



Friends of Sampson State Park

Sampson State Park • 6096 Route 96A • Romulus, New York 14541

Romulus, NY - In recognition of Safe Boating Week May 19-25, 2012 the Friends of Sampson State Park Marina Committee announce the launch a loaner life jacket program at Sampson State Park Marina. The program was made possible by a grant from Seneca Meadows, Inc. Seneca Falls, N.Y. and will allow boaters to borrow infant and youth life jackets providing safety for family members and guests while boating on Seneca Lake. Adult sized life jackets and Type IV throwable devices will also be available to help boaters comply with equipment requirements.



Left to right, Mark Benjamin of Seneca Meadows, Terry Bonter and Don Kloeber, co-chairs, Friends of Sampson State Park Marina Committee

Mark Benjamin, community services director of Seneca Meadows, Inc. recently presented a check to the Friends of Sampson State Park and said “Seneca Meadows cares about children, their safety and their future and we are pleased to be able to help make boating safer for children”.

Other donors providing life jackets to the program include BassPro Shops, Auburn, NY and the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation.

Don Kloeber, Marina Committee Co-chair, said “the loaner life jacket program is a new venture for the Sampson State Park Marina Committee that was inspired by programs at other marinas. The other life jacket loaner sites have indicated that borrowers are grateful to have the program available and have been very responsible about returning the equipment”.

Terry Bonter, Marina Committee Co-chair, said “The committee decided to ask Seneca Meadows for assistance after learning at a Friends of Sampson State Park meeting that Seneca Meadows has a history of supporting community and youth projects. He said, we are pleased to have their sponsorship support for this program”.

The local sheriff’s department and other marine patrol units have told the committee that citations for improper lifesaving equipment are fairly common on the lake. While law enforcement personnel will also lend boaters life jackets, during busy summer periods when there are not enough available, boaters may be forced to leave the lake. The Sampson marina program will allow boaters to comply with life jacket requirements and avoid possible citations.

Friends of Sampson State Park Marina Committee is currently working with the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation to attempt to identify and secure funding to renovate and upgrade the park’s marina. The 103 slip marina is located in Sampson State Park in Romulus, the largest state park in the Finger Lakes. It includes a boat launch and slips for seasonal and transient boaters and campers. It is the only mid-Seneca Lake “safe harbor” for storms and emergencies, and the only mid-Seneca Lake marine sanitary waste pump out facility. At 75 percent occupancy, seasonal boaters contribute \$100,000 to the state’s parks department and \$450,000 to local business in marina services, repairs, storage fuel, supplies, food and dining.

For more information about Marina project, go to www.sites.google.com/site/FriendsOfSampsonMarina or contact Terry Bonter (585-259-7177) or Don Kloeber (607-857-0154)

Friends of Sampson State Park meet at 10 a.m. on the first Thursday of the month at the park headquarters, 6096 Route 96, Romulus. Guests are welcome.

DO YOU HAVE A PROPER SIZE LIFE JACKET FOR EVERYONE ABOARD ?

Free Loaner Infant, Youth & Adult Sizes Available

INQUIRE AT SLIP # 36, 99, 100 OR MARINA BUILDING



Marina Committee



Sponsored by: Seneca Meadows Inc, Waterloo, NY