



## **FOREST LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION INC.**

**PO Box 117  
Winchester, NH 03470**



### **Custodians of the lake since 1927**

As a lakefront property owner or a guest, your actions reflect the nature of your surroundings. How the land and water is used affects the well-being of all. Etiquette and Common Courtesy help our community to enjoy this natural resource together in a peaceful environment.

## USEFUL INFORMATION

The goal of the FLIA is to protect, improve and monitor the quality of our lake and surrounding shoreline to provide a clean, safe environment for all to enjoy. FLIA membership is encouraged for all lake residents! Membership is \$40 annually. (membership form attached) Members attend an annual meeting in late summer which is a great way to meet neighbors and share ideas. Members also receive periodic emails containing important lake information. FLIA members participate in State run programs including Weed Watchers, Volunteer Lake Assessment Program, Water Testing and Milfoil Management.

The FLIA is also the custodian of the lake's dam on Route 10. Since 1926 the FLIA has managed, maintained and cared for the dam. Members work with the State DES Dam Bureau throughout the year to oversee and manage the health and well-being of the dam. Periodically the FLIA will conduct work days at the dam where members are able to pitch in and help with a variety of tasks.

The FLIA Board has years of experience supporting its members and needs around the lake. If the FLIA does not have an answer, they have a phone number of someone at State that does have an answer.



## R-E-S-P-E-C-T

**Respect:** The rights of others

**Environment:** Enjoy wildlife from a distance

**Safety:** Heed NH boating regulations, boat safely

**Peace:** Watch your noise and your boat wake

**Enjoy:** Have fun, share the moments with friends

**Consider:** Other people and

**Think how much nicer your day would be if everyone showed a little more respect.**



# LAKE REMINDERS

## FOREST LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

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### PHONE NUMBERS

Winchester Town Offices: .....		603-239-4951
Winchester Police Dept:   Emergency:   603-239-4814	General:	603-239-6335
Winchester Fire Dept:    Emergency:   911	General:	603-239-6691
NH Marine Patrol:        Emergency:   603-293-2037	General:	877-642-9700

### WATER QUALITY

- Clean the bottom of your boat before launching to control invasive weeds.
- Avoid using phosphorus fertilizers and pick up pet waste; these will wash into the lake when it rains and increase the chances of algae bloom.

### BOATING SAFETY

- A boating education certificate is required to operate boats over 25 horsepower.
- Travel around Forest Lake is always counterclockwise.
- All watercraft operating after sunset must display proper lighting, including kayaks.
- Headway speed **only** within 150 feet of swimmers, rafts, rope lines, docks and shoreline (No wake zone).
- No jet skis allowed on Forest Lake.  

(See below for website address to the Boating Handbook  
for full listing of NH Boating Regulations)

### LAKE LIVING

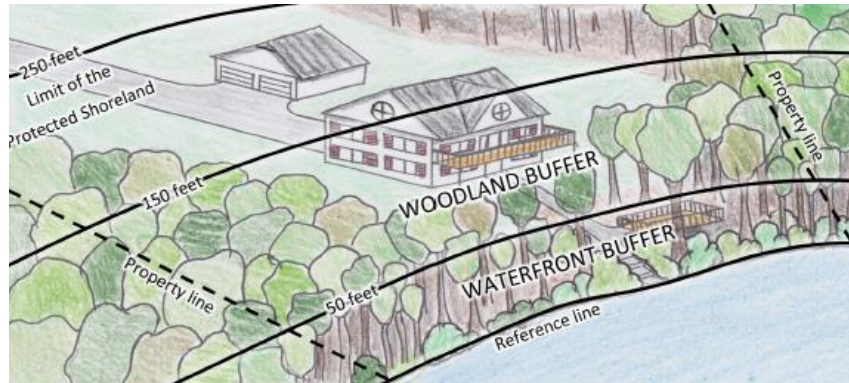
- Both sound and light are amplified across water.
- Town quiet hours are Sun-Thurs 10 PM - 7 AM; Fri-Sat 11 PM - 7 AM.
- Be aware of how your outdoor lighting impacts your lake neighbors.
- A town permit is required to launch fireworks.

As a lakefront property owner or visitor, your etiquette and common courtesy enhance our lake community's enjoyment of the peaceful natural environment.

Visit our website for more information about Forest Lake and FLIA.  
[www.forestlakenh.com](http://www.forestlakenh.com)

NH Boating Handbook  
<https://assets.kalkomey.com/boater/pdfs/handbook/newhampshire-handbook-entire.pdf>

# NH Department of Environmental Services (DES) Landscape & Construction



- In short, in NH, anything that happens within 250 feet of a wetland area has direct oversight from the State DES. In addition, there may also be local and county regulations involved.
- If you are going to do landscaping or construction of any type within 250 feet of the water line (known as the REFERENCE LINE), there is a good chance that a permit is required.
- The first 50 feet back from the water line is known as the WATERFRONT BUFFER and has the highest level of restrictions related to vegetation and building.
- The next 100 feet back is known as the NATURAL WOODLAND BUFFER and has a number of regulations pertaining to vegetation and building.
- The last 100 feet of the 250 foot zone has less restrictions but still falls within the permit necessary zone for all activity.

