

## LMCD

---

**From:** Katie Hollerman <katie@hollerman.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 2:32 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Opposed to any wake restrictions

LMCD-

My husband and I live on Forest Lake Bay in Orono and we strongly oppose any wake restrictions. It feels unnecessarily punitive to wake boat owners. Reducing one preferred type of recreation over another type of recreation is discriminatory and favoring one vocal minority of the lake users who want to limit wake-surfing boat .

Additionally, claiming it is damaging to the lakeshore is entirely unfounded on Lake Minnetonka. Until environmental studies have been done on the impact of wake boat generated waves on Lake Minnetonka have been done, it feels like a rush to judgement to claim there is a massive environmental impact. The unrelenting wind generated waves crashing on the lakeshore are much more of a worry for lakeshore erosion than the occasional surf boat generated wave.

This rush to judgement is going to have a negative economic impact on the lake as well. Lakeshore values will go down when residents and future residents start seeking out other lakes so they can enjoy their preferred method of recreation.

It would be one thing if the entire state of MN was considering wake restrictions and imposing them on ALL lakes because it would not be punitive to Lake Minnetonka residents and users. But, by the LMCD targeting Minnetonka and making it harder to recreate on- you are putting the residents and visitors at a massive disadvantage. Local businesses will have less visitors and our property values will go down because the LMCD proved it was a fickle governing body that can change the rules as they see fit.

We will be incredibly disappointed with the decision to limit wakes as the only solution to some peoples discomfort over wake surf boats.

Sincerely,  
Katie Hollerman

## LMCD

---

**From:** Ron Konezny <rkonezny@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 3:33 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** LMCD Potential Wake Rules Change

LMCD Board:

I live on Lake Minnetonka, but I am not able to attend the Board Meeting being held tonight. Please, consider these written comments as you consider potential rule changes. I support the safe use of the Lake while supporting the various uses and interests.

It is very difficult to visualize the potential change from 150 feet to 300 feet from the shoreline. Would be helpful to show two maps with the two distances. I'm worried that this change dramatically changes the effective surface area of the lake that can be utilized for water sports. It will push all water sports into a smaller area, which has its own safety concerns with potential collisions.

Not sure what is specifically driving the change from 150 feet to 300 feet. Would be good to have additional data showing what we are trying to solve, and what change would have the optimal impact. Options include:

- Keeping the same 150 feet, but limiting the time of day or days of week
- Moving to 200 feet (vs. 300 feet)

Thank you,

Ron Konezny

## LMCD

---

**From:** Patrick Foss <pfoss@thinktalent.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 4:10 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Proposed Rule Change to 300 Feet

I would like to comment on the current topic of changing the 'no wake' distance from 150 to 300 feet from shore or anchored boats. The current buffer of 150 ft is not uniformly enforced and doubling the buffer isn't going to measurably protect the shoreline any more than the current regulation. I don't generally see surf boats buzzing the shore. We live in Excelsior near Frog Island and routinely see boats treating the navigation channels like a racecourse. The channel West of Frog is defined by the shoreline on the East side where boats are less than 20 feet from shore. The channel near 454 Lafayette is within 50 feet of the shoreline and people race through there on a regular basis. Our experience in other areas of the lake makes it clear the education is lacking versus the regulation. Common courtesy and education should prevail versus more regulation that can't be consistently enforced.

I understand the studies were driven by the impact of surf boats. Gideon's Bay is a popular spot for the boats and there can be several people surfing or tubing on any given day. They are not going close to shore in my experience. Anyone with a surf boat on the lake has to be aware of the concern and is generally well away from others. A 300 foot rule to an anchored boat it will effectively make a place like St. Alban's no wake with just a few boats anchored. The issue has been boats coming much closer than 150 ft and the rule not being enforced.

A change like this is unnecessary for the majority of boaters. A pleasure boater needing to be less than 5 MPH 200 ft from an anchored boat is not necessary. I don't recall hearing law enforcement asking for this rule because they don't have the tools to keep people safer today. While this proposed change may count as a response to recent noise, it does nothing to address educating those who are not familiar with the issues or current regulations. This becomes another unique and unnecessary Lake Minnetonka rule that will be hard to enforce.

Educate, enforce what is currently in place and continue to work with surf boaters to constructively support use of the lake by everyone.

Thank you

**Patrick Foss**  
**456 Lafayette Avenue**  
**Excelsior, MN 55331**

## LMCD

---

**From:** M Hubbard <michaelphubbard@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 4:20 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** LMCD Setback Proposal

Hi-

As an Orno resident, and avid Lake Minnetonka user across multiple sports, I highly disagree with the current ordinance proposal to increase the setback to 300 feet.

I think this is putting a bandaid on the issue and does nothing to address the underlying issues of lack of enforcement and boater ignorance.

In addition, not only will this ordinance change not solve the problems, it will have negative unintended consequences like increasing boat traffic and potential for accidents in certain bays.

I strongly encourage you to not pass this new ordinance and instead focus on boater education and enforcement.

Thank you,  
Michael

michaelphubbard@gmail.com  
319 631 3027

## LMCD

---

**From:** Sheri Pottebaum <spottebaum@helmsbriscoe.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 7:36 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** OPPOSED to the 300' proposed regulation

To whom it may concern:

Here are the main reasons why this proposed regulation should be rejected-

-Needs to be studied further

-will create congestion and bottlenecking in other areas. And close some bays completely.

We have friends on Saint Albeans who are distraught at the idea of having a 25 min no wake boat ride to get to Gideon's or boat-able water.

-Just enforce current restrictions!!!

-this is a BIG decision and should not be made hastily! Take more time to understand all of the major issues that would occur if this is gets approved. PLEASE!!!

Thank you for your consideration in this extremely important matter.

Thank you,  
Todd & Sheri Pottebaum

Sent from my iPhone

## LMCD

---

**From:** Chris Bank <bank.chris@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 6:54 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** 300 foot setback input/opinion

My name is 'Kent Bank', I live at 2600 West Lafayette Rd. in Excelsior, on Lafayette Bay.

I am strongly opposing the newLu proposed 300 foot setback.

Moving the setback from 150 feet to 300 feet will create congestion, bottlenecking and Pinchpoints around the lake.

