

THE LAKE LETTER

Summer 2025



We had a beautiful winter on Lake T this year. The lake was frozen for over a month and saw lots of activity including ice fishing, ice skating, hockey, walkers and bikers. Please remember general safety rules. The ice should be 4-6 inches thick for walking, skating and fishing. Ice should be checked every 10 feet as the thickness will vary in different parts of the lake. No motors over 3.3 hp, therefore, no ATVs or snowmobiles on the lake. Have fun and be safe!



REMEMBER WHEN

Do you remember Lake Terramuggus from days gone by when wildlife ruled, the shores were dotted with summer cabins, and an ice house stored ice that was cut from the lake in the winter? Are you interested in learning more about Lake T in the past? You can read [Reflections into Marlborough's History](#) by Romano Ghirlanda, MHSP.

Learn more at:

<https://marlboroughhistory.org/home>

A NOTE FROM THE LAKE COMMISSION

The Lake Advisory Commission (LAC) Goals and Activities for 2025 include Awards for exemplary property owners, Education and Outreach, a lake cleanup effort and monitoring of the boat launch effort (now complete). We continue to sponsor the Yearly LandTech lake report. Together with the town, we sponsored two pamphlets sent to homeowners titled Rainfall as a Resource.

Lake Commission

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The first resource is a guide to Rain Gardens, the second is a guide to low impact development. If you did not receive these pamphlets last fall, please contact the Town Hall. This information is a great resource as you look to landscape and maintain your property. Interested in helping organize a lake clean up day? Please reach out to a member of the Lake Commission. And as always, residents are welcome at all of our meetings.

The Boat Launch is complete!



With the weather turning warmer and summer almost here, pontoons and fishing boats are returning to the lake. A combination of Town and State of CT grant funds provided resources to move forward with the boat launch renovation project. It began last September and has been completed. The improved launch is ADA compliant and has a place to tie up boats temporarily. There is no fishing allowed off the dock. The boat launch project completed on time and within the allocated budget and is an accessible and beautiful addition to our lake.

Thank you for practicing Safety on the Lake!

Summer is time to relax and have fun! It's also important to be sure you are **boating and swimming safely**.

- Current boat registration
- Personal flotation devices (PFDs) for each passenger
- Fire extinguishers
- Paddle in case of motor problems
- First Aid Kit
- Proper signaling devices
- Always wear PFDs when on SUP or paddle boats
- Watch out for swimmers
- Swimmers should stay closer to shore and remain visible
- Alcohol and boating or swimming don't mix!
- Remember, only 3.3 hp motors, of any kind, allowed on the lake
- Learn to help drowning victims – Practice the Reach or Throw, Don't go method, learn CPR. Call 911

Refer to the Parks and Recreation's regulations and updates for a more comprehensive list <https://marlboroughct.recdesk.com/Community/Page?pageId=738>

BOATERS GUIDE AVAILABLE AT TOWN HALL



View of Lake T from Blish's bathhouse

More Lake *info*

The **lake was stocked** on May 31st with 380 10-12 " *Rainbow Trout*

Happy Fishing!

(photo credit: Louise Concodello)



The Land Tech Report for 2024 was presented to the Lake Commission and town resident attendees at the April meeting. Key highlights include:

- Samples are obtained in multiple locations around the lake.
- Water temp avgs were slightly cooler this year and last year than in the past due to cooler air temps and continue to be in the normal range.
- There were no specific Nitrogen spike in 2024.
- Clear water visibility in the spring-fed areas reached 19 feet in May, decreasing as the water warms.
- As the water warms, phytoplankton grows and reduces water clarity later in the year.
- Lake T continues to be classified as a healthy lake with moderate nutrients and plant growth and generally good water quality.

Info *worth repeating*

Land Tech will be completing an invasive weed study in the lake in the future (2026 depending on budget). For now, identification remains key. Please report invasive weed sightings to someone on the Lake Commission or Town Hall.

These most common Invasive weeds have been found in the CT River:

Milfoil



Hydrilla



Not all lake weeds are bad!

Non-invasive plants include:

Native pond weeds (water lilies, pond lettuce)

Wild Celery (dragonflies love this plant)



Elodea



Non-invasive plants are beneficial to plant life and live in all healthy lakes. Properly identify the weed species before taking any action.

FIREWORKS SAFETY

Please Practice Safety around fireworks!!

And remember to **keep our lake clean and pick up your debris!**

For Firework safety go to: <https://www.nsc.org/community-safety/safety-topics/seasonal-safety/summer-safety/fireworks>

For information on what fireworks are legal in CT:

<https://www.nbcconnecticut.com/news/local/fireworks-heres-whats-legal-and-illegal-in-connecticut/2512163/>

Common courtesy is also nice. Give your neighbors a heads up for those with PTSD or animals that need to be in the house and secured safely.