Shoreland Water Quality Protection Act (SWQPA) A Summary of the Minimum Standards:  
[https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wetlands/cspa/documents/  
summary\\_standards.pdf](https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wetlands/cspa/documents/summary_standards.pdf)

**Do your homework. Ask questions. Call DES. Call the FLIA. Ask for help.**

The state of NH has compliance officers who visit Forest Lake on a regular basis. They can be your best friend if you seek out DES advice and help up front. Ignore the regulations and getting to know them is not always fun.

# NH Department of Environmental Services (DES) Fact Sheets for Everything

- The state of New Hampshire has one of the best DES programs in the country. The access to information is endless. DES has published hundreds of Fact Sheets that will cover everything from invasive weed identification to asbestos removal. The following link will bring you to 22 DES categories. The following categories are critical to Forest Lake.
- Lake Biology, Wetlands, Rivers & Lakes, Shoreland Protection, Sub-Surface, Watershed Management & Dam Bureau

<https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/factsheets/index.html>



**Here are some critical fact sheets selected by the FLIA for everyone to read.**

**Shoreline Protection Fact Sheets** (Link coming soon)

**Rivers and Lakes Fact Sheets** (Link coming soon)

**Lake Biology Fact Sheet** (Link coming soon)

**Algae Bloom Fact Sheet** (Link coming soon)

**Variable Milfoil Fact Sheet** (Link coming soon)

**Phosphorus Fact Sheet** (Link coming soon)

**Aquatic Plants and Their Role in Lake Ecology** (Link coming soon)

## Milfoil History at Forest Lake

Milfoil is a submerged aquatic plant with fine, densely packed, feather-like leaves whorled around a main stem. Milfoil is not native to our state and is very difficult to control once it becomes fully established. Milfoil reproduces through fragmentation, when plant fragments break off from the parent plant through wind or boat action, grow roots, and settle in new locations. Milfoil spreads rapidly and displaces beneficial native plant life. It makes swimming difficult and can devalue waterfront property.

**Forest Lake was one of the first lakes in New Hampshire to be identified with Milfoil. The FLIA has spent 20 years managing this invasive plant.**



Milfoil management on Forest Lake is a task we must all work on together. The plants can grow most anywhere. The campground channel, the dam outlet, areas from the town beach to the campground beach and the entire south end are the most common growth zones in this lake.

Over the past twenty years, the FLIA, Winchester and New Hampshire DES have invested \$ 87,000 in Milfoil management. The FLIA and the Winchester Conservation Commission work continuously with the DES to oversee the conditions and the growth of milfoil in the lake.

In March 2012 the voters of Winchester recognized the need to plan for and fund Milfoil management in Forest Lake and established a non-lapsing Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of treating exotic invasive plants in Forest Lake. This insight and support by the town will allow the FLIA to operate to the State approved Management Plan, knowing we have a financial foundation.

**Members of the FLIA are trained Weed Watchers and can assist in identifying Milfoil. If you see some, do not harvest it. Contact the FLIA and we will mark it for certified divers to harvest during our annual activity.**

# Town of Winchester Information

Website: <https://www.winchester-nh.gov/>

Town Offices: 603-239-4951

## Tax Cards

Winchester publishes all property tax cards online as well as a detailed property map covering the entire town. Access to this information can be made as guest thru the Avitar web site. The FLIA recommends that property owners review the tax card information on an annual basis.

<https://data.avitarassociates.com/logon.aspx>

## State DES Phone Numbers

Alteration of Terrain (Site Specific)	603-271-2303	Lakes Management & Protection	603-271-2959
Aquatic Plants	603-271-2248	Limnology/Lake	603-271-2658
Cyanobacteria Hotline	603-848-8094	Marine Patrol	603-293-2037
Dam Safety & Maintenance	603-271-3406	Milfoil	603-271-2248
Docks	603-271-2147	Permitting Questions	603-271-3306
Dredge & Fill Permits	603-271-2147	Septic Systems	603-271-2631
Exotic Species (Aquatic Plants)	603-271-2248	Shoreland Protection/Permitting	603-271-2147
Fish & Wildlife, Keene	603-352-9669	Volunteer Lake Assessment	603-352-2658

# FOREST LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT



ENTER YOUR NAME & LAKE ADDRESS HERE

ENTER YOUR HOME ADDRESS HERE

PLEASE SEND SNAIL MAIL TO:  LAKE ADDRESS  HOME ADDRESS

Clearly print your e-mail address (s) here for updates and periodical information.

**The FLIA does not snail mail monthly updates.**

## MEMBERSHIP IS \$40 PER YEAR.

ALONG WITH GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS FOR THE YEAR SUCH AS STAMPS, PRINTING, DAM REGISTRATION COSTS AND OTHER EXPENSES, YOUR ANNUAL DUES ARE USED FOR DAM MAINTENANCE COSTS AND MILFOIL TREATMENT COSTS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO INCREASE YOUR GIVING AND EARMARK SOME FUNDS TO A SPECIFIC CAUSE PLEASE NOTE THAT BELOW.

ANNUAL DUES	<input type="text" value="\$40"/>
DAM MAINTENANCE GIFT	<input type="text"/>
MILFOIL GIFT	<input type="text"/>
TOTAL CONTRIBUTION	<input type="text"/>

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:  
**Forest Lake Improvement Association**

MAIL PAYMENTS TO THE FOLLOWING  
ADDRESS

**FLIA  
PO Box 117  
Winchester, NH 03470**