More research is needed before the LMCD should create a unique ordinance on the lake. Additional studies, time for more feedback from stakeholders etc.

I would recommend that the LMCD board table this topic temporarily, until we see what the Minnesota legislature does when it comes up in their next session.

In 2021, I was part of a group that raised an additional \$80,000 to subsidize the water patrol as they were under funded. Adding additional regulation on the lake will further hamper their ability to focus on overall boater safety and happy recreating on the lake.

It is my opinion that the lake is significantly quieter overall this year, in comparison to the last two Covid-based years. I also believe that some of this issue stems from the overuse that occurred on the lake during the Covid period.

Let the dust settle, let the state go through its process, and then put this item back on the table for review/feedback.

Thank you!  
KC Bank  
2600 W. Lafayette Rd., Excelsior, MN 55331  
612-963-8888

## LMCD

---

**From:** Chris Bank <bank.chris@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 6:54 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** 300 foot setback input/opinion

My name is 'Kent Bank', I live at 2600 West Lafayette Rd. in Excelsior, on Lafayette Bay.

I am strongly opposing the newLu proposed 300 foot setback.

Moving the setback from 150 feet to 300 feet will create congestion, bottlenecking and Pinchpoints around the lake.

More research is needed before the LMCD should create a unique ordinance on the lake. Additional studies, time for more feedback from stakeholders etc.

I would recommend that the LMCD board table this topic temporarily, until we see what the Minnesota legislature does when it comes up in their next session.

In 2021, I was part of a group that raised an additional \$80,000 to subsidize the water patrol as they were under funded. Adding additional regulation on the lake will further hamper their ability to focus on overall boater safety and happy recreating on the lake.

It is my opinion that the lake is significantly quieter overall this year, in comparison to the last two Covid-based years. I also believe that some of this issue stems from the overuse that occurred on the lake during the Covid period.

Let the dust settle, let the state go through its process, and then put this item back on the table for review/feedback.

Thank you!  
KC Bank  
2600 W. Lafayette Rd., Excelsior, MN 55331  
612-963-8888

## LMCD

---

**From:** Thomas Schnettler <tpschnettler@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 6:49 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** comments on proposed 300 foot setbacks

LMCD - As a lakeshore owner and avid water sports enthusiast, I am writing to support the proposed increase in setbacks to 300 feet. The large wakes produced by watercraft today are not significantly mitigated over 150 feet. These wakes produce real shoreline erosion and degradation of water quality. Those facts would be hard to dispute. The speed limits LMCD is proposing within 300 feet of shore are a step in the right direction and will improve water safety and water quality. I do not see these new restrictions creating meaningful limitations on my enjoyment of the water. I am not an owner on Lake Minnetonka, but recognize the influence your organization can have on other lake associations so I urge you to take the leadership position and adopt the new speed limits and 300 foot setbacks.  
Tom Schnettler



## LMCD

---

**From:** Jillian Moriarty <jcmhmoriarty@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 6:39 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Against the new boat ordinance

To Whom it May Concern:

Thank you for reviewing my letter.

I believe this consideration of a rule change, regarding water crafts near shorelines, is an outrage. I was raised here in the Lake Minnetonka Area since I was 4 years old in 1979. This lake is known throughout the state and the country for its extraordinary shoreline with multiple quaint towns, shopping and restaurants and its super fun boat scene. Our Lake is truly special as it is large enough to accomodate all sorts of lake fanatics, from the sailboat races in Smith Bay, boats all connected at big island for family time and relaxation, the ability to take out canoes and windsurf boards in the summer and fat tire bikes and snowmobiles in the winter, the boat up public docks that take you to restaurants and movie theaters and ice cream shops, bays known for their early morning calm water and waterski line and other bays know for no wake zones, less noise and the ability to chill out, or the vast amount of water sports with power boats including waterskiing, wakeboarding, wake surfing, tubing and the like.

Wakesurf boats have been a hugely successful and growing market over the past 5 years. This low-speed sport is for all ages , literally 2-100. A boat never topping 11.4 mph with family fun of wake surfing is arguably the safest sport physically on the lake. A few of the world's top-ranked wake-surfers literally live on our bays and bring in special competitions to our lake with world-record holding and amazing athletes for all the match and to being business and revenue into our small towns.

This sport of wake-surfing has become so popular even that I know people that have moved to the lake, purchased their first boat, and live where they live just because of wake-surfing. People own properties and spend their money here because of what Lake Minnetonka has to offer. Rules and regulations that provide safety, yes . . . but personal recreation that is unlimited, something for every one. This new ordinance would vastly affect our recreation, and not just wake-surfing. And, how do we know it will even help as people will continue to wake surf and now in more constricted spaces that seem unsafer. Motor boats and sports have always been allowed on this lake and now is not the time for more restrictions. There could easily be more traffic in and out of bays with more overall congestion and less safety with these new rules. This decision needs much further investigation and study. If this is regarding people's personal opinions and complaints over noise or waves, this does not hold up. As for each human, we find a significantly unique opinion. This is not personal and emotional, this is about how people positively enjoy our beautiful lake, islands, and towns and the historical significance of this Lake and its recreational values.

Please do NOT pass any new ordinances regarding Boat-Generated Wakes.

Jillian (Dudley) Moriarty

## LMCD

---

**From:** ROGER NORBERG <rnorber@me.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 6:13 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** i support the set back

Hello:

I live on Christmas lake but tour lake Minnetonka now and then. As a small lakefront property owner I have seen the damage of mega-wakes first hand.

The only winner on not pushing big wake generation further from shore are the rip rap contractors. Everyone else loses.

There is no point and no need to generate large wakes so close to shore. The WSIA recommendation is based on junk research not deserving of the term.

We have a nuisance, we have to deal with it.

As a customer of Minnesota Inboard I am also completely disappointed in their stance on this issue. Having profited from the sale of the watercraft that are the primary culprit one would think they would lead on this issue. They have lost my business forever.

