

Citizen Resolution # 360123



Hazardous Wakes from Wake surfing Boats

A hazardous wake is a boat wake 3' and more. Wake boats intentionally magnify wakes by bringing lake water into the ballast (up to 4,000 lbs), using adjustable fins, and operating at slow speeds to raise the front and lower the back of the boat. A U of MN study showed that those wakes, at the current outdated State Laws of 100' from shore, docks, and rafts, are 2-3 times higher and 6-12 times more powerful than a ski boat wake at that distance!

Wisconsin Administration Code NR 19 & NR 40 pertain to draining water from boats leaving the lake and the transporting of lake water or anything contained therein, and can be inspected. Wake board boat ballasts generally aren't accessible for the DNR to inspect. More and more invasives are being spread from lake to lake as a result. These boats have a profound negative safety effect on smaller lakes in regard to other lake recreation going on at the same time because of the huge wakes, shoreline erosion with the current 100' statute, and scouring of the lake bottom which stirs up the phosphorous producing greater algae and spreading of the invasives! A letter written last year to the Natural Resources Board from Carroll Schaal DNR, Tim Asplund DNR, Water Quality and Darren Kuhn, Law Enforcement DNR suggests Town Boards create among others an ordinance prohibiting operating boats at extended distances in displacement mode a certain distance from shore.

Would you support the WCC and legislature working to prohibit the use of boats operating in the displacement mode for more than 100' on lakes smaller than 500 acres statewide?

Additional Information provided by author:

University of Minnesota study SAFL Project Report No 600, February 2022

<https://www.ossipeelake.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Commission-to-Study-Wake-Boats-Final-Report.pdf>

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