

Hearthstone Point Campground  
Lake George, New York  
Emergency Assistance Plan

*READ THIS PLAN IN FULL BEFORE DIVING  
Keep accessible during & after the dive*

Hearthstone Point Campground (“Hearthstone”) is located on the western shore of southern Lake George, approximately two miles north of the Village of Lake George, in south-eastern Warren County.

**IN AN EMERGENCY, CALL 911 AND NOTIFY THE CAMPGROUND RANGERS**

**FOR 911, IF YOU ARE ON A CELL PHONE, INSURE YOU ARE TALKING TO, OR ARE TRANSFERRED TO, WARREN COUNTY, NEW YORK**

Warren County provides 911 services through the Warren County Sheriff's Office, which is responsible for dispatching all emergency services in Warren County, with emergency response from the

- Warren County Sheriff's Office,
- New York State Police, and the
- Lake George EMS

**FOR THE CAMPGROUND RANGERS, HAVE SOMEONE DRIVE OR RUN TO THE MAIN GATE OR CALL THE CAMPGROUND PHONE: 518-668-5193**

- It is essential to notify the rangers so that they may properly direct emergency responders.
- There is an AED at the front gate

Reliable cell phone service available from both the Lake George village and Hearthstone Point Campground areas

→ **DAN: Divers Alert Network**

- **Call 911 & the Rangers first, then call the DAN emergency hotline: (919) 684-9111 (collect calls accepted)**
- Non-Emergency Medical Questions:
  - (800) 446-2671 or
  - (919) 684-2948Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (eastern time)

---

**NOTE: Before calling for emergency services (i.e., a “911” call), make a determination that there is actually an emergency: a sprained ankle or capillary bleeding (even requiring stitches), either of which would require first aid, might also require an ambulance ride to the hospital, but probably would not require local emergency responders: **if in doubt, call 911.****

## SUGGESTED SCRIPT

This should be sufficient to convey location and degree of emergency.

NOTE: if there is any doubt about which emergency response center you have reached (i.e., when calling on cell phone and you do not hear some clear identification of “Warren County”), begin with

“Is this Warren County, New York?”

Then, continue with script.

**“SCUBA diver emergency at Hearthstone Campground, just north of the swimming area”**

→ If a ***non-DCI*** injury emergency:

**“Diver has injured < *his / her* > ...”**

→ If ***DCI*** or if otherwise appropriate:

**“Diver < *is / is not* > breathing”**

↳ If not breathing, **“CPR < *is / is not* > being administered”**

**“Emergency oxygen < *is / is not* > being administered.”**

**“Diver was ...”** Select as appropriate:

**❶ out of water after dive < *when symptoms began / when stopped breathing* >**

OR

**❷ rescued in water, on surface, < *breathing / not breathing* >**

OR

**❸ rescued under water, < *breathing / not breathing* >**

→ Any other pertinent observations, such as

**“Diver appears to be suffering from decompression illness”**

OR

**“Diver appears to have suffered lung overexpansion injury”**

OR

**“Diver appears to have a severed artery”**

###

***Remain calm and provide any information that is requested***

## LOCAL HEALTHCARE RESOURCES

### → The nearest healthcare facility is

Queensbury Family Health,  
(Hudson Headwaters Health Network),  
14 Manor Drive,  
Queensbury, NY 12804  
(518) 798-6400

*Hours: Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.*

This facility is **10.8 miles south of the campground**: From the campground, it is reached by

- ① travelling south on State Highway 9N to the access road to I-87 south,
- ② turn right onto the I-87 access road,
- ③ turn left onto I-87 south,
- ④ take exit 19, "Glens Falls/Hudson Falls" (NY-254)
- ⑤ turn right onto NY-254, Aviation Road
- ⑥ turn right onto Manor Drive
- ⑦ Queensbury Family Health will be on the left

### → The nearest hospital is

Glens Falls Hospital  
100 Park Street,  
Glens Falls NY 12801  
Phone: (518) 926-1000

*This is a full-time facility with an operating emergency room.*

This facility is **14.2 miles south from the campground**: From the campground, it is reached by

- ① travelling south on State Highway 9N to the access road to I-87 south,
- ② turn right onto the I-87 access road,
- ③ turn left onto I-87 south,
- ④ take Exit 18, "Glens Falls/Corinth"
- ⑤ turn left onto County Route 28 east (Main Street) towards Glens Falls
- ⑥ continue straight as Main Street becomes Broad Street
- ⑦ bear right at fork onto Hudson Street
- ⑧ turn right onto School Street/right onto Park Street

## Ambulance Transport

For non-emergency but still urgent ambulance transport, you might directly contact Lake George Emergency Squad (518) 668-9506. **(But in an emergency, call 911)**

## **EMERGENCY PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED IF AT THE DIVE SITE**

- 1) Begin Primary & Secondary response immediately.
- 2) Contact 911, the campground rangers, and DAN as rapidly as possible.

