

2024 BOAT LAUNCH SCHEDULE & PROCEDURE

Dear Residents,

The leftmost portion of the Island Road beach has been selected again this year as the alternate boat launch for 2024. This will be accessed via Park Street Terrace.

*Kayaks, canoes, paddle boards, etc... will not be inspected and may enter the lake from our beaches and resident shorelines but are **still required to have a valid watercraft sticker**. In addition, it is important that owners familiarize themselves with the boat launch protocol found at www.hickoryhillslake.com **All non-resident watercrafts of all kinds are prohibited from entering the lake.***

2023 PURPLE boat stickers expire April 30, 2024. Beginning May 1, 2024, watercraft will need this year's WHITE/RED 2024 boat stickers affixed to your watercraft to get through the Boat Launch

Please make the boat marina's job easy when delivering your boat past April and have your new sticker ready for the Inspector, as you will not be allowed to launch without one.

All watercraft must keep a distance of **50 ft** from the former boat ramp cove to prevent the further spread of Fanwort.

2024 Boat Launch Procedure & Schedule:

- **APRIL, 9am – 12pm: Wednesdays - 4/17 & 4/24; Friday/Saturday - 4/19 & 4/20 & 4/26 & 4/27**
- **MAY, 9am – 12pm: Friday/Saturday - 5/3 & 5/4, 5/10 & 5/11, 5/17 & 5/18, 5/24 & 5/25**
- **JUNE, 9am – 12pm: Open Thurs-Saturdays beginning June 1st until June 29th.**
- **Sunday, June 30th to Monday, Sept 2nd Open 7 days a week, 10 am - 6 pm.**

****Please note that from June 30th – September 2nd, Security will no longer stay at the beach during launch hours. They will be patrolling the lake and beaches. Call security ahead of time if possible, or from the boat launch, at 978-877-1338.**

Ramp may be closed in bad weather, call security at (978) 877-1338 to check availability

All engines used on watercraft of twelve (12) feet or more shall be limited to one (1) eight (8) horsepower and those less than twelve (12) feet shall be limited to one (1) six (6) horsepower. Pontoon boats shall be less than nineteen (19) feet in length and have a maximum beam (width) of eight (8) feet. (NOTE: 9.9 motors are allowed if they are detuned to 8 horsepower by an authorized dealer and so documented).

HHL Board of Directors is aware there may be a few residents for whom the inspection schedule is inadequate. For these few individuals, the launch will be open by appointment, on a case-by-case basis, depending upon inspector availability, for an **additional fee of \$15**. Please try to provide at least a 24-hr notice so that we may accommodate everyone's schedules. The fee for this service is payable, in cash, to the Inspector at time of entry. In order to request this, please email the HHL office or call security directly at 978-877-1338.

The launch will be staffed by a trained weed watcher. All boats & trailers must be certified clean by the owner / operator and will be thoroughly inspected for weeds. Trailers with ANY seeds, weeds, etc. will not be allowed into the lake.

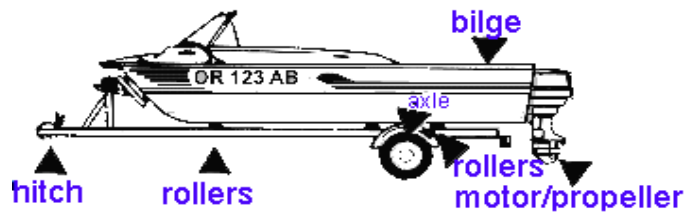
Residents using their own trailers may access the ramp at any time during the hours of operation. Residents using boat dealers for entry must schedule with the dealer in accord with these HHL protocols. **PLEASE NOTE: WATER LEVELS MAY BE LOW!** Be cautious if you're going to put your boat in the water before the levels are at a normal Spring/Summer high. You could damage your prop or boat if run into the lake floor due to low water levels. Please keep in mind, there are more than 200 boats requiring ramp access and we are trying to balance the best interests of the lake with all those who enjoy it.

Questions can be sent via email to office@hickoryhillslake.com or by contacting the HHL Office cell phone at 978-801-4402.

Happy Boating!

HOW TO HELP PROTECT OUR LAKE FROM INVASIVE WEEDS

When bringing your boat in and out of the water, here's the list of the easiest places for Invasive Weeds to hitch hike their way into our lake with you. Please be diligent cleaning and inspecting your own boats before entering our lake.



Help us control the invasive weed Fanwort from our Lake

Contact us today to Join a Survey Team - fanwort@hickoryhillslake.com

DIVE SURVEY TEAM - These teams scuba dive below the surface locating and hand pulling Fanwort plants. Two people are on our Pontoon boat. One person drives the boat while the other keeps a record of where we pulled fanwort.

TOP SIDE SURVEY TEAM - Team's goal is to survey their zone once per week from a kayak, paddle board, pontoon, etc... (preferably on a sunny, clear, calm day - calm mornings work best to see).

**Mornings or late afternoon work best for viewing - Wearing polarized glasses makes it easier.
The use of fish finders for deep areas works great from any boat!**

MARKERS – Surveyors use orange & yellow plastic markers to mark each grouping of plant(s) in the lake. Simply release the weight from the marker and drop it into the water. The string will unravel on its own and stop when the weight hits the lake bottom. Markers are found in milk crates at various docks & shore-lines shown as a red star on our survey map - www.hickoryhillslake.com/map



ALL RESIDENTS - If you find Fanwort, even if you're not sure, please drop a marker 5 feet in front of the plant (**marker, plant, shore – the marker protects the plant from boat traffic**), then report its location online here so we can get it removed safely www.hickoryhillslake.com/fanwort

If the plant is shallow enough to reach, hand-pull it yourself and dispose of it in the trash.

Here's a video explaining how to do it <https://hickoryhillslake.com/handpull>

This is What the Invasive Weed Fanwort Looks Like