Regards,

Roger Norberg

Sent from my iPad

## LMCD

---

**From:** Liz Abt Ellenberger <liz.abt.ellenberger@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 5:55 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Comment on new 300' ordinance

Good afternoon,

We support Implementation and *enforcement* of the new ordinance that would place a five-miles-per-hour speed limit on all boats within 300 feet of shorelines, beaches, docks, and swimmers. I would make exception of 150' for trolling fishing boats and anchored boats.

This is sorely needed.

Thank you,

Liz Abt Ellenberger  
John Ellenberger  
Residents, Carman Bay

Sent from my iPad

## LMCD

---

**From:**  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 5:51 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Boat limits 300ft is overkill or not

Thanks for considering this.

I would suggest it remain the same at 150ft or if it has to be bumped make it to 175-200ft total so extra 25ft-50ft. Living on a lake and going on a lake or water is a different way of life and many people understand that. It's a select few that don't. If others wanted no action and no anything there is a different lake for them or pond as this is a high traffic area and will only get more congested if you increase the setbacks. That means you would need 300ft each shore side plus 150 between the two boats on the water plus if they want to move around a little bit another 150 each for turning radius that's 900ft line for 2 boats or 1200ft for to boats to abide by the rules with a little extra room. I find it hard to believe from shore to shore there are many areas with 1200ft diameter to do a boating activity.

A quarter mile linear feet to have 2 boats do activities. Plus people's docks that end probably 50ft from shore on each side an extra 100 total ft.

Thanks  
Anonymous

## LMCD

---

**From:** Jill Nagel <nageljill@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 5:43 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** 21845 Byron circle

These photos show the grey covered boat which seems like the new comer .

She has the two docks in front of the boat house  
Now the boat with the grey cover has been there for weeks .  
Calwell has the other boats  
Jill

## LMCD

---

**From:** Stacia Bank <staciabank@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 5:32 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Proposed 300' restriction

I am writing in opposition to the proposed 300' wave restriction. While I appreciate that you've applied it to all boats rather than single out a particular boat type, I feel this drastic restriction will create congestion and bottlenecks in areas and needs to be further studied. Are you also suggesting more "no wake" areas as a result? Just driving from Arcola to West Arm will have bottle necking/ congestion in front of Lafayette club and between the rock pile if you narrow the passage. Will someone living in St. Al beans now have no wake from their house all the way to Gideon's? How frustrating!

A 200' restriction with support to the water patrol for enforcement seems more reasonable. This is a very big decision to DOUBLE the set back and should not be made hastily! Please enforce the current regulations rather than add more!

Kind regards,  
Stacia

## LMCD

---

**From:** Dustin Boyd <dhboyd@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2022 8:38 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Restrictions

We are opposed to the 300' regulation.

It will create congestion and bottlenecking in other areas and needs to be studied further. We have friends on Saint Albans who are distraught at the idea of having a 25 min no wake boat ride to get to Gideon's or boat able water. It seems to make much more sense to just enforce current restrictions.

This is a BIG decision and should not be made hastily.

Sincerely,

Dustin and Christina Boyd

Sent from my iPhone

## LMCD

---

**From:** Frank Precopio <frank@precopio.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 5:13 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** 300 foot proposal

Dear LMCD,

I was stunned when I read the LMCD proposal for the 5mph and 300 foot distance limitations on Lake Minnetonka. On St. Albans Bay where I have lived for 32 years, per your proposal, if just ONE boat decides to park in the middle of the bay, it would render the entire bay useless for ANY watercraft activity (besides fishing) because of the 600 feet on either side of the parked boat as well as the 300 feet from shore. This is ludicrous as it would turn our bay essentially into a no-wake zone.

Of course, a number of other bays would be in this same situation.

I'm guessing that you are well aware of this result, otherwise you wouldn't propose such a radical concept.

As you can surmise from my letter, I am vehemently opposed to your radical plan, as I'm sure many other lakeshore owners are. This is not a problem for all of the people who drop boats into our lake because they can go elsewhere while those of us who live on the lake are forced to submit to the broad brush rules of the LMCD. That is crazy.

Regards,

Frank Precopio  
5520 Maple Heights Road  
Greenwood



## LMCD

---

**From:** Matthew Steiner <matthewjohnsteiner@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 5:12 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Safety & Boat Generated Wakes

To The Lake Minnetonka Conservation District,

I am a very active and avid boater (3x/week usually). I've been boating for 30+ years and it's a huge passion within my family. We've finally been able to purchase a lake home to pursue this even further, so 100% understand the concern around eroding properties.

According to this study 200' seems to be the acceptable distance and if a limit is enforced would be the number I'd recommend as it's backed by scientific data.

[https://boatingindustry.com/news/2022/04/26/new-peer-reviewed-paper-analyzes-wakesurfing-shore-impact/?fbclid=IwAR2aJTht2ynhlwokyh842H6bSqrB8OZyKZYPiq7ggPuH1JTK7-WluxE4X\\_Y](https://boatingindustry.com/news/2022/04/26/new-peer-reviewed-paper-analyzes-wakesurfing-shore-impact/?fbclid=IwAR2aJTht2ynhlwokyh842H6bSqrB8OZyKZYPiq7ggPuH1JTK7-WluxE4X_Y)

However, how does one actually enforce something like this? How does a boater know the difference between 150' and 200'?

To that end, I firmly believe in continuing to educate on the existing rules and to recommend boaters learn to respect this and "unofficially" leave as much space as possible.

I'm very active in a wakeboarder community and continue to send the message that we need to be respectful first and foremost (loud music/distance to shore, etc.)

If we start enforcing rules like this, I'm very concerned about property values, the values of our boats all being very much diminished.

Sincerely,  
Matthew Steiner

## LMCD

---

**From:** LMCD Website Form <lmcd@lmcd.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2022 9:52 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Contact Us

### Name

Camille Burke

### Email

[camburke218@gmail.com](mailto:camburke218@gmail.com)

### Address

2029 Arbor lane  
Mound, MN 55364  
[Map It](#)

### Question or Comment

Please stop the use of Wake boats on small bays.  
They destroy out shoreline and mess up the bottom of the Lake. They should be at least 500 FT from shore and in deep water.  
Everyone wants to enjoy the lake, but wake boats ruin the beauty of our lake. It's quite distressful to watch the effect the waves have on my shoreline! It will be ruined if this keeps up.

