

# WANTED

## Safe Boaters on Rogers Lake

No person shall operate a vessel powered by a motor of any type in this cove

### SLOW-NO-WAKE (6MPH) BY MOTOR POWERED CRAFT

- Year-round, sunset to 10 am.
- In the cove between Hains Park and the adjacent island
- From the mouth of the channel entrance leading northward to the boat launch facility.
- No person shall operate a motorboat, excluding a personal watercraft, at a speed in excess of Slow-No-Wake within 100 feet of shore, a dock, pier, float, or anchored or moored vessel, unless taking off or landing a water skier.
- No person shall operate a personal watercraft at a speed in excess of Slow-No-Wake within 200 feet of shore, a dock, pier, float, or anchored or moored vessel, unless taking off or landing a water skier.

### PERSONAL WATERCRAFT (PWC)

- May be operated 10 am to 6 pm only. Saturday & Sunday 10 am to 7 pm.

### TRAFFIC PATTERN

- Motor-powered craft traffic operating in excess of steerage way, no wake speed, shall proceed in a counterclockwise, left-hand-turn flow pattern throughout Rogers Lake
- Boat traffic on the west side of Picnic Island shall proceed in a southerly direction only
- Boat traffic between Picnic Island and Whale Island, operating in excess of steerage way, no wake speed, shall proceed in a southwesterly direction only

### VESSEL/OPERATIONAL LIMITATIONS

- No boat propelled by an airplane propeller, fan, ducted fan, or other similar device shall be operated on Rogers Lake.
- No person shall operate any boat on Rogers Lake which is propelled by an engine having a horsepower exceeding 135.
- No person shall tow or fly a para-sail or similar device on Rogers Lake.
- Operation of powered aircraft classified by the FAA as an airplane, ultra-light airplane or powered hand glider is prohibited.
- Not more than two water-skiers, aquaplanes, or other legal recreational devices shall be towed by one boat at the same time.
- Waterskiing or towing of any type of recreation devices is allowed from 10 am to sunset only.



**YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR DAMAGE CAUSED BY YOUR WAKE**

# Rogers Lake Authority Newsletter

## What's Happening In and Around Our Lake

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Summer has “officially” arrived at the lake and the safety patrol boat is fully staffed. The Rogers Lake Authority (RLA) is pleased to share that the boat launch and the West side of Picnic Island got new signs last year and this will help visitors abide by the rules of the lake. **Don't forget, since this is a leap year, Rogers Lake will be drawn down 14" in mid-September.** This will allow homeowners to easily work on their docks and seawalls. Please plan accordingly since the drawdown will last approximately 30 days. Continue reading to learn more. Here is what is happening in and around our lake.

### Water Safety

Whether you are boating, rowing or jet skiing, safety is the RLA's primary priority. Whether you have been on the lake a hundred times or it's your first, we want to ensure that all rules are followed. The safety patrol boat will be on the water Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 3PM – 7PM and Saturday, Sundays and holidays from 11AM – 7PM. The safety patrol boat will remind watercraft operators of the proper navigation as well as some of the rules that apply when boating on Rogers Lake.

### Jet Ski Operation

You may not realize it, but six of the islands and landmasses on Rogers Lake are separated by less than 400 feet. The CT DEEP boating regulations mandate ***No one shall operate a personal watercraft/jet ski at a speed in excess of SLOW NO WAKE within 200 feet of land or a stationary object.*** The RLA will continue to closely monitor the operation of jet skis in the affected areas.

### Safety Patrol Boat

The primary role for the patrol boat is safety. The RLA wants to make sure that residents and visitors on the lake are aware of the rules and that should a distressed boater need assistance, a tow is just a call away. The patrol boat will be in the water for the season beginning Memorial Day weekend. Should you need to contact the patrol boat while it is on duty, in a nonemergency situation, you can reach it by calling 860.227.4285. In the case of an emergency, always dial 911.

The RLA is asking for your assistance in reporting unsafe activity occurring on Rogers Lake anytime of the year. To report such activity or to file a complaint, visit RLA's website at <https://www.oldlyme-ct.gov/rogers-lake-authority> or contact the patrol boat.

### Weed Treatment Update

The weed treatment plan continues to be a success. The treatments are not “one and done”, but rather a systematic process that needs to be conducted on a regular basis to continue its success. A weed survey will be conducted in June. Don't be surprised when you see the large airboat – they are conducting the survey to see which areas on the lake, if any, need to be treated. If it's determined that any areas need to be treated, signs notifying of the treatment will be posted around the lake to provide awareness of timing.



## The Dam & Alewives

Rogers Lake has seen a very successful alewife migration this year. In fact, over 13,100 have migrated from the ocean to our lake. This is the highest we've seen in years. Alewives begin migrating, from Long Island Sound, in May to spawn. They will stay in Rogers Lake until mid-July through October, when the adults and juveniles will begin their migration back to the Sound. To enable future successful migrations back to the Sound, the dam will undergo some construction on the West (left) embankment. Cement blocks will be installed to straighten the embankment and to help prevent the alewives from hitting the rocks and dying. This construction will occur during the lake drawdown period.

## Get Updates on What is Happening on Rogers Lake

Ever wonder when a rowing regatta is? When the next fishing derby is happening? When weed treatments are happening? When the lake draw-down is scheduled? Sign up to get updates and be "in the know". To do so, go to <https://oldlyme-ct.gov>. Once on the town's home page, click on the Notify Me "circle". You will be directed to a log in page. Click Sign in to log into your account as well as if you don't have an account yet. If you don't have an account, follow the instructions to create one. It is easy and takes less than 2 minutes. Once you are logged in, under the "Notify Me" section, you will see a list name called RLA Updates. To the left of the list name, you will see two icons – an envelope to receive notification by email and a phone to receive notification by text. Click on the one that indicates your preference to receive notifications. Once you choose your preference, you will begin receiving notifications as they are posted. While you are on the page, if there are other notifications you'd like to receive, feel free to sign up for those as well.

## Water Quality

The RLA tests the lake water quality monthly. While the lake has good ecological health and water quality, we are seeing some negative trends with phosphorus and nitrogen. While the water quality in Rogers Lake is good, and no urgent action needs to be taken, the RLA would like to remind all homeowners of the following to help reduce nutrient inputs into the lake: Do not apply fertilizers containing phosphorus within 20' of a body of water; maintain your septic systems, and use phosphate-free detergents. The RLA is very focused on ensuring the integrity of the lake remains strong and appreciates everyone's assistance and support.

## Who Is the Rogers Lake Authority (RLA)?

The RLA meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month at 7:30 PM. The Rogers Lake Authority is made up of appointed volunteers – three from Old Lyme and three from Lyme. Those currently serving are:

Mark Hastings  
Dick Smith

Toni Phillips  
Jenell Janes

Joel Hawkins  
Maneesha Joshi

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## Safe Boaters & Jet Skiers on Rogers Lake

Rogers Lake Authority  
52 Lyme Street  
Old Lyme, CT 06371

Learn more about Rogers Lake by visiting the website found at:

[Rogers Lake Authority | Old Lyme, CT \(oldlyme-ct.gov\)](http://oldlyme-ct.gov)

On the website you can see:

- When the next meeting is
- Meeting minutes
- Rule, regulations and ordinances
- And up to date information about RLA activities

**REMINDER: Lake draw down begins just after Labor Day**