

A message from the Pond Association President

In recent weeks there seems to have been an increase in power boating activity on the pond, and some of the boating enthusiasts do not appear to be complying with the State of Maine rules and regulations regarding boating. Two excerpts of these laws are of particular concern to us on Clemons Pond, and are as follows:

WATER SAFETY ZONE

"Water Safety Zone" means the area of water **within 200 feet of any shoreline**, whether it is the shoreline of the mainland or of an island.

SPEED REGULATIONS

Watercraft may not be operated at a speed greater than headway speed while within the water safety zone or within a marina or an approved anchorage in coastal or inland waters except while actively fishing. "**Headway speed**" means the minimum speed necessary to maintain steerage and control of the watercraft while the watercraft is moving. The operator of any watercraft must operate at a reasonable and prudent speed for existing conditions and regulate the speed of a watercraft so as to avoid danger, injury or unnecessary inconvenience in any manner to other watercraft and their occupants, whether anchored or under way. The operator must consider the effect of the wash or wave created by their watercraft to waterfront piers, floats or other property or shorelines.

The speed limit rule does have an exception:

"A watercraft may enter or leave the water safety zone, as directly as possible, to pick up or drop off water skiers, surfboarders or persons on similar devices. In doing so, it is the watercraft operator's responsibility not to endanger any person or property."

Attached is a map of the pond and you can see that almost all locations within any of the three coves are less than 200 ft. of the shoreline.

Everyone should be aware that compliance with these regulations is a demonstration of respect for our neighbors on the pond as well as being an essential element for the protection of the shoreline.

Please make all efforts to ensure that all boaters using our pond, whether they are residents or visitors, comply with these regulations.

Sincerely yours,

Richard R. Hunt
President

