



## Shenipsit Lake Reservoir Recreation Program Guidelines & FAQ

Connecticut Water fully funds the operating costs for the program, and we rely on participants to follow the provisions of the program that protect the quality of the public water supply reservoir, which is critical in meeting the region's drinking water needs. To our knowledge this is the only public drinking water supply reservoir in Connecticut that is open to the public without a fee-based permit.

As a shoreline property owner abutting the Shenipsit Lake Reservoir, you are eligible to fish from your own boat as long as it complies with recreation program requirements designed to protect water quality, and you have a valid recreation program sticker.

### Eligible Boats and Requirements:

- Only boats powered by oars or electric motor are allowed.
- Sculls, kayaks, paddle boats and sailboats are not eligible because they are more susceptible to tipping over.
- As required by the DPH permit, boats that have been used in other bodies of water must be dry docked/quarantined for 48 hours prior to being placed in the reservoir to protect against zebra mussel contamination.

### Obtaining a sticker for your boat:

- Verify that your boat meets the requirements above.
- Visit [ctwater.com/community/serving-communities](http://ctwater.com/community/serving-communities) and download the fillable pdf Shoreline Property Owner Boat Sticker Registration Form and email it to [LakeShenipsit@ctwater.com](mailto:LakeShenipsit@ctwater.com).
- If you own more than one boat, and would like an additional sticker, please contact Jessica Demar at [jdemar@ctwater.com](mailto:jdemar@ctwater.com) or 860.664.6190.
- We would greatly appreciate it if you would please secure your boat (i.e. lock and chained to a tree) once you receive a sticker to prevent unauthorized use.

### Recreation Program Requirements:

- Fishing from boats on the reservoir is limited to shoreline property owners and those who store their own boats at the boat storage area.
- Shoreline fishing from designated areas is open to all participants.
- No cooler or other containers will be allowed in boats on the reservoir, except for a bucket to keep fish.

### Boating Safety:

The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection requires all persons in a manually propelled boat to wear life jackets between October 1st and May 31st. Required personal flotation devices must be in the boat at all other times.

**Restrictions to Protect the Water Supply:**

Connecticut Water may suspend or curtail the recreation program if it is necessary to protect the water supply. If the program is suspended, anyone fishing from boats on the reservoir, fishing from the shoreline, or hiking on the trail will be asked to leave. Shoreline property owners would be notified directly in the unlikely event that should be necessary.

**If you See Something, Say Something:**

All shoreline property owners and recreation program participants are asked to report any suspicious activity they may observe around the reservoir by calling us at 800.286.5700, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

**Partnering to Provide Recreation and Protect Your Drinking Water Supply**

Lake Shenipsit Reservoir is a critical water supply source for north central Connecticut and combined with our ground water sources (wells) meets the daily water supply needs of families and communities for drinking, cooking, hygiene, sanitation, economic development, and public fire protection. Our Rockville Drinking Water Treatment Facility, completed in 2017, treats and filters all water withdrawn from the reservoir. The combination of high-quality source water and state-of-art treatment allows us to deliver a reliable supply of safe drinking water day-in and day-out.

We appreciate your cooperation in helping us to protect the high quality of the water in the reservoir and in making this a successful recreation program. A copy of our Shenipsit Lake Reservoir Recreation Program brochure is enclosed for additional details about the program, including hiking and designated shoreline fishing areas. If you have any questions, please contact Jessica Demar at [jdemar@ctwater.com](mailto:jdemar@ctwater.com) or 860.664.6190.