## LMCD

---

**From:** Jan and Loran Hillesheim <lillesheim1@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2022 10:17 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Lake Minnetonka

This email is in response to the proposed 5 mile per hour speed limit within 300 feet of shoreline, docks, and anchored boats. In my opinion, this set back distance is excessive and creates large no wake zones across the entire lake. If a boat is anchored 300 feet from shore, this effectively creates a 600 foot no wake zone. I would support leaving the ordinance at the current 150 feet or trying a 200 foot distance.

Thank you,

Loran Hillesheim

## LMCD

---

**From:** Julie Lang <juliedlang@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2022 10:53 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Boating ordinance

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear LMCD,

I'm very disappointed in the guidelines that you are considering for lake Minnetonka. Our family is 100% opposed to the 300' regulation and speed limit. This would make many areas on the lake a No Wake Zone. This is not right and makes no sense. Also, have you considered the speed of a twin engine boat? At 5mph most will be able to cruise faster with no wake.

I strongly believe you are looking at the wrong regulations to make our lake a safer environment for all. Do not ruin our lake with this awful regulation. You will ruin the property values and create more congestion. If our boating officers have to now regulate this new rule, it will distract them from families in need.

I vote No to the new guidelines.

Julie

## LMCD

---

**From:** MARNIE JOHNSON <marniejohnson@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2022 11:07 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Cc:** Erik Bender  
**Subject:** 300' regulation

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good Morning,

As a lake land owner and lover of Lake Minnetonka I want you to know I oppose the "300 foot" setback that is being proposed. I believe this regulation will create congestion and bottlenecking in other areas of the lake, which is particularly dangerous for young boaters and those participating in lake activities. If waves are the primary concern, impactful waves dissipate within the current 100 foot regulation. These rules need to be properly enforced and we would have the concern. If this is a noise issue, a noise ordinance can easily be introduced and enforced.

This is a huge change and should not be made hastily or without proper study.

Thank you,  
Marnie Johnson & Erik Bender

Sent from my iPhone

## LMCD

---

**From:** Bob Karls <bkarls58@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2022 12:27 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Lake Minnetonka Conservation District - Boat Generated Waves  
**Attachments:** Wisconsin Wakeboard Boat Study 2022.docx

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

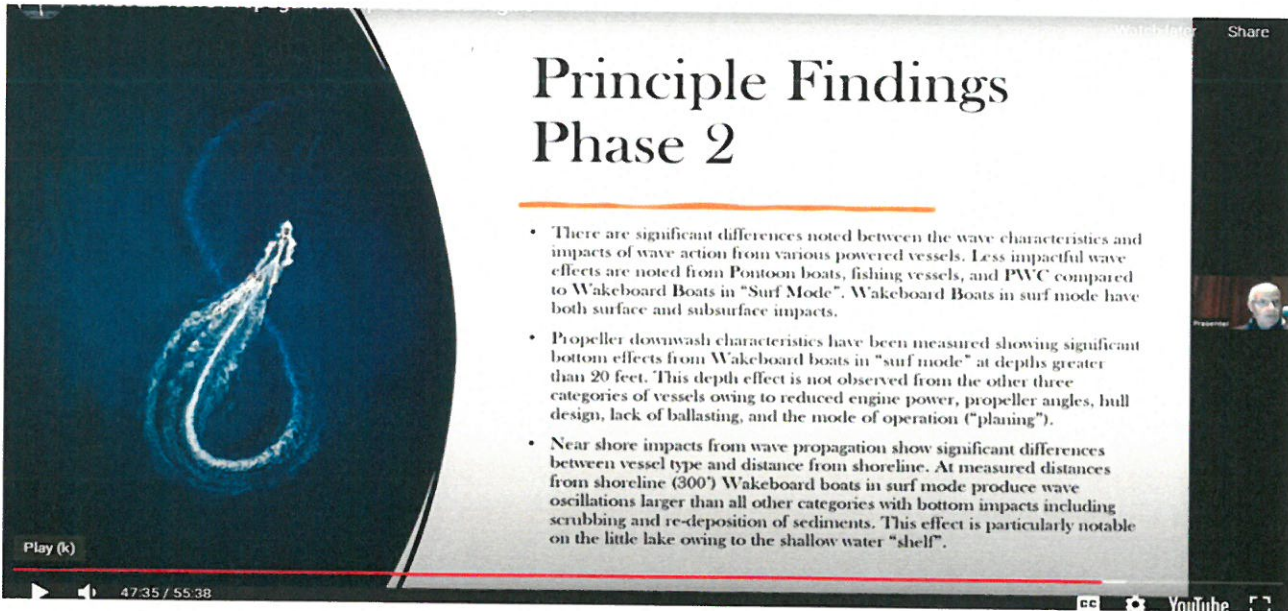
just making sure you are aware of the data collected in Wisconsin. See attachment.

These boats need to be more than 450' from Shore (Uof M Study) and in water greater than 25' deep (Wisconsin study and UofM study underway).

1. Prepare a map in GIS for all areas that meet these requirements.
2. Limit all "surfing" and ballasted or modified boats to that area for wake generation activities.

