ORDINANCE LIMITING MOTORBOATS OPERATED ON THE WATERS OF COLUMBIA LAKE TO THOSE OWNED BY CERTAIN RESIDENTS AND VOTING TAXPAYERS

Town-Record Book 5 Pages 61 & 62
Town Record Book 5 Page 133, 138 & 196
Town Record Book 8 Page 348

PURPOSE

The purpose of this ordinance is to limit the motorboats operated on the waters of Columbia Lake to those owned by residents, qualified non-residents and qualified temporary residents.

SECTION I - DEFINITIONS

"Resident" means a person with a bona fide permanent domicile in the Town.
"Qualified non-resident " means a person not domiciled in the Town, but who is qualified to vote at town meetings.
"Qualified temporary resident" means a person not domiciled in Town, but who resides in the Town for (4) four consecutive weeks or more during a calendar year as a bona fide lessee of premises owned by a resident or qualified non-resident.

SECTION 2 - LIMITATION OF USE OF COLUMBIA LAKE

(a) No person shall operate or permit the operation of any motorboat on the waters of Columbia Lake unless such motorboat is owned by a resident or qualified temporary resident of the Town.

(b) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any motorboat owned by the United States or the State of Connecticut and operated by an officer or employee thereof in the performance of his duties.

SECTION 3 - PROHIBITING CERTAIN USE OF COLUMBIA LAKE

*(a) No person shall operate any motorized vehicle or construction equipment on the lake bottom below the high water mark except by special permit from the Inland Wetland Commission. The high water mark is defined as the point at which the water of Columbia Lake flows over the spillway at the dam. (*effective April 1, 1988)

*(b) No person shall operate any motorized vehicle on the ice of Columbia Lake except by special permit from the Board of Selectmen. (*effective April 1, 1988)

*(c) No person shall operate any ice boat propelled by machinery on the ice of Columbia Lake. *effective April 1, 1988)

(d) No person shall operate any aircraft on or cause any aircraft to take off or land upon the waters of Columbia Lake except in an emergency. (*effective April 1, 1988)

(e) Recreational watercraft on the waters of Columbia Lake shall be restricted to rowboats, sailboats, kayaks, non-motorized paddle boats, canoes, sailboards, and motorboats. The types of watercraft prohibited Include: houseboats that are used as a permanent or temporary residence, radio controlled motorboats and any craft containing fixed toilet facilities capable of direct overboard discharge. (effective April 1, 1989)

(f) No person shall discharge from any vessel , any sewage, treated or untreated, or any waste derived from sewage. (effective April 1, 1989)

(g) The practice of "wake jumping" by any vessel shall be prohibited. For the purpose of this subsection "wake jumping" means the maneuvering of a vessel within 100 ft. of another vessel 's stern and in its wake so as to jump or cause the overtaking vessel to become airborne over the vessel 's wake. (effective April 1,1989)

**SECTION 4 - CONNECTICUT DIGEST OF BOATING LAWS AND LOCAL ORDINANCES

Every boat owner is encouraged to obtain from the Department of Motor Vehicles a copy of the Connecticut Digest of Boating Laws. Every boat owner is encouraged to obtain from the Columbia Town Clerk's Office copies of local boating and water safety ordinances. (**effective April 1, 1989)

SECTION 5 - PENALTIES

Any person who violates any provision of this ordinance shall be fined not more than $50.00. Any such violation which is of a continuing nature shall be deemed a separate violation for each day it occurs. (effective June 1, 1991)

SECTION 6 - EFFECTIVE DATE

**The provisions of this ordinance shall take effect in accordance with Section 15-136 of the Connecticut General Statutes. (*effective April 1, 1989)

SECTION 7 - SEVERABILITY

If any provision of this ordinance or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect any other provision or application hereof.

Adopted	**March 7, 1964**
Town Meetings	**March 7, 1964**
***Revisions**	
Adopted	**November 16, 1987**
Town Meetings	**November 16, 1987**
Publication Date:	**February 11, 1968**
Effective Dates	**April 1, 1988**
****Revisions**	
Adopted:	**November 15, 1988**
Town Meeting	**November 15, 1988**
Publication Dates	**January 26, 1989**
Effective Date:	**April 1, 1980**
******Revisions**	
Adopted	**April 8, 1991**
Town Meeting	**April 8, 1991**
Publication Date:	**April 13, 1991**
Effective Date:	**June 1, 1991**