



### VERNON'S GUIDE SERVICE, LLC NEWSLETTER

Spring/Summer 2025

# LAKE SURVEY MAPS ONLINE

Have you ever wondered what a specific lake or pond might hold or how deep it is? Where is the inlet and outlet? Well, you can find all of that information on the Mine Inland Fisheries website under Lake survey maps? It's a very good reference.

https://www.maine.gov/ifw/fishing-boating/fishing/lake-survey-maps/index.html

# **Boating Safety Tips**



Many look forward to spring and summer days to spend time on Maine's waterways, from quiet ponds and majestic larger lakes to meandering rivers and streams. The key to an enjoyable day on the water, whether on a motor-powered boat, a canoe, kayak, or wind propelled watercraft, is to be safe and prepared. Here are a few reminders to keep you and your passengers safe:

- Always wear a life jacket. If you think you will have time to put it on after you are in the water, think again.
- Stay alert and be aware of others on the water.
- Always operate your boat at a safe and reasonable speed for your surroundings.
- Remember that the law requires you to operate at "headway speed" within 200 feet of any shoreline, including islands, and within a marina or an approved anchorage in coastal or inland waters. "Headway speed" means the slowest speed at which it is still possible to maintain steering and control of the watercraft.
- When participating in wakesurfing activity, you must be in at least 15 feet of water and must be more than 300 feet off the shoreline.
- Never drink and drive!
- Check the weather before leaving shore and carefully observe changing weather.
- Always wear an engine cutoff switch.
- Watch out for wildlife.
- Become familiar with the water body. Look at a map for depths and any potential hazards. Lake associations, Maine guides, and local wardens can be a great resource.
- Bring plenty of water to stay hydrated and wear a hat and sunscreen to avoid overexposure to the sun.
- Always tell someone where you are going, and when you will be back

# PROTECT OUR WATERS FROM AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

Maine waters, as well as the fish, wildlife, and recreation they support, are threatened each year by introductions of fish, plants, diseases, and other aquatic invasive species that compete with and displace native natural communities. Do your part by learning how to properly clean and dry your watercraft, motor, trailer and equipment before leaving water access.

## **Maine Professional Guides Association**

What does the Maine Professional Guides Association do? Here is a link to the webpage. Vernon's Guide Service is a member.

www.maineguides.org







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