## **EMERGENCY PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED WHEN NOT AT THE DIVE SITE**

Delayed onset of DCI symptoms, especially of DCS, or discovery of an injury, is always possible. If having departed the dive site, proceed with the following:

- 1) Begin Primary & Secondary response immediately.
- 2) Contact 911 and DAN as rapidly as possible.
- 3) If departing the area on I-87 southbound or still in the Lake George area, proceed directly to Queensbury Family Care or, if past that, to Glens Falls Hospital.
- 4) If well south of Glens Falls, approaching Saratoga, Saratoga Hospital is on Route 9N in Saratoga Springs, exit 15 off I-87, Route 29 west to 9N.
- 5) Farther south, Samaritan Hospital and St. Mary's Hospital are in Troy, and Albany Medical Center, St. Peter's Hospital, and Albany Memorial Hospital are in Albany.
- 6) If continuing north on I-87 toward Lake Placid or Plattsburg, Elizabethtown Community Health on Park Street in Elizabethtown, (Route 9N west off I-87) is a first full-time medical facility; Glens Falls may still be the closest option.

## **HYPERBARIC FACILITY**

### **Never attempt recompression by returning the diver to the water.**

Emergency response would not involve any type of recompression or direct transport to a hyperbaric facility; nevertheless, it can be useful to know of these facilities. While there are now hyperbaric facilities at many hospitals dedicated to wound treatment and other conditions that benefit from oxygen therapy, including at Albany Medical Center, most, like Albany Med., state that their chamber "*provides outpatient oxygen therapy,*" so this would not be considered a dive treatment facility (many of these chambers are one-person tubes), although they might be used as an intermediate point; anticipate the patient's ultimate transfer to the main hyperbaric facility for this region:

Westchester Medical Center  
Valhalla Campus  
Valhalla, N.Y. 10595  
(914) 493-7000 (general number)  
(914) 493-1500 (hyperbaric chamber)

