

# THE OLD DAM INN

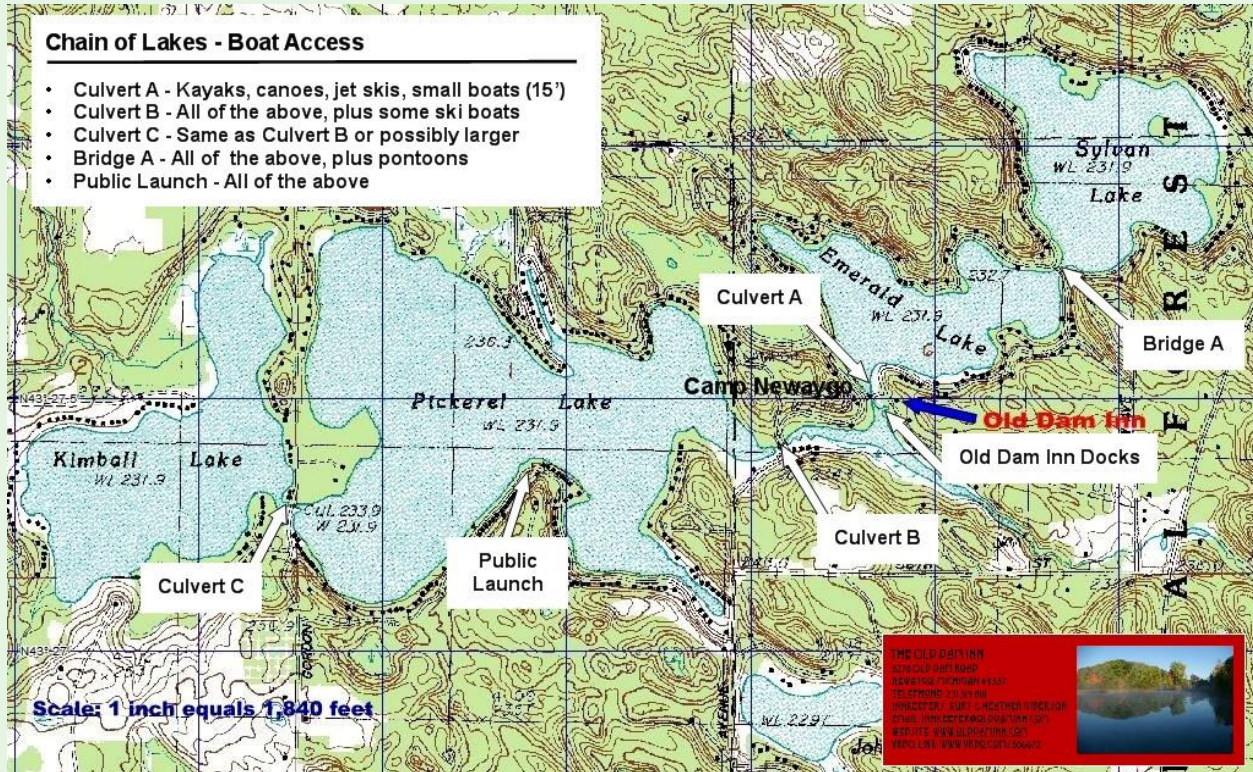
## DETAILS ABOUT BOATING...

Since this question comes up from time-to-time we decided to create a map of the lakes with information about the various access points and culverts/bridges associated with the connections between the four lakes we are part of (see next page). First of all, The Old Dam Inn is located on what is referred to as the "Penoyer Creek Channel," which is at the confluence of two lakes (Pickerel and Emerald). Further upstream these two lakes are connected, respectively, to Kimball and Sylvan Lakes. Downstream of The Inn is the "Old Dam," which is a lake level control device (not dangerous). About two miles downstream of the Old Dam (as the crow flies) the Penoyer Creek discharges into the Muskegon River. In our neck of the woods, "river" means the Muskegon, or White rivers, rather than the Penoyer Creek or its channel area.

All four of our lakes are "all-sports," with a "no wake rule" in effect between 7 p.m. and 11 a.m. every day. On the map you will see the three culverts and one bridge that go over the waterways between the four lakes. The size of these structures limits the types and sizes of watercraft that can pass between the lakes and, especially, into the Penoyer Creek Channel where The Inn is situated. Although the channel is only 2-4 feet deep, the boats that will fit through the culverts to it are able to pass with minimal difficulty, although the bottom gets churned-up a bit when props are set low. There is only one public launch associated with these water bodies and it is on Pickerel Lake, about one mile by car from The Inn. Based on our experience, here is what you can reasonably expect to launch and operate using the two locations described below:

- From the public launch on Pickerel Lake - You will be able to launch anything up to a pontoon boat and be able to motor around Pickerel Lake. We are not sure whether a pontoon can get through the culvert to Kimball Lake and it will certainly not be able to get into the Penoyer Creek Channel. Anything smaller than a pontoon should be able to get into the channel and to the docks at The Old Dam Inn, with the exception of ski boats with high mounted structures (see attached drawing of the "Culvert B" between the Penoyer Creek Channel and Pickerel Lake.
- From the launch at The Old Dam Inn - We have a very basic boat launch that can handle up to a 16' boat. Depth of the launch area is 1-3 feet. From here, you should be able to take a small ski boat to Pickerel and Kimball lakes (one of our neighbors on the channel does so regularly), but not to Emerald or Sylvan due to height restrictions at Culvert A. Smaller boats like kayaks, canoes, rowboats, jet skis and boats up to 14' no windscreens or high mounted seats/steering wheels should be able to get to all four lakes. You can dock the above described boats at The Inn and we have sufficient parking for boat trailers as well.

- Other boating options: Although there are no boat rentals available on the four lakes connected to The Inn, you can rent canoes, kayaks and tubes in Newaygo from Wisner Canoe Rental (<https://www.wisnercanoes.com/>) for use on the Muskegon River and pontoon boat rentals are available 30 minutes away at the River Ridge Resort in Big Rapids (<https://riverridgeresort.com/marina>). Neither of these locations can be reached by water from The Old Dam Inn.



## DETAILS ABOUT SWIMMING...

There are no public beaches on any of these lakes and all of the shorelines are privately owned, so swimming is limited to "in the lakes" from boats or inflatables. At The Old Dam Inn, the bottom is weedy and somewhat mucky so we do not recommend swimming there.

There are public beaches on the Muskegon River (three miles south of us by car) and on Fremont Lake (eight miles west) that have ample parking, playscapes and ice cream parlors. The Fremont Lake beach is groomed regularly and has a very gentle slope (best for small children). We can provide maps and photographs of these public swimming areas upon request.

We apologize for the lengthy explanation about our boating and swimming options, but as you can see, with the four lakes involved and the connected structures it is a bit complicated to convey in just a few words. We strive to provide accurate information to our guests so that we are not "over promising" on what we can deliver. It is important for us to provide you with a good understanding so that you can make a wise decision about your vacation accommodations.

