

Welcome back to boating on beautiful Forest Lake!

This is one of the most treasured privileges of good standing membership within Forest Lake. It is our sincere hope that you will treat this privilege with safety and concern, not only for yourself but others as well.

This Forest Lake booklet is offered to highlight subjects of importance for pleasurable safe, courteous boating and water safety.

The Michigan Handbook of Boating Laws and responsibilities can be found here... <https://assets.kalkomey.com/boater/pdfs/handbook/michigan-handbook-entire.pdf> You are personally responsible and liable for being familiar with and adhering to the laws in this publication.

ELIGIBILITY: A named Forest Lake property owner stated on the deed and in good standing may apply at the office for the registration of boats for use on Forest Lake but only if the boat MC registration matches the names of the property owner.

BOAT SIZE: A Pontoon must not exceed 25 feet as listed and have a current State of Michigan registration. All other boats must not exceed a length of 20 feet. All boats must display the appropriate current stickers. 1) Current State of Michigan stickers and 2) annual FLPOA Stickers.

REGISTRATION OF ALL WATERCRAFT: Eligible property owners in good standing must apply annually for boat registration at the office prior to boat use on Forest Lake. The watercraft must be registered in the property owner's name and match the name on the MC #. The registered watercraft must have a properly affixed State of Michigan registration number and current validation decal affixed on both sides. Upon registering at the office, two numbered Forest Lake I.D. stickers will be issued, each of which shall be permanently affixed immediately adjacent to the Michigan registration number. Taping or other forms of temporary fixation, or transfer to another watercraft is not allowed.

KEYS: A key will be issued for the launch site gate. You are responsible to lock the gate after each use. **IT IS NOT TO BE DUPLICATED OR LOANED, Violators of these rules shall be subject to appropriate sanctions for up to one year which include losing being a member in good status.**

TRAVEL DIRECTION: For safety reasons, Boat & PWC traffic will travel in a COUNTERCLOCKWISE direction as far as reasonably possible.

SPEED: No watercraft shall exceed a speed of 35 MPH on Forest Lake at any time. Watch your wake... protect our shoreline!!!

JET SKIS (PWC): As stated above, Jet Skis must be registered and stickered in the same manner as all other watercraft. Please be aware of the operator age restrictions per Michigan Law and contained in the Michigan Boating Law Handbook.

JET SKIS (PWC) AGE RESTRICTIONS: Per Michigan Law Those less than 14 years of age may not legally operate a PWC. Those ages 14 & 15 may operate a PWC legally only if they have obtained a boating safety certificate **AND** is accompanied by their parent or legal guardian **OR** is riding within 100 feet of their parent or legal guardian. Those 16 years or older may operate a PWC only if they have obtained a boating safety certificate.

BOATER AGE RESTRICTIONS: Per the Michigan law...Those born on or after July 1, 1996, may legally operate a boat only if they have been issued a boater safety certificate and have it on board the vessel.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE: Launch site gates are to be relocked immediately after launching to the lake or removing a boat from the lake. If other member boats are waiting for the launch the gate may be left open only after verifying the boat has a valid Forest Lake Sticker next to the MC number. We will again be looking for volunteers to monitor the launch on weekends.

SLOW, NO-WAKE SPEED: No boat may travel faster than at no wake speed within 100 feet of a dock, the shoreline, a buoy, a raft, or swimming area. As a courtesy, slow no wake speed is to be observed from 8:00PM to 9:00AM.

RIGHT OF WAY: Non-powered watercraft such as canoes, rowboats, sailboats, paddleboards, and kayaks shall have the right of way over powered vessels.

UNDER THE INFLUENCE: Michigan Law prohibits anyone from operating a vessel while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

LIFE JACKETS AND FIRE EXTINGUISHERS: All vessels shall have one personal flotation device per person (Type I or Type II Jacket) and an approved USCG fire extinguisher onboard. All children under age 6 should wear while on deck a Type I or Type II Life Jacket. All Jackets should be checked for age and wear each season. They should also be very accessible. All boats should also have a Type IV throwable device along with a whistle or working horn.

FUELING A VESSEL: Use caution when refueling. Turn on your blower if equipped or open the engine compartment to reduce the hazard of a fumes explosion. Use caution while fueling to avoid spills. Please consider using a spill proof syphon tube like “Simple Syphon.”

SUBMERGED OBSTACLES: All boaters must remain alert to floating or partially submerged obstacles such as logs or a downed tree. After 5 years of non-use there will be a lot of debris floating within the lake. Please help by removing any debris and placing the material on the right side of the main beach, or the west end beach. **BE VERY CAREFUL** while underway.

PROPELLERS: Always turn off your boat motor when any person in the water is or approaching your propeller.

IMPROPER MOORING: Boaters may not at any time moor their watercraft to Forest Lake owned Buoys or floats. There is no permanent docking on Forest Lake Association property unless you are renting a dock .

ADHERENCE TO SAFETY LAWS: As listed in the HANDBOOK of Michigan Boating Laws and Responsibilities.

<https://assets.kalkomey.com/boater/pdfs/handbook/michigan-handbook-entire.pdf>

COMMON SENSE AND COURTESY: The best way to have a safe day and avoid issues is to use common sense and always think safety first. Use simple courtesy to eliminate conflicts. Use a wide berth for anglers, swimmers, or downed skiers and tubers. In general, use the golden rule and treat others as you would like them to treat you and your family.

STAY 100 FEET FROM THE DAM AND DREDGING EQUIPMENT!

HAVE FUN AND LET’S HAVE A SAFE SEASON.

WELCOME BACK TO FOREST LAKE



GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR SAFE AND ENJOYABLE BOATING ON FOREST LAKE