

# Lake Carmi Campers Association, Inc.

# Safe Summer Guide

*Pointers and guides to help make your summer the most enjoyable.*

## **Roads:**



The speed limit on all Lake Carmi roads is 15 mph. This is safety for you and our visitors; it allows you to better avoid the potholes, preventing them from growing too.

Pedestrians are asked to walk on the left; bicycles should always be on the right. In the evening both pedestrians and bicycles should have a light to be better seen by

other traffic.

## **Boating Laws (State of Vermont):**

No one under the age of 12 may operate a motor boat with more than 6 HP. Boats must be equipped with personal flotation devices to accommodate the number of passengers on board. PFD's can be any of the U.S. Coast Guard approved Type I, Type II, Type III, or Type V life vests. Type IV seat cushions are not approved. There is a boat launch at the north end.

If born after Jan. 1, 1974, you are required to take a boating safety course, available on line, go to <http://www.boat-ed.com/vermont/>

*Members of the LCCA can use the state park boat launch for free, with the presentation of their membership card.*

## **Personal Water Craft Laws:**

No one under the age of 16 may operate a personal watercraft (PWC, Jet Ski, etc.), even if the person has completed a boating safety course. Every passenger on the PWC must wear an approved life jacket. PWC's may not be operated more than ½ hour before sunrise or ½ hour after the sunset.

## **Pulling Tubers & Water Skiers:**

All persons being pulled, for skiing or tubing, behind a boat or PWC, must wear an approved life vest. Ski belts are not approved. Every vessel towing a person must have a person who is at least 12 years old on board, in addition to the operator, to act as a spotter. A distance of at least 100 feet must be maintained from other vessels, people, and property so not endanger life or property.

## **No Wake Zone:**

Operating a boat or Personal Watercraft at a speed of greater than five mph; closer than 200 feet from swimmers, other occupied craft on shore is against the law. This 200 feet buffer is called a *No Wake Zone*.

## **Stop the Spread of Invasive Species:**

Non-native aquatic species have been imported into Lake Carmi. These species can also be exported from Lake Carmi, boats coming into the lake and leaving the lake should always be inspected, as well as the trailers, wheels, etc.



Remove any plants and animals you see before leaving the area. Discard unused bait in the trash or leave it with

someone in the same body of water. Drain water from the live well, bilge and transom wells while on land and before leaving the area. Boats and watercraft should be washed properly after leaving one body of water, before going into another body of water. Drying the boat for at least 5 days in the sun is recommended to help eliminate the danger of spreading invasive species. Learn how to identify aquatic invasive species. Note the warning signs at the boat launches. The court has established the fine of \$150, plus surcharge, for violating the law on the transport of invasive species.

## **Lake Carmi State Park:**

This State Park has been a great neighbor since the 1960s. It has the largest campground of the State park system. With nearly 500 acres, including a 140-acre natural bog, there is lots to do and plenty of trails for camper use. For day use, including the beach, \$4.00 for age 14 and older, four years through 13 is \$2.00. \$90 for an annual pass, up to 8 persons/car. Three years and under are free. For complete information on pricing: <http://www.vtstateparks.com/htm/fees.htm>.

If you are at least age 62, and a Vermont resident, you can get a **Green Mountain Passport** at any Vermont Town Clerks office, getting you free admission, for the day use areas-for life, at any of the Vermont State Parks. A vehicle season pass is available for \$90; it includes up to eight passengers in the vehicle. Haston Library in Franklin has a State Park Pass that can be borrowed, contact the library for details.

### **Services Available:**

Garbage, construction debris, or other waste may be taken to the Casella Waste Transfer Station in Highgate. Call 802.868.7069.

### **Fishing Licenses:**

Persons 15 years of age and older must have a State of Vermont fishing license. Any youth under the age of 15 does not need a license, but is subject to all the same laws and rules.

Vermont residents, age 65 and over, can get a lifetime fishing license for \$50. Regular fishing and hunting licenses are available locally at the Franklin Town Clerk's office and Byam's Quick Stop. Fishing licenses for residents between 15 and 65 years cost \$25/year. Non-resident licenses in the same age bracket cost \$50/year. *Hint*, an unlicensed adult is not permitted to handle the fish pole of a youth fisherman. To get your fishing license before coming to camp, you can do it online at this website:  
<http://www.vtfishandwildlife.com/buylicense.cfm>.

A magazine-style publication of all Vermont Fish & Game Regulations is available *free* to anyone. It includes all the laws and rules for being a knowledgeable resident who is informed of Vermont policies and laws. It is available at Byam's Quick Stop in East Franklin or the Town Clerks Office.

### **Do Not Feed the Ducks:**

The ducks are great to watch with their big families, but feeding them is dangerous to you and the ducks. The Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife asks that we do not feed any wild animals. Feeding them creates a dependency on people, making them easy targets of fall hunters. Feeding them also creates people-bird conflicts at camps, on docks and in the roads. Their feces can spread disease.



**Loons are Protected:** Our Lake Carmi Loon population appears to be doing very well, but we do not have any nesting pairs. Loons are protected, be on the lookout for them when boating and canoeing. Instruct any visitors about our loons, when using a boat make sure they keep their distance from any waterfowl.



**Haston Library** This beautiful little library has



a lot more than books to loan. It is a very busy place with lots of programs for our Lake Carmi residents and neighbors. They have two computers for accessing the internet or your email. Call 802.285.6505.

Hours: Monday 10-2, Tuesday 1-6, Thursday 9am - 6 pm, Friday and Saturday 9am - 1pm. There are special programs and events throughout the camping season, all Lake Carmi folks are invited, details are in each Lake Carmi Newsletter issue.

### **Enosburg Falls Opera House:**

The old Opera House in Enosburg has been restored and is back in business. There are several performances being presented in each year, contact the Opera House for details. [www.enosburgoperahouse.org](http://www.enosburgoperahouse.org).

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**Town of Franklin information, call the Town Clerk at 802.285.2101 or check the web site:**

<http://franklinvermont.com/>

**Lake Carmi Campers Association, Inc. website with a webcam photo of the lake, newsletters for the last ten years, temperatures and weather:**

<http://lakecarmi.mylaketown.com/>

Laws are summarized here; complete information is available from the State of Vermont website or the safe boating handbook available from the state. Prepared and presented by the Lake Carmi Campers Association, Inc. Written and designed by Larry Myott, Editor, LCCA, Inc.