

Town of Washington

WATER SAFETY ORDINANCE No. 1-A-6G

An Ordinance to regulate water traffic, boating, and water sports upon the waters of the Town of Washington and prescribing penalties for violation thereof.

The Electors of the Town of Washington, assembled this 9th day of April, 1966, do ordain as follows:

Section 1. **APPLICABILITY AND ENFORCEMENT.** The provisions of the ordinance shall apply to the waters and the persons, vessels, objects or things upon the waters of such lakes, thoroughfares and rivers within the jurisdiction of the Town of Washington (as prescribed by the State Conservation Commission).

The provisions of this ordinance shall be enforced by the officers of the Town of Washington, including such officers as may be designated for a water safety patrol.

Section 2. **STATE BOATING AND WATER SAFETY LAWS ADOPTED.** Applicable Wisconsin laws governing pleasure boating and water sports, exclusive of any provisions relating to the penalties to be imposed or the punishment for violation, are hereby adopted and made part of this ordinance. Any water safety patrolman of the Town of Washington shall carry with him at all times for public distribution such pamphlets on the above said Wisconsin Law as the Town Board is able to secure for the purpose.

Section 3. **WATERSKIING.** No person shall operate a boat towing a water skier or permit himself to be so towed unless there are two persons in such boat or unless the boat is equipped with a rear-view mirror in which the driver can keep any skier being towed by such boat in full view at all times.

Section 4. **RACES, REGATTAS, SPORTING EVENTS AND EXHIBITIONS.**

(a) Permit required. No person shall direct or participate in any boat race, regatta, water ski meet or show or other water sports event or exhibition unless such event has been authorized and a permit issued therefor by the Town Board. Application for said permit must be submitted not less than (10) ten days prior to the date of the event.

(b) Permit. A permit issued under this section shall specify the course or area of water to be used by participants in such event and the permittee shall be required to place markers, flags or buoys, approved by the Town Board, de. fining such area.

(e) Right of Way of Participants. Boats and participants in any such permitted event shall have the right of way in the marked area and no other person shall obstruct such area during the race or event or interfere therewith. Section 5. **RAFTS.** No person shall maintain any raft unless it is so anchored that it has at least 6 inches free-board above the waterline, painted white and has attached thereto not less than 12 inches from each corner or projection a red reflector not less than 3 inches in diameter. Owner shall be liable for any damage resulting from the placement of such raft.

Section 6. **MARKERS AND NAVIGATION AIDS.**

(a) Duty of Town Board. The Town Board is authorized and directed to place and maintain suitable markers, navigation aids and signs in such areas of the lakes, channels, thoroughfares and creeks as shall be appropriate to advise the public of the provisions of this ordinance and to post and maintain a copy of this ordinance at all public access points within the jurisdiction of the Town.

(b) Standard Markers. All markers placed by the Town Board or any other authorized person upon the waters of the lakes, thoroughfares, channels and creeks shall comply with the regulations of the Conservation Commission.

(c) Interference with Markers Prohibited. No person shall without authority remove, damage or destroy, or moor or attach any watercraft to any buoy, beacon or marker placed in said waters by the authority of the United States, State or Town.

Section 7. **PENALTIES AND DEPOSITS.**

(a) Major Violations. Any person who shall violate the provisions adopted by Section 2 of this ordinance as described and defined in SS 30.67 (1) or 30.68 (1) and (2) of the Wisconsin Statutes shall upon conviction

thereof forfeit not more than \$200.00 nor less than \$25.00 together with the costs of this prosecution and in default of payment of such forfeiture and costs shall be imprisoned in the County Jail until full payment thereof is made, but not exceeding 60 days.

(b) Minor Violations. Any person who shall violate any provision of this ordinance except as specified in Sub. (a) of this section, shall upon conviction thereof, forfeit not less than \$1.00 nor more than \$100.00 together with the costs of prosecution and in default of payment thereof shall be imprisoned in the County Jail until full payment is made but not exceeding 30 days.

Section 8. REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES. All ordinances regulating water traffic, boats, boating and water sports upon the waters within the jurisdiction of the Town of Washington, and all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance that have been heretofore enacted by the Town Board of the Town of Washington, Wisconsin are hereby repealed.

Section 9. EFFECTIVE DATE: Clerk's Duty

(a) This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from the day after its passage and posting as provided by law.

(b) The Clerk is directed to file a copy of this ordinance with the State Conservation Commission in Madison, Wisconsin.

By order of the Electors at the Annual Meeting on April 9, 1966.