

Town of Farmington Lake Use Ordinance
ORDINANCE NO. 1-69

As Amended December 7, 1976

WHEREAS, the Statutes of the State of Wisconsin authorize and empower cities, villages and towns to enact ordinances establishing safety regulations controlling the use of boats propelled by engine power; and WHEREAS, the unregulated operation of such boats endangers the lives and property of persons using the waters of the TOWN OF FARMINGTON, Washington County, Wisconsin;
NOW, THEREFORE, the Town Board of the TOWN OF FARMINGTON, Washington County, Wisconsin, DOES ORDAIN as follows:

SECTION 1. REPEAL OF PRIOR ORDINANCES.

All ordinances and amendments thereto regulating speed boats or motor boats heretofore passed by the Town Board of the TOWN OF FARMINGTON, Washington County, Wisconsin, are hereby repealed.

SECTION II. ADOPTION OF STATUTORY PROVISIONS. The statutory provisions describing and defining regulations with respect to water traffic, boats, boating and related water activities in the following enumerated sections of the Wisconsin Statutes, exclusive of any provisions therein relating to the penalties to be imposed or the punishment for violation of said Statutes, are hereby adopted and by reference made a part of this Ordinance as if fully set forth herein. Any act required to be performed or prohibited by the provisions of any Statute incorporated by reference herein is required or prohibited by this Ordinance.

30.50 (Definitions)

30.51 (Operation of Unnumbered Boats Prohibited) 30.52 (Certificate of Number)

30.53 (Identification Number to be Displayed on Boat; Certificate to be carried)

30.54 (Transfer of Ownership of Numbered Boat)

30.55 (Notice of Abandonment or Destruction of Boat or Change of Address)

30.60 Classification of Motorboats) 30.61 (Lighting Equipment) 30.62 (Other Equipment)

30.64 (Patrol Boats Exempt from Certain Traffic Regulations)

30.65 (Traffic Rules)

30.66 (Speed Restrictions, paragraph 1)

30.67 (Accidents and Accident Reports)

30.68 (Prohibited Operation)

30.69 (Water Skiing)

30.70 (Skin Diving)

30.71 (Boats Equipped with Toilets)

SECTION III. DEFINITIONS.

A. Traffic Lane. The traffic lane of each lake shall be the area of water lying outside of and beyond a line running parallel to and two hundred (200) feet from the shore line except in such areas where a line closer to the shore has been marked by buoys established by the Water Safety Patrol; and in Green Lake this narrow area shall be the channel between the two (2) large bodies of water.

B. Buoys. Buoys shall mean the marking devices placed by the Water Safety Patrol which shall conform to the requirements of the "Wisconsin Uniform Waterways Marking System."

C. Slow-No-Wake-Speed. "Slow-No-Wake-Speed" where used herein means the slowest possible speed so as to maintain steerage.

SECTION V. SPEED OUTSIDE TRAFFIC LANE. No person shall operate any motor boat at speeds of more than slow-no wake speed outside of the traffic lane of any lake.

SECTION VI. SPEED INSIDE TRAFFIC LANE.

A. Sunday. No person shall operate any motor boat in a traffic lane at a speed greater than slow-no-wake speed on a Sunday.

B. Saturday. No person shall operate any motor boat in a traffic lane at a speed greater than twenty-five (25) miles per hour between the hours of 9:30 o'clock A.M. and 6:00 o'clock P.M. (Central Standard Time

or Daylight Savings Time) or a speed greater than slow-no-wake speed between the hours of 6:00 o'clock P.M. and 9:30 o'clock A.M. (Central Standard Time or Daylight Savings Time) on a Saturday.

C. Other Times. At all times not governed by subsections A and B above, no person shall operate any motor boat in a traffic lane at a speed greater than twenty-five (25) miles per hour between the hours of 9:30 o'clock A.M. and 4:30 o'clock P.M. (Central Standard Time or Daylight Savings Time) or at a speed greater than slow-no-wake speed between the hours of 4:30 o'clock P.M. and 9:30 o'clock A.M. (Central Standard Time or Daylight Savings Time.)

SECTION VII. WATER SKIING.

A. Attendant in Boat. No motor boat shall tow waterskiers, surfboard riders or other sporting devices, unless there is in the boat a competent person in addition to the operator of such boat.

B. Limitations. No motor boat shall tow more than one (1) water skier, surfboard rider or other sporting device.

C. Lifesaving Device. No person shall water ski unless he is wearing a Type I, II or III personal flotation device which meets the safety standards established by the United States Coast Guard and which is in good condition.

SECTION VIII. SAILBOATING. Sailboating shall be allowed at any time on all lakes in the TOWN OF FARMINGTON with the exception of Green Lake where sailboating is prohibited on Saturdays between the hours of 9:30 o'clock A.M. and 6:00 o'clock P.M. (Central Standard Time or Daylight Savings Time.)

SECTION IX. SWIMMERS. No person shall swim in any traffic lane unless accompanied by one man-powered boat for each swimmer and unless such swimmer shall stay within twenty (20) feet of such boat.

SECTION X. TRAFFIC COUNTERCLOCKWISE.

Traffic moving in the traffic lane is to be given the right-of-way, and all motor boats shall, at such times as motor boats are allowed to be operated up to twenty-five (25) miles per hour, be operated in a counterclockwise direction, that is, south-east-north-west-south; at all other times motor boats may be operated with safety in any direction. Where the lake contains two (2) or more bodies of water separated by a channel, the traffic shall move counterclockwise in each body of water during such fast boating hours.

SECTION XII. BUOYS AND MARKERS.

A. The Water Safety Patrol may cause the traffic lanes and swimming areas to be clearly marked by buoys or markers which shall be observed by all boats, swimmers and divers.

B. Boating. No person shall operate a boat within one hundred (100) feet of any underwater diver's flag.

SECTION XIII. WATER SAFETY PATROL.

A. A Water Safety Patrol is hereby established to patrol the waters of the lakes within the Town for the purpose of enforcing the Ordinance and the laws of the State of Wisconsin referred to in SECTION II above.

B. The Constable of the Town shall be ex-officio the Chief of the Water Safety Patrol and the other members shall be appointed by the Town Board for one (1) year terms ending on April 30th of each year.

C. Members of the Water Safety Patrol are hereby authorized to prohibit all boating upon lakes when hazardous conditions exist.

SECTION XIV. SNOWMOBILES AND OTHER VEHICLES.

A. No person shall operate a snowmobile, all-terrain or other vehicle upon the frozen surface of any lake at a speed greater than fifteen (15) miles per hour between the hours of 10:00 o'clock P.M. and 6:00 o'clock A.M. (Central Standard Time or Daylight Savings Time).

B. All-terrain or amphibious vehicles shall comply with all regulations pertaining to motor boats and snowmobiles.

SECTION XV. PENALTIES. Any person who shall violate any provision of this Ordinance shall, upon conviction thereof, forfeit to the TOWN OF FARMINGTON not less than Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00), nor more than Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00), together with the costs of prosecution and in default of payment of the forfeiture imposed and costs, shall be imprisoned in the County Jail of Washington County

until such forfeiture and costs, including subsequent costs, have been paid, but not for a period longer than ten (10) days.