

# Mashapaug Pond Do's and Don'ts



## Enjoy Mashapaug Pond Safely

- **Catch and release fish.**
- **Canoe and boat when pond conditions allow.**
- **Walk, bicycle or enjoy other recreational activities in the watershed.**
- **Picnic and bird watch.**

### WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT MASHAPAUG POND FROM A RECENT STUDY

#### **BACTERIA:**

Swimming in the Pond is NOT SAFE because Fecal Coliform levels are high following rain storms.

#### **FISH:**

Analysis of carp & bass samples indicate that fish from the Pond ARE NOT SAFE TO EAT

#### **ALGAE:**

Some types of Algae (Cyanobacteria) found in the Pond can produce toxins that can harm humans and animals.

## To keep you and your family safe until we learn more,

### Please Do Not:



- **Drink pond water.**
- **Eat fish caught in Mashapaug Pond.**
- **Swim, wade, play or bathe in pond water.**
- **Boat whenever thick scum, algae mats, or foul odors occur on the pond.**

### What Should You Do?

Wash your hands with soap and water if you come in contact with pond water.

DO NOT eat fish caught in the pond.

Watch for increased algae in the pond, and avoid contact with pond water during algae blooms

Wipe your feet after leaving the pond to prevent tracking contaminated sediments into your car or home.



State of Rhode Island  
Department of Environmental  
Management  
Office of Water Resources

For More Information Contact:  
RI Dept of Health,  
Office of Food Protection  
Dave Burnett at (401) 222-2749 or  
email at [RIbeaches@doh.ri.state.us](mailto:RIbeaches@doh.ri.state.us)

**HEALTHri**



Rhode Island Department of Health

Patricia A. Nolan M.D., MPH, Director • Lincoln Almond, Governor