Season: The 2024 Quabbin Fishing Season runs from April 20 through October 19, 2024. Shore Fishing is open seven days a week for the season. The Boat Launch Areas (BLAs) will also open on April 20, conditions permitting. BLAs are open seven days a week from 6:00 a.m. until closing. Boats must be off the water 1½ hours before closing. Closing times and 'boats off the water times' are posted at the BLA's and Quabbin Fishing Website*. Pottapaug Pond and O'Loughlin Pond will be closed to all boating (private and rentals) for the 2024 Quabbin Fishing Season. Surveys and removal efforts are scheduled for both ponds to control swollen bladderwort, a floating aquatic invasive species.

Boat Launch Area Fees: You must be 16 years or older, with a Massachusetts Fishing or Sporting License or a Quabbin Fishing License to rent or launch a boat. Boats are rented on a first come - first served basis. We require anyone renting a boat to be in possession of some form of fishing equipment. Rentals before 12:30 p.m. pay full day rate. **ONLY credit/debit cards will be accepted at the BLAs (no cash sales).** Season Passes must be purchased online through the <u>Quabbin Fishing Website</u>*. Damage to rental boats and motors or failure to adhere to the regulations set forth in this fishing guide may result in being banned for up to 1 year.

Prices: Parking and Fishing Access - \$6 per vehicle; \$8 per vehicle and trailer (includes launching fees)

Seasonal Parking Pass (online sales only) - \$50; \$25 if handicapped (with placard) or senior citizen (62 and older)

Boat and Motor Rental - \$40 full day; \$30 afternoon (after 12:30 p.m.)

Boat only Rental - \$14 full day; \$10 afternoon (after 12:30 p.m.)

Senior Citizens (62 and older) – half price Parking and Season Pass; half price weekday Boat Rentals (except holidays)

Handicapped (with placard) – half price Parking, Season Pass, and Boat Rentals

Quabbin Boat Seal: An intact <u>Quabbin Boat Seal</u> is required on all private and non-DCR boats launched on the reservoir. This seal documents that the craft has gone through a DCR-approved decontamination for aquatic invasive species. Boat seals are inspected by Boat Launch Attendants prior to launching. Call the Quabbin Visitor Center to schedule an appointment at (413) 323-7221 and press 0 when the recording starts. Leave a message if necessary. Appointments are taken beginning March 1.

Boat Size, Occupancy, and Safety:

- * Minimum boat size is 12' Boats under 14', 6" are limited to three individuals. Private boat may carry no more than four individuals.
- * Rental boats are limited by weight. In general, maximum of 3 adults (16 or older) per rental boat; or 2 adults and 2 children under 16 per rental boat; or 1 adult and 3 children under 16 per rental boat.
- * Boats must be operated at a safe and reasonable speed.
- * Boats must return to Boat Launch Area no later than the posted "Boats off the water" time.
- * No boats may be launched less than 2 hours before the posted "Boats off the water" times at Boat Launch Areas.
- * Persons under 16 must be accompanied by an adult when in a boat.
- * Flashlights or a cyalume stick are recommended in the event you need to be rescued.

Outboard Motor Size Limits:

- * DCR rental boats are limited to 10 horsepower (hp) maximum.
- * Two-Stroke Engines private boats with two-stroke engines are limited to one-half the Boating Industries of America (BIA) or Outboard Boating Council (OBC) hp rating of the boat, up to a maximum of 20 hp.
- * Four-stroke engines private boats with four-stroke engines less than 40 hp are limited to ½ the BIA or OBC hp rating. Private boats with four-stroke engines rated for 40 hp or larger are limited to a maximum of 25 hp.
- * Private boats may use two motors provided the total does not exceed the hp limits. If hp exceeds the limits the propeller on larger motor needs to be removed.
- * Combined four-stroke and two-stroke engines may not exceed 20 hp total.

Boating Regulations - the following are REQUIRED for private boats:

- * Intact Quabbin Boat Seal at check-in prior to launching.
- * Safety equipment compliant with U. S. Coast Guard Regulations.

Watershed Protection Regulations - the following are PROHIBITED:

- * Acts that pollute the water supply
- * Boating beyond marked limits
- * Private canoes or kayaks
- * Alcoholic beverages
- * Drones

- * Swimming or wading
- * Camping
- * Dogs or other animals
- * Fires

- * Disposal of materials in the reservoir or reservation
- * Pontoon boats, inflatable boats, or sailboats.
- * Lead fishing sinkers
- * Harassment of nesting or chick rearing wildlife
- * Landing boats on shoreline/islands except at designated areas for restroom facility use

Contact Information:

EMERGENCY - 911

MA State Police, Quabbin - (413) 323-7561

Quabbin Visitor Center - (413) 323-7221 Watershed Rangers - (617) 828-2452 (cell)

The complete Quabbin Fishing guide is available at: www.mass.gov/dcr/quabbinfish* 1/12/2024



