



# Rules for Guest Boating on Sunset Lake

The Far Hills Association is determined to protect the water quality and safety of our lake. Invasive species are a huge threat to any body of water and as such we must all do everything possible to protect our lake from contamination. Boats brought into the lake from other areas are the number one way that our lake can become contaminated and as such, we all as a community must work together to maintain our water quality and the safety of our lake.

In order to help everyone understand and work towards our common goal of keeping our lake as clean and weed free as possible, the Far Hills Board has set up the following rules governing Guest Boats on Sunset Lake:

- A member may allow a guest to bring their boat onto Sunset lake provided the guest follow the proper washing procedure for both boat & trailer prior to launching it in the lake, comply with all Massachusetts boating laws as well as FHA boating rules. We require that the member have the following Clean Boat Certification form filled out by all individuals launching guest boat on Sunset Lake. Please make sure this document is available at all times in the launched guest boat.
- Members are responsible for all boats, canoes, kayaks and other gear brought in by themselves and their guests. Boats, trailers, waders and other fishing and boating equipment can spread aquatic invasive species from waterbody to waterbody unless properly cleaned, dried or disinfected after use. Although some invasive species such as water milfoil are readily visible to the human eye, many others are too small to be readily noticed. To avoid spreading invasive species please check, clean, drain, dry and disinfect everything that has contact with our lake before and after use.
- Each guest boat is required to have on board a valid member card. Guest vehicles & trailers should be identified with the member name (guest of \_\_\_) member address & a valid contact number. The member, if on his/her own boat does not have to display a member card if the boat has been registered with the association and has a Sunset Lake sticker displayed.
- The host member is responsible for conformance by the guest(s), and must inspect boats/trailers prior to launch for cleanliness, Clean Boat Certification document, boat size and engine power. He/she must instruct guests on the FHA boating rules (especially that the Winding Cove ramp is in a large no-wake cove). Also, if appropriate, explain catch-and-release rules. Please make sure guests read and understand attached boating rules.
- Short term (<30 days) renters are NOT allowed motor boats in Sunset Lake. the renting member is responsible for the proper cleaning of any renter unpowered boat or gear including kayaks, canoes, paddle boards, chairs, floats, life preservers and all other items contacting lake water.
- Fishing Tournaments - Special permit needed for any tournaments not sponsored by FHA. This applies to ice fishing tournaments as well as summer tournaments.

# Clean Boat Certification Form

## Why is this document necessary?

We, at Sunset Lake, value our water quality and are very concerned about preventing contamination of our lake by aquatic invasive species, such as variable watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum heterophyllum*); Eurasian watermilfoil (*M. spicatum*); and fanwort (*Cabomba caroliniana*). In Sunset Lake, these invasive species have no natural predators to keep their populations in check. As a result, these species can outcompete beneficial native species, reduce biodiversity, hamper recreational uses, diminish aesthetic values, decrease water quality, and reduce real estate values.

These species grow very rapidly and reproduce by fragmentation. Since the plants can break apart very easily due to wave action produced by boats, the introduction of even one single fragment of any of these plants can result in the infestation of the entire lake. Once introduced into a lake, these plants are extremely difficult to eradicate, often forming dense mats making swimming and boating difficult. When the dense mats decay, the available oxygen in the water may be depleted. The resulting low oxygen conditions can lead to fish kills and harm other beneficial native aquatic organisms.

## Certification Statement:

I, \_\_\_\_\_

guest of \_\_\_\_\_

who resides at \_\_\_\_\_

certify that I have cleaned, drained and dried; or cleaned, drained and washed my boat following method A or B as described in the Clean Boat Decontamination Instructions.

I certify that all watercraft, associated trailers and equipment that I will be using on Sunset Lake meet the clean boat certification requirements as described in this document and are free from invasive species

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Far Hills Association, 13 Blueberry Road,  
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# Why are we so concerned about cleaning boats?

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***Let's face it. WHO wants THIS stuff to take over our lake? We need to do EVERYTHING that we possibly can to prevent this!!***



# Boat Decontamination Instructions

All guest boaters at Sunset Lake MUST fill out this “Launch your watercraft Clean Boat Certification” Form before launching their boat

1. Clean and decontaminate your boat using one of the methods listed below.
2. Sign and Date a New Line Below for Each Visit.
3. Place this Side of the Certificate Facing Up on the Dashboard of your Tow Vehicle.

## Decontamination Methods (*choose Method A or B*)

### ***Method A: Clean, Drain and Dry Your Watercraft***

Step 1: CLEAN all visible plants, mud, or other debris

Step 2: DRAIN all water (bilge, livewells, motor)

Step 3: DRY (1 week during July and August, 2 weeks in June and September, and 4 weeks before and after these dates.)

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### ***Method B: Clean, Drain and Wash Your Watercraft***

Step 1: CLEAN all visible plants, mud, or other debris

Step 2: DRAIN all water (bilge, livewells, motor)

Step 3: WASH your boat's hull, trailer, equipment, and any other exposed surfaces, and the inside of your bilge area, livewell, and engine cooling system with one of the following:

- Steam or Scalding Hot Wash (>140 degrees) OR
- Chlorine/bleach Solution (1 oz. per gal. water) OR
- Lysol (as sold or mix to 1% solution) OR
- Vinegar (as sold)