## GENERAL DIVE SITE INFORMATION AND CAUTIONS

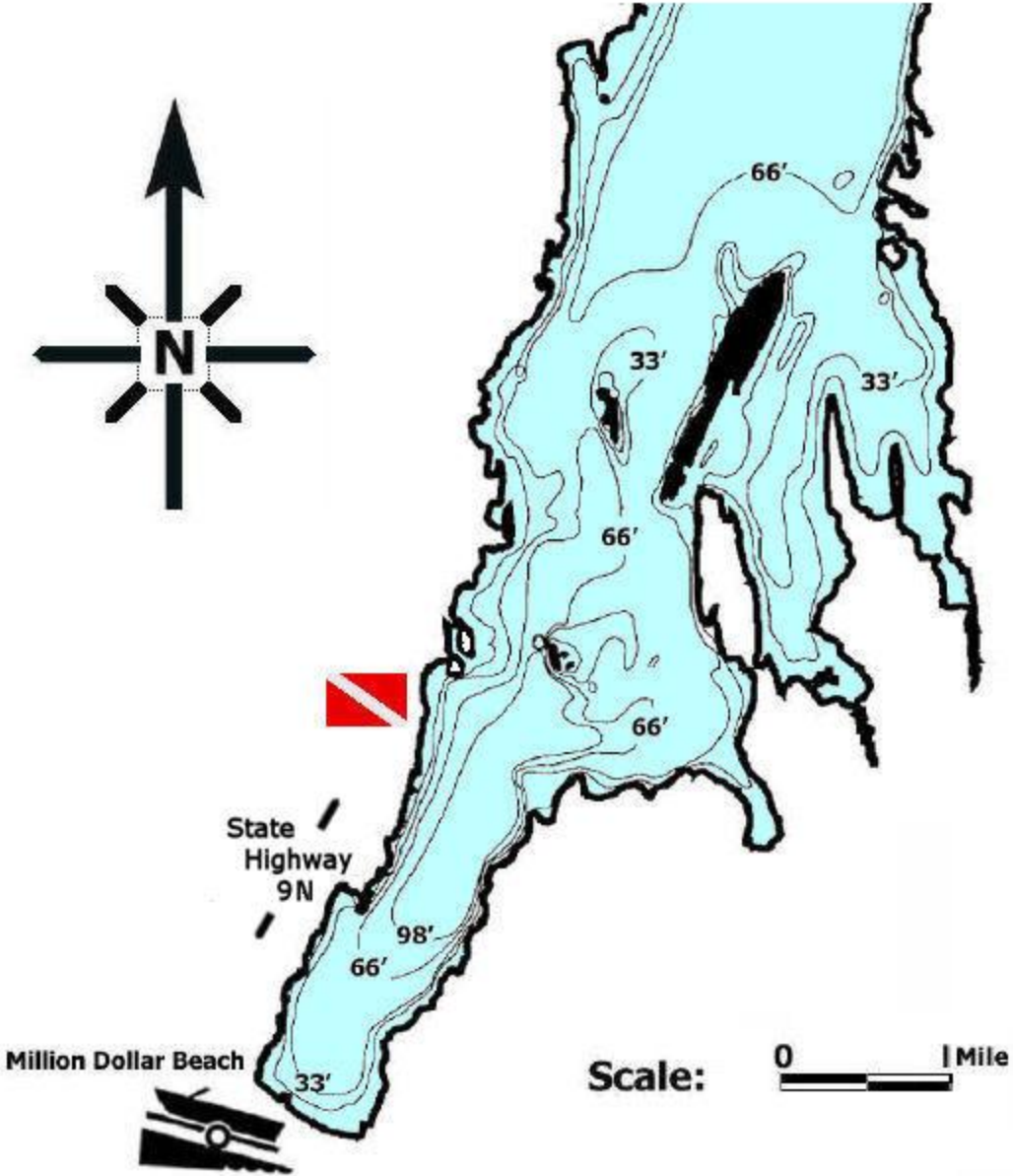
The lake covers a surface area of over 28,000 acres with a maximum depth of 187 feet; the long axis of the lake is essentially south/north. The bottom in the area of the dive entry tapers gradually to a depth of approximately 70 feet, continuing to a maximum depth in the immediate vicinity of approximately 100 feet. Much diving can be accomplished depths of 15 to 30 feet.

Although there are no boat launches in the immediate area of the campground, the lake is very heavily utilized and boats moor near the dive site; during the summer months expect a wide range of water craft, including personal water craft, pontoon boats, speed boats (with and without persons in tow), the large tour boats, and sail boats.

The lake is a major drainage for the surrounding area, the foothills of the Adirondack Mountains, and is significantly silted.

- 1) The lake contours gradually but steadily, and within a half mile of shore is well over 60 feet deep, which often features a thermocline between 15 and 30 feet:
  - a. Be aware of depth: don't do a deep dive unless it is intended.
  - b. Dress properly: the thermocline is persistent and often 15 degrees.
- 2) The lake can be very busy:
  - a. dive while displaying appropriate signaling devices (dive flags, floats, etc.)
  - b. dive on non-holiday weekdays
  - c. dive in weather not conducive to recreational boating (overcast skies, drizzle, etc.)
- 3) The lake can be silty (typical of the Adirondacks):
  - a. visibility is generally 15 to 30 feet, but can drop dramatically, to only five to ten feet or even less
  - b. silt can reduce visibility to even zero in a matter of seconds
  - c. while the bottom is fairly clean, free from excessive debris, as in any heavily-utilized recreation area there may be broken glass, jagged tops of cans, fish hooks, and other detritus in the silt:
    - i. avoid contact with the bottom if at all possible;
    - ii. use extreme caution in reaching for anything on the bottom
    - iii. be aware of the danger of fishing line fouling gear

# Lake George, Hearthstone Campground Area



# HEARTHSTONE POINT

**Public Campground**  
**3298 Lake Shore Drive Lake George, NY**  
**(518) 668-5193**  
**Regional Office: (518) 623-1200**

♥ Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