--

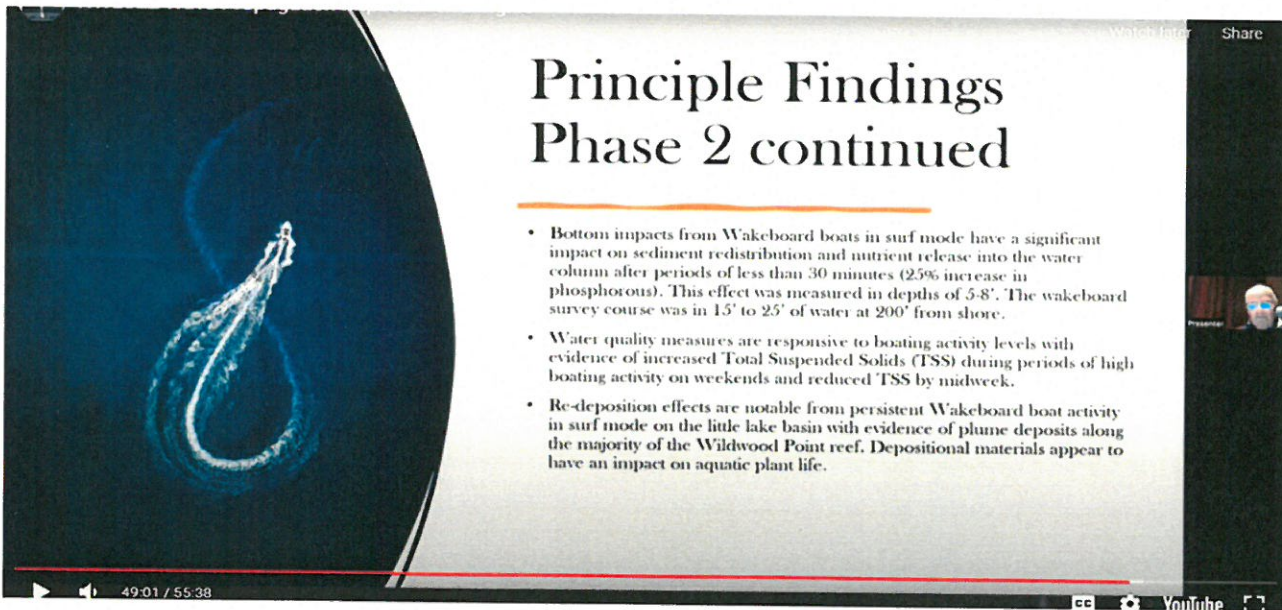
Bob Karls  
[bkarls58@gmail.com](mailto:bkarls58@gmail.com)



## Principle Findings Phase 2

- There are significant differences noted between the wave characteristics and impacts of wave action from various powered vessels. Less impactful wave effects are noted from Pontoon boats, fishing vessels, and PWC compared to Wakeboard Boats in "Surf Mode". Wakeboard Boats in surf mode have both surface and subsurface impacts.
- Propeller downwash characteristics have been measured showing significant bottom effects from Wakeboard boats in "surf mode" at depths greater than 20 feet. This depth effect is not observed from the other three categories of vessels owing to reduced engine power, propeller angles, hull design, lack of ballasting, and the mode of operation ("planing").
- Near shore impacts from wave propagation show significant differences between vessel type and distance from shoreline. At measured distances from shoreline (300') Wakeboard boats in surf mode produce wave oscillations larger than all other categories with bottom impacts including scrubbing and re-deposition of sediments. This effect is particularly notable on the little lake owing to the shallow water "shelf".

47:35 / 55:38



## Principle Findings Phase 2 continued

- Bottom impacts from Wakeboard boats in surf mode have a significant impact on sediment redistribution and nutrient release into the water column after periods of less than 30 minutes (25% increase in phosphorous). This effect was measured in depths of 5-8'. The wakeboard survey course was in 15' to 25' of water at 200' from shore.
- Water quality measures are responsive to boating activity levels with evidence of increased Total Suspended Solids (TSS) during periods of high boating activity on weekends and reduced TSS by midweek.
- Re-deposition effects are notable from persistent Wakeboard boat activity in surf mode on the little lake basin with evidence of plume deposits along the majority of the Wildwood Point reef. Depositional materials appear to have an impact on aquatic plant life.

49:01 / 55:38



## Questions are Welcome

Follow up details available if you contact by email:

- [Tim@TetraVigils.com](mailto:Tim@TetraVigils.com)
- [Charles@TetraVigils.com](mailto:Charles@TetraVigils.com)

Visit us at:  
[www.TetraVigils.com](http://www.TetraVigils.com)

50:04 / 55:38

## LMCD

---

**From:** emiuelmen3 (null) <emiuelmen3@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2022 3:21 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Gideon's Bay Family opposed to 300' regulation

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hi. My name is Emi Uelmen and my husband Jeff and I live at 40 Willow Woods Drive in Excelsior. We have lived on Lake Minnetonka for over 13 years now and love the lake. We own a Mastercraft surf boat and have taught all 4 of our children how to drive the boat and the rules that go along with that.

We were shocked to hear that out of the blue a 300 ft regulation has been proposed. As a family that surfs down the middle of Gideon's bay because we know that that is where the lake is the deepest, our surfing path will not change but will definitely be affected by the number of boats that will have to "only use the middle of the bay"

Another area of concern to me is Crystal Bay. The number of boats that fly through that area..... will they have to slow down when they go by Lafayette? I can't imagine the congestion this will cause.

Or even going from Excelsior to Wayzata. There is an area between Deephaven and Big Island that would probably have to become no wake too? I can't imagine the number of accidents this will cause. (Because people that don't live on the lake will not know to slow down)

Will this affect property values? I would NEVER want to live in a bay that I can not drive my boat through. Everyone knows you can't in Gray's Bay. How many other bays will this affect?

This worries me as this will create congestion and bottleneaking in many areas on the lake. And potential close some bays completely.

I would suggest starting with just enforcing the current rules. It is NOT the people that live on Lake Minnetonka that are breaking the rules. It is all the people that just drop in for a day to enjoy the lake. Maybe we should limit this instead?

Thank you for reading our concerns.

Jeff, Emi, Peyton, Greyson, Reed and Gabe Uelmen  
40 Willow Wood Dr  
Excelsior, MN 55331



## LMCD

---

**From:** Chris Burque <cburque@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2022 11:30 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Opposition to Proposed Rule Changes for Lake Minnetonka

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear LMCD Board,

First and foremost thank you for all you are doing for Lake Minnetonka and for those of us that live on, use and love the lake.

Please add my voice to those strongly OPPOSING the proposed new ordinance placing a five-miles-per-hour speed limit on boats within 300 feet of shorelines, beaches, docs, anchored boats and swimmers. I am very concerned that there could be numerous unintended consequences and increasing enforcement of the existing regulations would be a better solution.

I am extremely concerned that some popular bays such as Maxwell Bay, Stubbs Bay, North Arm Bay and Halsted Bay could become much more restricted which would increase the use of other parts of the lake and the larger bays for watersports. Those other parts of the lake are already very congested with boat traffic and increasing the congestion on those parts of the lake would be extremely dangerous for boaters, waverunners/jet skiers and especially people participating in water sports. Spreading out the boat traffic over the entire lake rather than concentrating it on a few parts of the lake is much safer and provides a better experience for everyone.

