

(b) No person shall operate on the waters of Columbia Lake, a boat with an outboard engine whose horsepower exceeds 80, or a boat with an inboard engine whose horsepower exceeds 150.

(d) No person shall operate any motorboat on the waters of Columbia Lake at speed greater than “bare steerageway” from sunset to 10 PM between April 1 and September 30.

### **OPERATION & AGE RESTRICTIONS**

Person under the age of 16 CAN operate a vessel (other than PWC) without obtaining a CPWO when under the onboard supervision of a person at least 18 years of age who has a CPWO

### **Personal Flotation Devices (PFD)**

Life jackets need to be worn by everyone until June 1st.

Under the age of thirteen, needs to be wearing a life jacket at ALL TIMES.



Additional information regarding the Rules and Regulations for the Town of Columbia Lake can be found online on the Town Website.

# 2020 Marine Patrol Quick Help Guide



## **Gate Monitoring Hours:**

**May 16th & May 17th:** 9:00 AM—3:00 PM

**May 23rd –September 13th:**

10:00 AM—8:00 PM

**Weekends Only:**

**September 19th through October 11th**

10:00 AM—8:00 PM

## **Boat Patrol:**

**May 16th - September 13th**

Weekends: 11:00 AM—9:00 PM

Weekdays: 5:00 PM—9:00 PM

*Persons are not permitted to operate a motorboat during the following hours:*

**April 1st—September 30th:**

10:00 PM—7:00 AM

**October 1st through March 31st:**

6:00 PM—8:00 AM

Town of Columbia Parks & Recreation Department  
(P) 860-228-8513

## Requirements to Operate Watercraft on Lake

- Columbia Resident, Qualified Non-Resident or Qualified Temporary Resident
  - Current 2020 Registration Sticker
  - Safe Boating Certificate or Certificate of Personal Watercraft Operation (CPWO) for a motorized boat
  - Boat's Registration
  - Boat is subject to a safety inspection prior to first time launching on Columbia Lake
  - Always inspect boat for Invasive Species
- Outboard Engine—cannot exceed 80 horse power**  
**Inboard Engine—cannot exceed 150 horse power**

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

#### PURPOSE

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

#### SECTION 1 - 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 the Town but who is temporarily residing in the Town as a bona-fide lessee of premises owned by a resident or qualified non-resident.

#### SECTION 2—LIMITATIONS 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 US or the State of CT and operated by an officer or employee thereof in the performance of their 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.
- (b) No person shall operate any motorized vehicle on the ice of Columbia Lake except by special permit from the Board of Selectmen.
- (c) No person shall operate any iceboat propelled by machinery on the ice of Columbia Lake.
- (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.
- (e) Recreational watercraft on the waters of Columbia Lake shall be restricted to rowboats, sailboats, kayaks, non-motorized paddle boats, canoes, sail boards and motorboat. The types of watercraft prohibited include: houseboats that are used as a temporary or permanent residence, radio controlled motorboat and any craft containing fixed toilet capable of direct overboard discharge.
- (f) No person shall discharge from any vessel any sewage, treated or untreated, or any waste derived from sewage.
- (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 other vessel's wake.

#### ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR SAFETY REGULATIONS OF MOTORBOATS, WATER SKIING AND OTHER WATER ACTIVITIES ON COLUMBIA LAKE

#### PURPOSE

The purpose of this ordinance is to regulate the operation of motorboats, water skiing and other water activities on Columbia Lake for the comfort and safety of the public and the protection of property.

#### SECTION 1—REGULATION OF MOTORBOATS ON COLUMBIA LAKE

- (a) No person shall operate any motorboat on the waters of Columbia Lake during the following hours: between April 1st and September 30th, from 10 PM to 7 AM; between October 1 and March 31, from 6 PM to 8 AM.
- (b) No person shall operate a motorboat on the waters of Columbia Lake in a figure-eight course or in unreasonable sharp turns. No person while operating a motorboat on the waters of Columbia Lake shall engage in unauthorized pursuit of another vessel or engage in unauthorized racing.

- (c) No person shall operate on the waters of Columbia Lake, a boat with an outboard engine whose horsepower exceeds 80, or a boat with an inboard engine whose horsepower exceeds 150.
- (d) No person shall operate any motorboat on the waters of Columbia Lake at speed greater than "bare steerageway" from sunset to 10 PM between April 1 and September 30.

A vessel operating at a speed of 6 mph must be 100 ft. ( 200 ft for jet skis) from shore, pier, dock, swimming area, float, anchored or moored vessel, unless such vessel is towing a water-skier and taking off from land.

#### WATER SKIING REGULATIONS

To **operate** a vessel that is engaged in tubing and or waterskiing you must:

- Be at least 16 years old
- Hold a valid boating certificate issue by CT
- Have a CT Safe Water Skiing Endorsement issued by DEEP

The operator of the boat is required to have a responsible observer at least 12 years in age facing the skier to assist the operator and monitor the progress of the skier.

At NO TIME shall a motorboat pull more than 2 skiers at one time.

The practice of "wake jumping" by any Bessel shall be prohibited. "Wake jumping" means the maneuvering of a vessel within 100 ft. of another vessel's stern and its wake so as to jump or cause the overtaking vessel to become airborne over the other vessel's wake..

Any water skier must terminate their forward motion at least 100 ft from shore or any swimming area.

If a water skier should fall, immediately return and render assistance to the fallen skier or cause another motorboat to be in attendance for such purposes.

In CT, water-skiers are required by law to wear a US Coast Guard approved PFD while engaged in waterskiing.

Waterskiing and the towing of a person on the waters of Columbia Lake after sunset is prohibited.