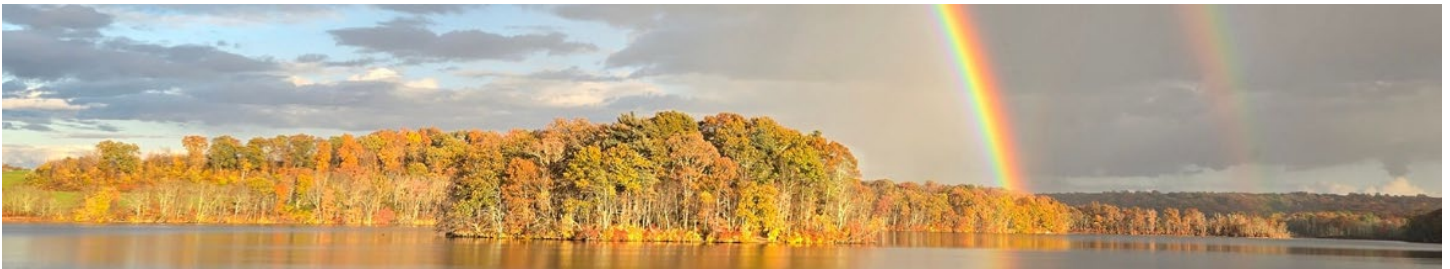





2026 Newsletter



We want to be the first to officially welcome you to **LAKE SEASON!** After the winter we had, we're sure you can't wait for sunny skies, warmer weather and breathtaking lake views. Whether you've been on the Moodus Reservoir for fifty years, just moved to the neighborhood or enjoy lake life seasonally, our goal is to keep you informed and engaged on our efforts to preserve our beautiful lake.

UPCOMING EVENTS

All are welcome!

MONTHLY MEETING 	2nd Tuesday of each month 7:00PM Moodus Sportsmen's Club	<i>Join us to learn more about the group, ask questions or join a committee. We are always looking for volunteers and new members.</i>
 LAKESIDE LUAU	Saturday June 6, 2026 3:00- 8:00PM Lakeside Dan's	<i>Let's kick off the start of summer together. Mingle and reconnect with your neighbors and friends! BYOB. Pizza available for purchase.</i>
BOAT PARADE 	Saturday July 4, 2026 Boats meet at the upper & lower boat launch at 2:30PM. Judging is at 3PM on the Causeway. Awards to follow at Lakeside Dan's.	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Celebrate America's 250th!</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Decorate your boat for prizes (1st \$100, 2nd \$50, 3rd \$25), or just join the parade for fun. Spectators welcome on the causeway.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">*NOTE* RAIN DATE WILL BE 7/5/26</p>
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING 	Sunday July 12, 2026 10:00AM Moodus Sportsmen's Club	<i>Members please join us to recap the last fiscal year, elect officers and answer questions. And don't forget to pay your dues! We will also be drawing the raffle winner!</i>
 LAKE SEASON SEND-OFF	Saturday September 26, 2026 1:00 -6:00PM Lakeside Dan's	<i>Gather to spend a final fall day together at the lake. BYOB. Pizza available for purchase.</i>

For up-to-date event details check out our Facebook page as the date approaches

2025 Recap

Eco-Harvester 76 loads of weeds were removed from the lake in 2025. The Eco-harvester operated during the weed harvesting season with minimal downtime. This was due to a motor replacement in the Spring that enabled us to have fewer maintenance issues than the last two seasons.

Safe Boating Certificate Classes It was a full house for the classes held July 22nd & 24th! Based on demand we are looking forward to hosting the classes again. Be on the lookout for dates this summer!

Lake Drawdown As you may have noticed, our request for a 2ft drawdown was approved by DEEP from November 1, 2025- March 1, 2026. We are happy to see that residents used this time to clean their shorelines and perform maintenance on retaining walls. We are hopeful that the drawdown paired with the frigid temperatures helped control weed growth. DEEP is currently not in favor of a recurring annual drawdown for our lake. We will monitor the situation each year and make requests for drawdowns based on our observations and resident feedback.

Triploid Grass Carp Unfortunately, our application to introduce grass carp into the upper reservoir was denied by DEEP. Based on their findings and lack of support for this initiative we have decided not to pursue it any longer. But don't worry, we are always looking for different ways to eradicate invasive weeds in our lake.

