

Stephen Markarian
Otisfield
LD 693

My name is Stephen Markarian and I am the water quality tester for Saturday Pond in Otisfield. Saturday Pond is a shallow 188 acre pond with an average depth of 8 feet. I have been trained and certified by the Lake Stewards of Maine.

Two or three times each summer a wake boat is used on our pond. I have observed water clarity drop notably. The clarity sometimes takes weeks to improve. By their nature, the wake disturbs the mud on the bottom of the lake ripping up native plants and putting the phosphorus in the mud back into solution. After the wake boat has been on the pond, the water has vegetation floating everywhere. Saturday Pond is fortunate not to have invasive plants at this time but if we did, the wake boat would be spreading them as it disturbs the bottom. Wake boats are inappropriate on small, shallow ponds.

Thank you, Stephen Markarian