trout and 373 rainbow trout, all the legal size of 14".



Thanks to the Henshaw's for allowing the committee the use of their launch.

Important Dates

General Membership Meetings: Saturday July 11th & Saturday August 8th (10 am start to both)

Golf Tournament: Saturday July 18th at Memorial Links

Covered Dish & Field Day: Saturday July 25th

Fishing Tournament: Sunday August 2nd

DEEPEST SYMPATHY

Edward Lynett Jr.

Gary Flood

John Boguski Jr.