Photo credit: Jane Chemerynski

50 WAYS TO KEEP LAKE T HEALTHY



Yard and Landscaping Practices

- Use organic or slow-release fertilizers sparingly.
- Avoid applying fertilizers or pesticides within 10–20 feet of the shoreline.
- Plant native vegetation along the shore to filter runoff.
- Create a buffer zone of trees, shrubs, and grasses between your yard and the lake.
- Use rain gardens to absorb runoff from roofs and driveways.
- Replace turf grass near the shore with deep-rooted plants.
- Reduce lawn size to minimize the need for fertilizer and irrigation.
- Avoid overwatering lawns to prevent nutrient runoff.
- Use mulch to reduce erosion and retain soil moisture.
- Leave grass clippings on the lawn to reduce the need for fertilizer.



Property Maintenance and Hardscaping

- Use permeable pavers for driveways and patios to allow water infiltration.
- Maintain gravel paths or wood chips to reduce runoff.
- Properly store and dispose of household chemicals and paints.
- Sweep—not hose—driveways and sidewalks.
- Direct downspouts into gardens or rain barrels instead of hard surfaces.
- Install silt fences or erosion control blankets during construction.
- Clean up pet waste and dispose of it properly—never leave it near the lake.
- Cover soil piles and secure construction sites to prevent sediment wash-off.



Boating and Dock Management

- Use a pump-out station to empty boat toilets.
- Never dump sewage, trash or oil into the lake.
- Use non-toxic, biodegradable cleaning products on your boat and dock.
- Wash your boat before entering Lake T, if you've been in another waterway.
- Regularly inspect and maintain your boat's engine to prevent leaks.
- Avoid idling or operating boats near shallow areas to prevent stirring up sediments.
- Use electric motors rather than gas-powered ones when possible and remember there is a 3 hp gas motor limit on Lake T.

Household Management

- Have an outdoor shower? Use environment friendly soap and drain away from the lake .
- Avoid dumping or burying unused chemicals, oils or other hazardous wastes in your yard.
- Use phosphate-free dish soaps and detergents.
- Fix leaking toilets and faucets to avoid overloading septic system and pumps.
- Conserve water to reduce load on wells.
- Avoid pouring cooking grease or oils down the drain or outside.
- Water softener systems should drain properly into a dry well away from the lake.

Wildlife and Shoreline Preservation

- Avoid feeding ducks, geese, or other wildlife near the lake.
- Leave fallen logs and rocks in place—they provide habitat.
- Don't mow or clear vegetation right up to the shoreline.
- Report and remove invasive species.
- Install fish habitat structures rather than clearing areas for swimming.
- Avoid using pesticides near the lake.

Community Engagement and Education

- Join or support a lake association or watershed group.
- Organize or participate in shoreline clean-up events.
- Encourage neighbors to adopt lake-friendly practices.
- Educate family and guests about protecting the lake.
- Never pour anything down the sewer drains on your street.
- Attend workshops or webinars on lake stewardship.
- Support local policies and zoning that protect the lake.

General Environmental Practices

- Reduce car trips and emissions—air pollution contributes to acid rain and lake nutrient loads.
- Compost kitchen and yard waste instead of burning or dumping.
- Recycle oil, antifreeze, and other automotive fluids properly.
- Properly maintain your home's gutters and drainage systems.
- Monitor water quality and report unusual changes like algae blooms or fish deaths to the Town Hall or the Lake Commission.

Parks & Recreation

PRESENTS

*Summer
Concert Series*

- JUNE 26- SEAT OF OUR PANTS - FOLK/CONTEMPORARY
- JULY 10 - WINDHAM CONCERT BAND - PATRIOTIC/CLASSICAL
- JULY 24 - THE STEVIE EXPERIENCE - STEVIE NICKS TRIBUTE
- AUGUST 7 - MODERN RIFFS - CLASSIC ROCK
- AUGUST 14 - JOY BLOOM - CHILDREN'S SHOW
- AUGUST 21 - THE ROCKING HEADS - CLASSIC ROCK
- AUGUST 28 - NIGHTSHIFT - CLASSIC ROCK

Lakefest 2025

Seat of our Pants will be performing on the South end of the Lake on August 1st



Lake Commision

Members

Dan Dupre - Chairperson
Anthony Bassilakis - Vice Chairperson
Joseph J. Asklar III
Jane Rovero Boston
Louise Concodello
Nancy Viscoe
John Planeta
Alternates:
Cheryl Morgan - editor
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Gayle Anton

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Photo credit:
Dr. Tom Dugdale