

UPDATED FOR 2022



Dunham Lake Property Owners Association

WATERCRAFT REGULATIONS



Dunham Lake property owners not only have the privilege of access to one of the cleanest and most beautiful lakes in Michigan, but they also have the convenience of stowing their sail watercrafts, paddle watercrafts, paddle boards, kayaks, and other non-motor water vessels on the lakeshore. However, the following watercraft regulations must be followed to avoid fines and/or removal of vessels from the common ground by the Board.

INTRODUCTION

- Storing watercraft at the lake is a privilege.
- If you store your watercraft at the lake, you are still responsible for maintaining care for the watercraft while it is stored there.
- **By Michigan DNR statute, Watercrafts operated on Dunham Lake are to be NON-motorized. No motors, gas or electric, are allowed.**

KEY DEFINITIONS

- 'Watercraft' — any vessel, craft, or device intended to float on, or travel through, the water. This includes, but is not limited to kayaks, canoes, row watercrafts, paddle watercrafts, paddle boards, flotation devices and rafts.

WATERCRAFT IDENTIFICATION

- All watercrafts stored on DLPOA lake shore must have a DLPOA identification sticker to permit easy identification. (If your sticker cannot be seen when the watercraft is stowed, use a permanent marker to write your sticker number on a visible part of the watercraft or watercraft cover.)
 - Watercraft Tags



— Watercraft tags may be obtained at any time by emailing dunhamlake.com@gmail.com or reference the most recent Dunham Laker or board member for alternate contact information.

— There is no charge for tags.

- There is no limit to the number of tags per household, however, the number of watercrafts stored at the lake is limited on a household basis as defined in the Docking & Storage sections.
- All watercraft must be tagged with a readable DLPOA issued tag. Old tags which become unreadable must be replaced.
- Tags should be placed on the watercraft in a location that makes them easily visible while being stored and used. Watercraft committee members may move/ reposition any watercraft as necessary to locate the tag, to ensure compliance.

- If a watercraft is sold OR transferred to another party, a new tag is required.
- If watercraft is not tagged, the board reserves the right to remove and impound.

LAUNCHING, DOCKING & REMOVAL

- In/Out dates for watercraft at our lake:
 - **Watercraft are allowed "IN", for use and storage, on April 1st.**
 - **Watercraft must be removed "OUT" by November 1st.** This includes ALL storage accessories (chains, locks, racks, etc.)
 - Neither the Civic Committee nor the Association, nor its officers or directors, shall have any liability for use of watercraft on lake.
 - **PLEASE NOTE:** 'watercraft out' date is a hard deadline; watercraft left at the greenbelt after this date are subject to impounding immediately and corresponding fee. Neither the Civic Committee nor the Association, nor its officers or directors, shall have any liability whatsoever for any costs, expenses, or damages which the owner of a watercraft may incur arising out of or relating to the impounding of any watercraft pursuant to these rules and regulations.
- Launching your watercraft:
 - If using a vehicle, launching should be done at east beach.
 - ↳ **Right-of-way must be given to swimmers.**
 - Otherwise, please use caution to avoid disruption to the shoreline when launching manually from an alternate location.
 - When relocating watercraft from another lake— watercraft must be cleaned thoroughly, away from the lake, to prevent invasive species from entering lake.
 - Watercraft docking on the beaches and swimming rafts is not permitted.
 - All watercrafts shall be **COMPLETELY** removed from the water when not in use.

WATERCRAFT STORAGE

- Please be aware of the “NO WATERCRAFTS” posted areas. There are 4x4 sign posts indicating where watercrafts may NOT be kept due to ecologically sensitive areas like the Prairie Fen. Watercrafts found in these areas may be relocated by the Board and restrained at the Main Park at your expense.
 - Watercraft storage on the greenbelt is for **Residents Only!**
 - Watercraft storage at the lake is granted each year on a first-come, first-served basis. No stakes, chains or other markers should be left along the shore.
 - The choice of storage location should, as much as possible, preserve the natural view of our beautiful lake. Please consider impact to shoreline and appearance by storing watercraft on the side of trail opposite the lake if space allows.
 - No watercraft shall be stored in ecologically sensitive areas such as the Prairie Fen, as demarcated by the “No Watercrafts” signs. Presently the Prairie Fen has two signs on 4x4 posts identifying where watercraft may not be stored. If vegetation is impacted along the shoreline by watercraft, additional ecological zones may be identified.
 - Only 2 watercraft per household may be stored at the lake at any time.
 - No part of stored watercraft may be on the walking path, in the lake or hang above the water line.
 - No tarps are allowed under watercraft. Similarly, as much as possible, watercraft shall be raised off of the ground with small racks/stands to preserve natural vegetation and protect the shoreline from erosion.
 - If a watercraft is leaned against a tree, that tree shall be mature and strong enough to support the watercraft without damage to the tree, and the shortest side of the watercraft shall be upward.
 - All watercraft must be stored in a fashion as to not collect water to minimize breeding of mosquitoes. If a watercraft cannot be stored upside down or on its side, a cover should be used. If this cannot be done effectively, watercraft must be tipped regularly to prevent prolonged collection of water. If a watercraft is identified as commonly requiring tipping, the board may deem homeowner to be in violation of watercraft regulation.
- If after 5 days, the owner cannot be contacted or identified, a second attempt will be made.
 - If the issue is not resolved within 10 days, the watercraft may be impounded and anyone claiming the watercraft will be subject to a \$75 impound/unlock fee and may be required to provide proof of ownership (photo, receipt, etc.) Such fees may be assessed to the Owner’s account with the Association. If the fees are not paid, the Association may record a lien against the Owner’s Lot for any such unpaid fees.
 - Any watercraft not claimed by the following ‘watercrafts in’ date will be disposed of.
 - Any watercraft removed from impound without consent or by persons other than the Civic Committee or Property Owners Association Board shall be assessed an additional \$75 fee + cost of damage to locking mechanism (if applicable).
 - Any damage to the greenbelt or common areas caused by watercraft or watercraft owner will be the responsibility of property owner.
 - The Civic Committee and Association may enforce these watercraft rules through legal action, and it shall be entitled to seek recovery of its legal fees and costs incurred in any such enforcement action from the offending Owner if the Association prevails (and to lien Lots if such amounts are awarded but unpaid by the Owner).

ENFORCEMENT AND NON-COMPLIANCE PENALTIES

- For watercraft deemed to be in non-compliance to any of these regulations, a member of the watercraft committee will attempt to contact the owner for immediate resolution, via phone, email or e-group “Announcements”.

DNR REGULATIONS

Section R. 281.763.47 — Dunham lake; motorboats prohibited.

Rule 47. On the waters of Dunham lake, sections 18 and 19, T3N, R7E, Highland township, Oakland county, it is unlawful to operate a motorboat. (See R 281.747.16 for the regulation covering the part of Dunham lake which lies in Livingston county.)

Section R. 281.747.16 — Dunham lake; motorboats prohibited.

Rule 16. On the waters of Dunham lake, section 13 and 24, T3N, R6E, Hartland township, Livingston county, it is unlawful to operate a motorboat. (See R 281.763.47 for the regulation covering the part of Dunham lake which lies in Oakland county.)

HISTORY: EFF. FEBRUARY 25, 1977.

NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT (EXCERPT)
Act 451 of 1994.

324.80103 Definitions; M to O. Sec. 80103.

(f) “Motorboat” means a vessel propelled wholly or in part by machinery.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995

Popular Name: Act 451

Popular Name: Marine Safety Act

Popular Name: NREPA

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