

Visiting the Water's Edge

A Guide for Lakeshore Property Renters

Guidelines for the Lake Community

Rights of the Water?

All waters of Vermont are managed to preserve and protect a healthy ecosystem as well as to guarantee the right for all to swim, fish, boat, and otherwise enjoy. Please follow the basic rules outlined here to do your part to maintain the waters and shores of Vermont in a pristine state.

Shoreland Vegetation - Grow On!

Lakeshore trees, shrubs, and plants protect against erosion, filter overland pollutants, and provide habitat for wildlife.

🚫 Cutting Trees or Shrubs!

Aquatic Plants - Keep them Rooted

All aquatic plants to grow to provide habitat for wildlife, provide oxygen in the water, maintain sediments, and keep waters clear.

🚫 Pulling Plants!

Protect Native Species from Invaders

Non- native, invasive species infestations threaten the diversity and survival of native species, limit the recreational uses of a waterbody, and result in financial challenges. Follow these VT Rules:

💧 **Clean** and remove any visible mud, plants, fish, or organisms from boats, trailers, equipment, clothing, dogs, etc.

💧 **Drain** and eliminate water from equipment including bilges, wells, coolers, snorkels, etc.

💧 **Dry** anything that comes into contact with water.

Never release plants, fish, animals, or terrarium materials into a body of water unless they came out of that body of water. **Dispose** of unused baitfish on land in a trash can.



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Respect the Neighbors

For all types of wildlife interactions, maintain a respectful distance and never chase wildlife, which is against the law. Avoid disturbing loons, a species often seen on Vermont waterbodies. One of the main threats to a loon's nesting success is human disturbance.

To allow loons to prosper and continue their expansion in Vermont, follow these guidelines:

- ◆ Stay out of designated nesting sites while boating.
- ◆ Keep watch and slow down for loons.
- ◆ Use only non-lead sinkers to stop lead poisoning (Most lead sinkers are banned in VT).
- ◆ Reel in fishing lines to avoid entanglement or the potential for loons to ingest lures or bait.
- ◆ Report loon or any wildlife harassment to a game warden or state police.

Vermont Lake Resources

VT Fish and Wildlife Department

www.vtfishandwildlife.com

General Information (802) 828-1000

Law Enforcement (802) 828-1529

Licensing (802) 828-1190

VT State Police - Marine Division

vsp.vermont.gov

Boating Law Information (802) 244-8727

VT Dept. of Environmental Conservation

dec.vermont.gov

General Information (802) 828-1556

Aquatic Invasive Species (802) 828-1535