Wake Surfing Ordinance An ordinance to ban wake surfing on Moodus Reservoir and Bashan Lake was approved at a town public meeting, with a vote of 202 in favor and 49 opposed. We are awaiting final approval from DEEP.

Annual Picnic Many thanks to all that attended, volunteered and donated to our picnic held last June. After many years of hosting a picnic, we decided 2025 would be our last. We have new ideas for Summer of 2026 with more frequent, low-key and intimate social events.

Boat Parade August 23rd was a fabulous sunny day for the boat parade. Thanks to all who participated and attended the event! Congratulations to the 1st prize boat by the Shumbos & Robidas.



In Memory of Barbi Batchelder



Last summer we lost long time MRPG member, former board member and lifelong Moodus Resident, Barbi Batchelder. Barbi left behind her father Donald and his wife, and her sister Cynthia. She will always be remembered for her gentle spirit and her love of animals. She will be missed by all who knew her.



Volunteer Spotlight

Meet Our Operations Committee Leaders

Gary Christopher, Upper Reservoir



Gary grew up on Lake Pocotopaug and moved to Moodus in 1976. After spending 4 years on the lower reservoir, Gary moved to the upper and has been there ever since. Gary enjoys running the harvester and hopes he is making a meaningful impact so future generations can have the same enjoyment we've all experienced.

Bob Bochman, Lower Reservoir



Bob and his wife Betsy moved to the lower reservoir from Higganum in 2020 and previously owned a cottage on Lake Hayward. Bob loves retired lake life- especially with his 9 grandchildren. Bob has operated the harvester since 2022 and has removed 200+ loads of weeds.

Interested in joining the operations team? Contact Gary or Bob moodus.reservoir@gmail.com

How Can You Save Our Lake?

TIME & EXPERTISE If operations isn't your thing, there are plenty of other opportunities to volunteer. We are currently organized as a lean group, the more people that join our efforts, the more we can do for our lake. We encourage you to attend a meeting or contact a board member to discuss how your area of expertise can help save our lake.

Volunteer opportunities include: maintaining the membership database, social media management, drafting letters and news articles, working with local leaders, grant and permit applications, research and much more.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT We are a 501(c)(3) tax deductible organization. This year we will be spending a boatload to fill the Weedinator's gas tank! Help us cover the cost of fuel and other items such as maintenance, insurance, fundraising and more.

Use the QR codes below or mail a check to MRPG PO Box 301 Moodus, CT 06469

DONATE NOW! EVERY DOLLAR HELPS!



MEMBERSHIP DUES July 1, 2026- June 30, 2027
\$25 Per Household



Reminder
AIS Stamps are required on CT's inland waters. An individual operating a vessel can obtain one for \$7 or a vessel decal can be purchased for \$20. More details can be found on DEEP's website.

For Your Lakeside Reading Pleasure

DEEP's Wake Boat & Wake Surf Study <https://portal.ct.gov/deep/boating/wake-boat-and-wakesurf-study>

CT Wake Surfing <https://www.ctpublic.org/news/2026-03-19/proposed-rules-on-wake-surfing-in-ct-wont-move-forward-lawmaker-says>

Town Beach Rules & Regulations <https://easthaddamct.myrec.com/info/dept/details.aspx?DeptInfoID=1062>

East Haddam Boating Legislation <https://ecode360.com/14801147>

AIS Stamp FAQs <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Boating/FAQs/FAQ-AIS-Stamp>

Invasive Investigator Program <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Invasive-Species/Invasive-Investigator-Program>

**Want a chance to win this canoe?
Check out our raffle details below!**



MOODUS RESERVOIR PRESERVATION GROUP

SAVE OUR LAKE RAFFLE

1st Prize: Carbon Fiber Canoe
2nd Prize: 50" TV
3rd Prize: \$250 prepaid gift card



Tickets are \$20, only 400 to be sold
Drawing held July 12, 2026 at the Moodus Sportsmen's Club
No need to be present



PURCHASE NOW

For ticket information email moodus.reservoir@gmail.com or message us on Facebook

Contact Us



WWW.MoodusReservoir.Org



PO Box 301 Moodus, CT 06469



Moodus.reservoir@gmail.com



Moodus Reservoir Preservation Group

Board of Directors

Dave Shelberg, President
Gary Christopher, Vice President
Brittany O'Mara, Treasurer
Jim Lindner
Bill Robida
Maggie Shumbo
Stan Shumbo
Mike Toomey

Interested in a volunteer opportunity? Our secretary position is available- come to our next meeting or send an email to inquire.