It is unlikely that these restrictions will reduce the number of wakesurfers, wakeboarders, skiers, etc. Instead it will simply move and concentrate those activities on other parts of the lake causing increased erosion, congestion, safety and noise in those other places.

Thank you for reconsidering this proposal and ultimately voting it down.

Please feel welcome to call or email me if you would like to discuss this more in depth.

Thank you,

Chris Burque  
Carman Bay Resident  
2795 Pheasant Rd. Orono, MN 55331  
608-345-4599 (cell)  
[cburque@gmail.com](mailto:cburque@gmail.com)

--

Chris Burque  
[cburque@gmail.com](mailto:cburque@gmail.com)

## LMCD

---

**From:** Sieve, Gene <gsieve@burnsmcd.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 29, 2022 8:06 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** LMCD Rule Change

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good morning LMCD:

I'm a Lake Minnetonka lake homeowner (4515 Merrywood Lane, Excelsior). We enjoy the water doing various activities – slalom skiing, fishing and, yes, wake surfing. We enjoy watching people out in front of our home making the most of the Minnesota summer. From my observations, 95% of those on the water use common sense and respect other lake users by staying in the middle of the bays and away from fishermen and the lakeshore.

I feel that the proposed 300' buffer is excessive and will render too much of the lake unusable by those users that do not pose the risk to the shoreline, such as slalom skiers, jet skiers, and fishermen. I'd endorse the Water Sports Industry Association (WSIA) guidelines of 200 ft.

Thank you.  
GS

**Gene Sieve, PE** \ Burns & McDonnell  
Vice President, General Manager \ Minneapolis-St Paul Office  
M 952-288-4740 \ F 952-229-2923  
[gsieve@burnsmcd.com](mailto:gsieve@burnsmcd.com) \ burnsmcd.com  
8201 Norman Center Drive \ Suite 500 \ Bloomington, MN 55437

**DESIGNED TO BUILD.**  
**#DesignedToBuild**

*Please consider the environment before printing this email.*

## LMCD

---

**From:** Houston McIntyre <houston@olsonmcintyre.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 29, 2022 9:30 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Wake Boats

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good Morning LMCD,

I've been keeping up with the Conservation District's concerns over the impact of wake generating boats on Lake Minnetonka.

I live in the Brainerd Lakes region on a smaller lake and this is becoming more of a concern each year as these large boats disrupt everything lake related. Even if the boats keep to the middle of the lake, we watch the waves crash above and behind the rip rap.

Can you provide any insight or help on how we can continue this conservation endeavor and start momentum in the attempt to save another lake?

Thank you for your time and keep up the good fight.

Cheers,

Houston McIntyre  
*Creative Designer*  
Phone: 612-845-0168  
Email: [houston@olsonmcintyre.com](mailto:houston@olsonmcintyre.com)

**OLSON McINTYRE**  
[olsonmcintyre.com](http://olsonmcintyre.com)

## LMCD

---

**From:** Jeff Sawicki <sawickijeff@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 29, 2022 9:51 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** 300ft no wake rule

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hello,

I read the article this morning and I think that a blanket 300ft rule is not the way to go.

I would apply a 500ft rule to wakeboarding boats or any boats that have a wake enhancing device. The point of this rule change is to keep high energy waves away from the shoreline and from affecting boats that are anchored.

Also, I would consider adjusting the no wake zone distance to shoreline based on either the length or weight of the boat. I don't see a 14ft 500 lbs boat causing the same damage to a shoreline as a 30ft 10,000 lbs boat.

I would be worried about giving the sheriffs an additional way to harass people who are just living their lives and are not hurting the shoreline like the main offenders.

Jeff Sawicki  
612-875-1585

## LMCD

---

**From:** Bruce Russell <bjr2000@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 29, 2022 12:50 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Comment on Proposed Minimum Wake Rule

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

LMCD,

For my entire life, I have been lucky to enjoy Lake Minnetonka and all it has to offer, but I worry that if the proposed minimum wake extension from 150 feet to 300 feet is passed, the enjoyment of the lake will be threatened.

This proposed rule inconveniences everyone on the lake, instead of a targeted rule only forcing wake surf boats further out, which could make sense, as long as the practice is not banned altogether on the lake. This proposal will extend minimum wake areas on the lake around channels, and create new minimum wake areas around the lake, inconveniencing boat drivers by adding time to trips around the lake.

In my opinion, the most ill-conceived part of this ordinance is the part that forces boat drivers to a minimum wake within 300 feet of an anchored boat. This will have the affect of shutting down entire bays to boating recreation if one boat is sitting in the middle, with a diameter of 600 feet of a minimum wake zone in the middle of the bay.

This will also increase enforcement action against boaters on the lake, inconveniencing boaters with unnecessary criminal penalties/fines for doing something that they may not even know was illegal, since every other recreational lake in the state has no such rule. This rule is also very subjective in it's enforcement since boaters and law enforcement do not carry measuring devices and use them while boating. It is hard to judge arbitrary distances on the water.

To the point of reducing erosion, nearly all of the lake is surrounded by riprap so erosion is not a major concern, in my opinion.

I strongly persuade the LMCD to abandon this proposal.

Thank you for your time,

Bruce Russell Jr.

## LMCD

---

**From:** Brian J Govern <bgovern@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 29, 2022 3:58 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** I oppose the change to the Boat-Generated Wakes rule

To Whom it may concern;

I have reviewed the proposal to increase the no-wake area to 300' from any shore, and I oppose its adoption.

It will constrict many busy waterways within Lake Minnetonka causing congestion, and increasing the risk of collision. It will also make many parts of the lake nearly unnavigable because of long distances, and congestion caused by the no-wake zone. In my opinion, this rule will harm users of the lake more than help them.

In my experience, the wake issues on Minnetonka are not caused by 'normal' boats traversing too close to shore, but instead by boats of unreasonable size for the lake, and wakeboard boats that travel with their ballast tanks continuously full. This rule change will endanger and inconvenience thousands of regular users of the lake without truly addressing the source of excessive wakes.

