



93 West Main Street, Clinton, CT 06413

## NEWS

### **Shenipsit Lake Reservoir Recreation Program Opens Saturday, April 13**

- *Boat slip registration scheduled for April 6*
- *Fishing and hiking free to the public*
- *25th anniversary of groundbreaking program*

**TOLLAND, Conn. – March 18, 2019** – The Shenipsit Lake Reservoir Recreation Program, a unique partnership between Connecticut Water and the Shenipsit Lake Association, opens for the 2019 fishing season on April 13. Free fishing and hiking are available through the program at Connecticut Water’s Shenipsit Lake Reservoir, located in Ellington, Tolland and Vernon. Connecticut Water pays for the entire program, which is free to the public. The Shenipsit Lake Association monitors daily activities. This is the program’s 25th anniversary.

#### **Fishing**

Fishing is permitted from designated shoreline areas or from oar- or electric-powered boats that are stored at the designated boat storage area. There are 46 boat storage spaces that are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

#### **Boat Registration**

Lake Association representatives will begin issuing boat slips at 7 a.m. on Saturday, April 6, at the Park & Ride Lot on Reservoir Road, near Exit 67 off I-84 in Vernon. The first 46 people in line will be assigned a spot for their boat. If snow or ice is forecasted, the registration might be rescheduled to Sunday, April 7, at 7 a.m. Any changes to the schedule will be posted to Connecticut Water’s website at [www.ctwater.com](http://www.ctwater.com).

#### **Hiking**

The hiking trail is open year-round, from sunrise to sunset. The portion of the trail parallel to Shenipsit Lake Road in Tolland is an old railroad bed that is maintained by the [Connecticut Forest & Park Association](#) as a Blue-Blazed Trail. Existing town roads make up the rest of the trail.

#### **Public Water Supply Source**

Shenipsit Lake Reservoir is a public water supply source that has been opened for the Department of Public Health-approved recreation program since 1994. The reservoir is an important source of water supply for Connecticut Water’s system that serves nearly 100,000 people in north central Connecticut.

“We take great measures to protect public drinking water supplies and our watershed areas as part of our commitment to environmental stewardship,” said Jessica Demar, Connecticut Water’s Environmental and Regulatory Compliance Coordinator. “To our knowledge, this is the

only recreation program on a public water supply reservoir in the state of Connecticut that does not require a fee-based permit.”

“We are all very fortunate to have access to these resources. Not only does the lake provide some of the best fishing in the state, but it also offers several miles of trails that everyone can enjoy,” stated Shenipsit Lake Association President Shawn LaForest.

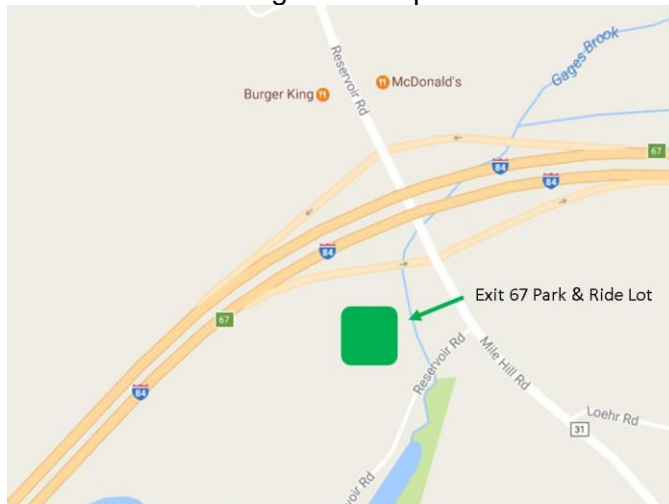
Call Connecticut Water at 800.286.5700 or visit [www.ctwater.com/community/serving-communities](http://www.ctwater.com/community/serving-communities) for more information about the Shenipsit Lake Reservoir Recreation Program.

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Connecticut Water serves nearly 300,000 people in 56 towns in Connecticut. The towns served are Ashford, Avon, Beacon Falls, Bethany, Bolton, Brooklyn, Burlington, Canton, Chester, Clinton, Colchester, Columbia, Coventry, Deep River, Durham, East Granby, East Haddam, East Hampton, East Windsor, Ellington, Enfield, Essex, Farmington, Griswold, Guilford, Hebron, Killingly, Killingworth, Lebanon, Madison, Manchester, Mansfield, Marlborough, Middlebury, Naugatuck, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, Plainfield, Plymouth, Portland, Prospect, Somers, South Windsor, Stafford, Stonington, Suffield, Thomaston, Thompson, Tolland, Vernon, Voluntown, Waterbury, Westbrook, Willington, Windsor Locks and Woodstock.

**Note to reporters and editors:**

Location for obtaining a boat slip – Exit 67 Park & Ride Lot on Reservoir Road, Vernon



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