

EMERALD LAKE VILLAGE DISTRICT BEACHES AND LAKE USE RULES AND REGULATIONS

PREAMBLE AND LEGAL AUTHORITY.

The following rules for the Emerald Lake Village District (hereinafter “District”) are adopted pursuant to the powers granted generally by RSA 52:1 I (d) and 52:3 to regulate public use and enjoyment of Emerald Lake and its beaches. This regulation supersedes all prior District Beaches and Lake Rules and Regulations.

SECTION 1. GENERAL STATEMENT

1.1 Scope: These regulations govern maintenance and use of beaches on Emerald Lake (aka Gould Pond) and recreational use of Emerald Lake which are within the jurisdiction of the District.

1.2 Parks and Beaches: There are four beaches/parks located within the District: Meetinghouse Beach, Emerald Beach, Eastman Park and Hummingbird Beach. The area located at Red Fox Crossing Bridge is designated as Burnham Park.

1.3 Residents and Guests: Only District residents, property owners and their guests are allowed to utilize the District parks and beaches. Guests must be accompanied by their host resident at all times while using the District parks and beaches.

SECTION 2. USE OF LAKE

2.1 Access to the Public: Emerald Lake is a public body of water which may be used by anyone by accessing it through the public boat ramp or through other public designated access point.

2.2 Speed Limit: The speed limit on Emerald Lake shall be no more than 10 mph in accordance with SAF-C- 402.30 (State Police, Field Operations Bureau, Marine Patrol), or such other law in effect at the time and governing the applicable speed limit.

2.3 Equipment Secured: All docks, water craft, boats of any kind, equipment or other items left in the lake or on a dock shall be securely fastened at all times when not in use. If any of such items becomes loose, the owner or responsible party must retrieve it immediately.

2.4 Contamination: No one shall discharge any substance into the lake which is harmful or may affect the lake consistency, cause bacteria or pollution to proliferate, or otherwise result in possible contamination.

2.5 Notice of Lake Adjustment: When notice is given by the District Board of Commissioners that the lake levels are to be adjusted seasonally in fall and spring, the applicable date is deemed delivered if posted on the District website and/or by other reasonable means of dissemination. This includes newsletter, physical postings or any other reasonable means. It is the responsibility of non-occupant, seasonal and otherwise absentee owners to be aware of such notice even if not residing within the District at the time. The District Board of Commissioners will make all reasonable attempts to maintain a steady summer lake level. However, due to the unpredictability of weather forecasts, fluctuations in lake level may occur. It is ultimately the responsibility of the owners to take proper precautions.

2.6 Securing of Equipment: It is the responsibility of every property owner and resident who has docks, boats, watercraft, or any items which may be affected by a change in lake level to safely remove or secure such items prior to a change in levels. The District will not be responsible for any property damage resulting in failure to do so by the property owner or responsible party. Additional expense to the District through actual costs caused by such failure may be passed to the property owner or other responsible party.

2.7 Supplement to Regulation: These rules and regulations specifically supplement and endorse the New Hampshire Clean Waters Program, Chapter Env Wq1300 of the New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules promulgated pursuant to RSA 487:18 and 24, and all persons or entities using Emerald Lake (Gould Pond) shall abide thereby.

SECTION 3. BEACHES

3.1 Use of Beaches: Use of beaches and park facilities is limited to District residents, immediate family and guests when accompanied by the District resident.

3.2 Hours of Operation: District beaches and parks shall be considered closed from sunset until sunrise.

3.3 Conduct: No conduct that interferes with the rights of others to use and enjoy the public beaches and parks is permitted. Unacceptable conduct includes but is not limited to: excessive noise or other conduct interfering with the quiet enjoyment of the beach by others. Disorderly conduct on any District property, including beaches and parks, shall be punishable as an offense as set forth in RSA 644:2 or other applicable laws. Any District resident, whether an official or private resident, has the right to disburse such disorderly conduct by directing the offender(s) to leave the premises or call the Hillsborough Police Department for enforcement.