Suggested alternatives:

- \* Install the new 300' rule for boats over a certain length, and/or wakeboard boats with full ballast tanks.
- \* Limit the days and hours that wakeboarding can occur on Lake Minnetonka. There is a similar limit on personal watercraft on portions of the St. Croix river, which has worked very well.
- \* Limit the size of a boat acceptable on the lake.
- \* Limit large boats and/or wakeboard boats to certain areas of the lake.
- \* Limit the speed of very large boats
- \* Prohibit boats over a certain size from traveling abreast
- \* Limit wakeboarding to areas of the lake at least 10' deep and 200' from shore as recommended by the university study.
- \* Prohibit wakeboard boats from operating with full ballast tanks when not actively wakeboarding.

Thank you.

## LMCD

---

**From:** Scott Praver <praw0003@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 30, 2022 8:34 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** New ordinance

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hello,

Thank you for everything you do in trying to protect Lake Minnetonka. I have a house on Forest Lake bay since 2004. The lake is very important to my family. We spend a considerable amount of time on the lake. We love to water ski, jet ski, tube, fish, swim, and just relax on the lake.

I am in complete support of your proposed ordinance of watercraft speed of 5 mph within 300 feet of shoreline, docks, anchored boats, swimmers, etc.

Thanks again,  
Scott Praver

## LMCD

---

**From:** Mark Lewry <mlewry1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 1, 2022 8:56 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Against new 300' restrictions for surf boats

I live on the lake in Greenwood and I don't see any impact from wake surf boats as we already have the 150 foot rule. I have, as does everyone else on the lake, rip rap that provides protection against boat wake and severe winds. The white caps I get when the wind is 25-30 mph that naturally occurs on the lake is no GREATER than the surf created by large boats and wake surf boats. It has NO effect on my shoreline.

300 feet? How many parts of the lake would be excluded from surf boats? The entire St Albans bay? This is the one place you can surf in the lower lake when there is wind, which seems to be most of the time these days. Has anyone put a map together to show what the surfable area would be with those restrictions? I' don't see it on the LMCD web site.

This is just a bunch on people that don't like change trying to ruin it for others. What's next? Try to turn this into a quiet lake?

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows



## LMCD

---

**From:** Joseph Ennen <joseph\_ennen@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 1, 2022 7:56 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** wake surf boats

I am a resident and I also live on the lake between Howards Point and Smithtown Bay, 28070 Woodside Road. I understand there is a lot of noise from a minority of people about wakesurf boats and big cruiser boats. I understand you are trying to make everyone happy and that is probably not possible in this situation. What I find confusing is .... Basically what you are proposing is people in wakesurf boats or big cruiser boats should stop having fun, so people in fishing boats can have fun? Why is their fun more important? I frequently work from home and have the opportunity to see people enjoying the lake all day ... people in big boats, little boats, fishing boats, pontoon boats. Is it wavy at times - yes - it is big lake with lots of wind and lots of big boats. When the wind blows 20+ MPH like yesterday are the waves bigger than any surf boat - yes. And do these waves last for hours and hours - yes.

Here is your proposal and there are 2 major problems with it.

five-miles-per-hour speed limit on all boats within 300 feet of shorelines, beaches, docks, anchored boats, and swimmers. This would be an increase from the current 150-foot distance.

#1 you are proposing a 100 yard perimeter no-wake zone around a 100 mile lake!! Do you appreciate how crazy this is?!?! 100 yards out from shore around the entire lake - no wake - 5MPH? This is beyond impractical.

#2 Lake Minnetonka is full of bays, it is not a big round lake like Mille Lacs, so every boat needs to be 100 yards out from every shore AND 100 yards from every boat .... if any boat is within 100 yards of another boat it now needs to be closed throttle 5 MPH?!?! That is impossible - there are 1000's of boats on the lake on a busy weekend and everyone needs to be 100 yards apart or they need to slow to 5 MPH? With this regulation you are effectively making ALL of Lake Minnetonka a no-wake zone - this is not an exaggeration. You are proposing that if you are within 300 feet of any other boat you need to slow to 5 MPH?! That's hilarious

To anyone who lives on the lake and doesn't have rip rap ... that is just dumb. Get your shoreline rip rapped.

Just let people enjoy the lake - stop trying to regulate everything - if someone doesn't like Lake Minnetonka because there are big cruiser boats and wakesurf boats then they should go enjoy one of the other 9,999 lakes in this beautiful state.

I am strongly opposed to this change - it is discriminatory.

Joe Ennen 214 683 4115 Cell

## LMCD

---

**From:** Mark Enger <markenger2@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 30, 2022 10:22 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Launch Fee

I have already responded to the proposal for the wake issue on the lake. I do want to say again that there should be a launch fee for day boaters using the lake. Those of us that live on the lake pay a lot of property taxes for that privilege including the cost of maintaining and protecting the lake. Why don't day boaters have any responsibility to help pay for those costs?

Mark Enger  
2697 Casco Point Road

## LMCD

---

**From:** Elizabeth Frye <bethfrye365@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 2, 2022 6:10 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Save the lake

I am writing to express our concerns about the shoreline and enjoyment of the lake for all. I would like to support some type of restrictions placed on maximum wake that is produced from wake surfing. We live in Halsteads Bay and experience problems when wake surfers and boats drive with maximum wake close to our dock. Although the minimum distance is currently 150 feet, often boaters are only 30 feet from our dock (even when we are swimming). This causes concern for our safety and that of theirs. We live across from Kings point and next to Cardinal cove. The distance from our shoreline to Kings point is not more than 200 yards. This causes issues when people try to surf, tube ski and cruise while lots of boats are coming and going from the Halsteads landing. Unfortunately they avoid going in the middle of the bay and end up being 30 to 50 feet from our dock.

The maximum wake created from wake surfing is problematic for the shoreline. Some boats don't put out much of a wake even when driving fast. So the new restrictions should only effect those types and size boats. The faster speed on some boats puts out less of a wake while the wake surf boats going slow push out the water and create a large wake even while driving slow. Another consideration would be to limit the days or hours of wake surfing. Such as not allowing wake surfing on weekends when there are so many more boats and swimmers on the lake.

