

**OPENING DAY FOR SWIMMING on our 20th Anniversary!
SATURDAY JUNE 19TH 2021, 11:00 AM**

(Please read to learn of some changes. This will be posted on our web site, so please tell any members you know that have trouble getting our email.)

Dear MDSA Members,

We've been awaiting this day, always the third Saturday in June for when we can finally swim in our lake. And we will have our traditional **Opening Day Ceremony**, where we join together to **sing our Lake Song, and toast with fresh strawberries to an "uneventful season"**. Not that we're superstitious, but that toast has been working for 19 years now. We are scheduling it for **10:30AM, and we can plunge in at 11AM.**

SOMETHINGS TO NOTE:

- The construction at the Lake is done, and parking should not be problem this season, we say optimistically! But come early for opening day.
- MDSA will station a port-o-john above the entrance to our beach. This season it will have a lock on it with the same combination as on our locker, 1319. This is to avoid misuse of the facility by Park patrons who throw thrash in it.
- By Judy's request, the Park has placed 3 large "boulder benches" down by the Lake where we go into the water. So now we have something to sit on while putting on our shoes! MDSA will also have a limited number of chairs available. You may bring your own chair but it cannot be left at the beach, by order of Park Management.
- For those who are unaware, Park policy has always been to abide by the NYS Department of Public Health regulations which includes a no dogs policy in areas where people swim, land and water. We've gotten away with some "liberties" over the years, but no longer. So please abide by the Park policy to not bring your dogs down to our swim area. This policy is not just for the MDSA, but for all Park patrons.
- Let's make this season another successful and uneventful MDSA swim season. The chances seem promising that our season may be extended past Labor providing all goes well during the Summer and we take seriously our agreement with the Park.

We want to welcome our new members and to remind us all about 3 rules we are mandated to abide by in addition to following Park regulations. They are only a few and keep us in good stead with the Park, allowing us to enjoy Lake Minnewaska.

1. To swim (counterclockwise, please) within a reasonable distance around the buoyed line only while there is at least one other MDSA member at our beach during the hours allowed. We are not permitted to swim much further out beyond the buoyed line.

2. Always post your membership card and put out the red life saving buoy (kept under our locker).

3. Hours: ALL swimmers MUST be out of the water by 7:00PM, no exceptions. Weekdays we may start at 9:00, but on weekends and holidays not until 11:00.

There are also some common courtesy and safety considerations we ask all our members to follow. Please go to our MDSA website under the tab Current Member Login to read some email from previous seasons.

1. Storms: Be aware and look up to our beach to see if members are waving you in out of the water. A Park rule is that at the first rumble of thunder ALL swimmers must get out of the water and not return until 20 min after the last sound of thunder.

2. Sunscreens, lotions, perfumes, and the like: Sunscreens need to be put on well before you go in the water, otherwise they just wash off and pollute the Lake. Likewise, avoid the use of lotions, perfumes, powders before going in the water. Let's keep the Lake water clean and not offend other swimmers.

3. Enjoy the peace and quiet and please avoid loud conversations.

4. Keep the bench locker open (unless it is raining!) **Note:** we have a defibrillator in the locker with instructions for use should the need arise.

OUR CANOE TAXI

Some in the MDSA who love to swim but are challenged by the walk to our beach have the option of a canoe "taxi," parked and locked (same 1319 combination) all season at the Boat Launch (aka Diver's Cove) at the north end of the lake. The canoe is 17 feet long, quite heavy and stable. Contact us if you want to use it.

We plan to arrive at the Park early to meet as many of our members as possible.

Take care and ENJOY the Lake,

Judy Mage, Stephanie Bludau Tor, Kristine Logan, Co-coordinators