



WATCHIC LAKE VISITOR'S GUIDE

Watchic Lake offers clean water, swimming, good fishing, and a variety of wildlife. Please help protect the lake and make it enjoyable for all! For questions please contact Stephanie Parker at the WLA (parker.stephanie@gmail.com)

Invasive aquatic plants – The State of Maine has strict laws related to the threat of invasive aquatic species. Invasive species are the biggest threat to the quality of life at Watchic Lake. Invasives generally enter a lake via contaminated watercraft. **As required by Maine law inspect your boat, jet-ski, kayak, motor, trailer, fishing equipment, and live well prior to launching.** Drain your bilge pump and dispose of any plant life well away from the lake. Help keep Watchic Lake invasive-free.

Loons/Wildlife - The entire Watchic Lake area is a wildlife habitat. Please respect lake wildlife and **keep at least 150 feet away from all wildlife including but not limited to loons**, turtles, and ducks. Please do not feed any wildlife in the Watchic Lake area. Several wildlife have nesting areas throughout the Watchic Lake shoreline and on the islands. Please be extremely careful to stay away from any nesting areas.

Fishing – All Maine fishing laws apply at Watchic Lake – more at www.maine.gov/ifw/. Lead tackle is illegal in Maine – it's the number one killer of loons. **Please ensure your tackle does not contain lead.** Contact the WLA to learn more about replacing your lead-free fishing tackle free of charge.

Boating - All Maine boating laws apply at Watchic Lake – more at www.maine.gov/ifw/. Please respect the 200-foot offshore distance at any speed other than headway, especially if wakeboarding. This is safer, helps keep erosion at a minimum, and protects the lake. When skiing or tubing, you must have a spotter on board in addition to the driver, and those in the water must wear a lifejacket.

Noise Etiquette – Noise carries remarkably well across the lake. Many properties are used year-round by people getting up early for work each morning. **Please respect your neighbors and keep noise down after 10:00 pm.**

Islands – All the islands on Watchic Lake are privately owned and visitors should stay off and away from the island docks and floats.

Pet Management – The town of Standish has a leash law. For your health and the health of the lake, please leash your dog and properly dispose of dog waste.

Fireworks – Due to state and local ordinances, you can use only consumer fireworks such as sparklers and firecrackers in Standish. Bottle rockets, missile-type rockets or “helicopters” or floating paper lanterns (aka Chinese lanterns or sky lanterns) are not allowed. Fireworks may be used only with the permission of the property owner and are not allowed on the lake (which is State property).

Fireworks use is generally limited to Friday and Saturday July 1 to Labor Day from 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm. Specifically on July 3 to 5, December 31, and January 1 use is allowed from 9:00 am to 12:30 am.

Watchic Lake Association – Please visit our website (www.watchiclake.org) for more information on Watchic Lake. Please consider joining the association or donating. We are a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that works to improve, protect, and preserve the lake's water quality and fragile ecosystem.