3.4 Removal of Property: Removal or changing location of any swim rafts, tables, cameras, swings, fences, plants, grass, or other fixtures, materials, or property which are owned by the District is prohibited.

3.5 Altering Topography: It is prohibited to alter the contours of the beaches, or to excavate or otherwise alter the topography of any beach, without prior consent of the District.

3.6 Storage of Watercraft: No watercraft or vehicles of any description shall be allowed on the beaches or parks overnight except in areas designated by the District Board of Commissioners. If left for more than 2 days, the watercraft or vehicle shall be considered abandoned and may be removed. The District Board of Commissioners may auction off any such watercraft or vehicle, if the owner is not readily identifiable for purposes of notice, or fails to respond to any such notice. All watercraft or vehicles of any description shall be removed from and not used on the beaches or parks after November 1 of every year, until May 15. No watercraft shall be moored or kept within any designated swim area.

3.7 Camping: No overnight camping is permitted on any District property including parks and beaches.

3.8 Littering: Littering on District parks and beaches is prohibited pursuant with RSA 207:36-b (I), and will not be tolerated.

3.9 Glass: No glass containers are allowed on District parks and beaches.

3.10 Alcohol and Prohibited Substances: Drinking of alcohol or use of any prohibited substance is not permitted on any District property.

3.11 Campfires: Campfires or any other form of open fire are prohibited on any District property, including parks and beaches.

3.12 Grilling: Only District installed charcoal grills are permitted for use on District beaches or property. Those residents utilizing the charcoal grills must ensure that the grill is extinguished and cleaned of all ashes prior to leaving the beach premises. Ashes must be carried out. Small non-charcoal cook stoves may be used.

3.13 Domestic Animals: Dogs are only allowed to swim at Burnham Park and Meetinghouse Beach. Unless swimming, dogs must be leashed. At All times, dogs must be under full control and accompanied by a responsible person who shall ensure that any litter or waste caused by the dog is cleaned up immediately. Horses and other farm animals are strictly prohibited from all District parks and beaches.

3.14 Fishing: Fishing from within thirty (30) feet of a swimming area or dock is prohibited at all times. All NH Fish and Game regulations apply while fishing on Emerald Lake (Gould Pond), at all times. Violation may result in removal from the beach and reporting to the NH Fish and Game Department.

3.15 Motor Vehicles: Motor Vehicles including ATVs, UTVs, golf carts or similar vehicles are prohibited on the District parks and beaches. All vehicles must be parked in areas reserved for parking. Those vehicles in use for maintaining the District parks and beaches must be authorized by the Board of Commissioners.

3.16 Use of Pyrotechnics: This section has been repealed and superseded by the Fireworks Ordinance as adopted by the District Board of Commissioners on 4/21/23. Per the adopted ordinance, the display, use, and ignition of all classes of pyrotechnic devices (fireworks) shall be prohibited on all property owned by the Emerald Lake Village District ("District") and all public beaches in the District; including, but not limited to Eastman, Meetinghouse, Emerald, and Hummingbird Beaches, and Burnham Park.

3.17 Adult Supervision: No one under 12 years of age may be left alone without adult supervision by someone 18 years or older on any District property.

3.18 Removal from Property: Any violation of the District Beach and Lake Use Rules and Regulations may result in removal from the District park or beach premises by any District commissioner or the Hillsborough law enforcement.

3.19 Special Access: Special consideration for District park or beach use will be given if a homeowner is on District water supply but not located within the District boundaries. A request must be made to the Board of Commissioners annually and a fee will be charged equal to the homeowner's assessed value multiplied by the District tax rate. For example, if a homeowner's assessed value is \$150,000 and if the District tax rate is \$2.87 per \$1000 of value, the formula would be $150,000/1000 \times 2.87$ District tax

rate = \$430.50 beach fee. An invoice will be sent to the homeowner and must be paid in full prior to the use of any District parks or beaches.

Amended by the Board of Commissioners on June 9, 2025.

 7/10/25
Sara Auger, Chair

 7/10/25
Mark Pryzbyla, Commissioner

 7/10/25
Michael Carr, Commissioner