

City of Fairfield, Ohio
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
MARSH LAKE BOATING PROCEDURES/RULES

POLICIES

Only hand-powered boats that have a current and valid registration sticker (OH numbers) OR the alternative registration decal, who have paid the current daily pass fees (\$10 per vessel) are permitted on the lake.

- This includes: Kayaks, canoes, rowing shells, rowboats, and jon boats.
- Swimming in Marsh Lake is prohibited, therefore, the use of paddleboards or windsurfers is NOT permitted due to the likelihood of a patron being exposed to a swimming situation during the use of these type of vessels.

Boating is only permitted during Bait House operating hours, in accordance with the Ohio state “dusk” law, and after daily pass fees have been paid. Boaters must be off the water and loaded up prior to closing time, not AT closing time, in order for staff to close the park accordingly.

It is required that each person navigating Marsh Lake by boat to wear a USCG approved PFD at all times.

Swimming in Marsh Lake is never permitted.

The consumption of alcohol on the property is not permitted.

Due to limited parking, trailers are not permitted to park in the lot. Vehicles with trailers may park in the overflow lot.

Until the staff has a better understanding of the lake and its imminent dangers, users are only permitted to navigate the “bait house” side of the lake (access to areas where the boater cannot visibly see the bait house is not permitted). An evaluation period of 30-days will determine if it is feasible to change this policy to expand to the entire lake. The intent is to allow users complete navigation of the entire water.

In the interest of fishing patrons limited to the banks, boaters are asked to stay at least 100 feet off of the lakeshore to allow for undisturbed fishing for these users.

Children under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.

Launch passes are required to be purchased on a “per boat” that is launched. Fishing passes must still be purchased per person for those interested in fishing from the pay lake. All catch rules are still in effect for each fishing pass purchased, regardless if a launch pass has been purchased.

MARSH LAKE QUICK GUIDE

Are you going to fish from the lake?

- Yes: a fishing pass (one per person) must be purchased.
 - o Will you be using an approved non-motorized boat to fish from?
 - Yes: a launch pass (one pass per boat) must be purchased to access the waters.
 - No: no other requirements are necessary for fishing from the shoreline.
- No: entrance into the park is free if the lake is not being accessed for fishing or boating.
 - o Will you be using an approved non-motorized boat to access the lake?
 - Yes: a launch pass (one pass per boat) must be purchased to access the waters.
 - No: entrance into the park is free if the lake is not being accessed for fishing or boating.

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