Thanks for your consideration,  
Beth and Larry Frye  
6785 Manor Drive  
Minnetrista MN 55364  
952-221-7707

Sent from my iPhone

## LMCD

---

**From:** LMCD  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 2, 2022 7:27 AM  
**To:** Vickie Schleuning  
**Cc:** Thomas Tully; Maisyn Prueter; LMCD  
**Subject:** FW: Wisconsin Study on Wake Boat Effects on Lakes  
**Attachments:** NLMD Phase 2 Study Report July 20 2022 with Appendicies (1).pdf  
  
**Importance:** High

**From:** JoAnn Syverson MA <syver004@umn.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 29, 2022 3:38 PM  
**To:** LMCD <lmcd@lmcd.org>  
**Subject:** Wisconsin Study on Wake Boat Effects on Lakes

Dear Lake Minnetonka Conservation District Board,

I recently saw your WCCO news clip about the effects of wake surfing on Lake Minnetonka. I have been conducting a similar campaign for my small lake in Chanhassen, MN, Lotus Lake (narrow, shallow and only 250 acres) for 5 years. We have a minimum of 37 lake property owners who own and operate wake surfing boats on Lotus Lake. We also have heavy outside wake boat traffic that launches onto the lake. It is a nightmare.

I have attached an incredible wake study report completed in Wisconsin and sponsored by a Wisconsin DNR grant. This report documents the destructive nature of wake boats on the environment and to other users and inhabitants of a lake. When you read this report, you will have credible, documented, scientific proof of the need for restrictions on wake boats.

Good luck in your quest and contact me any time to discuss this issue.

JoAnn Syverson  
[syver004@umn.edu](mailto:syver004@umn.edu)

- WP Engine
- Dashboard
- Posts
- Events
- Media
- Forms
- Forms
- New Form
- Entries
- Settings
- Import/Export
- Add Ons
- System Status
- Help
- Pages
- Comments
- Ivory Search
- SearchWP
- Appearance
- Plugins 3
- Users
- Tools
- Settings
- Custom Fields
- Options
- Yoast SEO 1
- Collapse menu



Screen Options ▾

Contact Us ▾

Edit

Settings

Entries

Preview

Welcome to Gravity Forms 2.5! [Learn more](#) about all the new features and updates included in this version.

Entry 2 of 67 ← →

Contact Us : Entry # 3818

show empty fields

Entry

^ ▾ ▲

**Name**

Camille Burke

**Email**

[camburke218@gmail.com](mailto:camburke218@gmail.com)

**Address**

2029 Arbor lane  
Mound, MN 55364  
[Map It](#)

**Question or Comment**

Please stop the use of Wake boats on small bays. They destroy out shoreline and mess up the bottom of the Lake. They should be at least 500 FT from shore and in deep water. Everyone wants to enjoy the lake, but wake boats ruin the beauty of our lake. It's quite distressful to watch the effect the waves have on my shoreline! It will be ruined if this keeps up.

Entry Id: 3818

Submitted on: 2022/07/28 at 9:51 am

User IP: 50.80.144.217

Embed Url: [.../contact-us](#)

Move to Trash

Edit

**Notifications**

^ ▾ ▲

Admin Notification

Tammy

Vickie

Resend

**Print entry**

^ ▾ ▲

Include Notes

Print

**Notes**

^ ▾ ▲

Bulk action

Apply



Admin Notification (ID: 6058b33b393bf)  
added July 28, 2022 at 9:51 am

WordPress successfully passed the notification email to the sending server.



Tammy (ID: 61659a8ad53d0)

added July 28, 2022 at 9:51 am

## LMCD

---

**From:** joshua reding <redingjoshua@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 4, 2022 9:07 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Proposed watercraft speed limits.

Writing to oppose the Amendment. I agree with responsible surfing, however, more government controls is not an effective approach. You are setting dangerous precedent on your power over how the lake is used. Where will you draw the line on the next issue, (ie, I don't like fishermen flipping my docks for bass, jet skis, limiting speed of cruisers and their wakes). BAD IDEA presented by a few who don't have solid evidence supporting their referendum. The speed of water skiing is much more dangerous, but you aren't addressing that issue, nor should you. It's about responsible boat operation.

If you choose to live on the lake, you need to understand lake life, and this is part of it. Recreation and people enjoying the outdoors. If you don't like it, you are free to move off the lake.

Invest in more water patrol to manage the few who are not abiding by the current requirements. More government control is not the answer.

Respectfully,

Joshua Reding

Sent from my iPhone

## LMCD

---

**From:** Travis Hansberger <thansberger@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 6, 2022 4:21 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Wakeboats

Like most readers, our family embraces Lake Minnetonka as a way of life. The lake, which we gladly share with so many other like-minded families, serves as the centerpiece of our social circle and family activities, in all the seasons. As a common space, we couldn't all enjoy the lake without the right mix of rules and regulations to ensure a safe and pleasurable experience while preserving the health of the lake and its surroundings. But like any ecosystem, the rules, access and formal and informal social constructs exist in a balance, a balance that the majority of the lake's residents have found to be just about right. Recently though, a loud but small contingent has been agitating for new rules, based not on science or research, but personal predilections. In their complaints, the group has identified wake boats as the central, singular source of problems: wake boats. Instead of jumping to an obtuse reaction, we should start by looking at their complaints and whether or not eliminating wake boats would actually solve their complaints.

The first complaint is wake size. Yes, wake boards are designed to produce a wake, but the wake formation requires ~ twenty or more feet of water depth to generate a good surfable wave. A requirement that naturally draws wake boats away from the shore. In addition, when compared to cruisers, the wake is significantly smaller and less powerful. Has any of the compaintants produced evidence that the increase in popularity of wake boats has been correlated to an increase in soil erosion? Or attempted to isolate wake boats' impact to overall increase in wake production given the overall growth in traffic?

The second complaint is noise. The operation of a wake boat and its inboard engine is not uniquely loud. We live on the West side of Crystal Bay. When people complain about the noise, we primarily hear it coming from fishing boats going full throttle from the North Arm launch to the coffee channel starting about 6:00 am most mornings from May - October. These fishing boats wake us up most mornings when our windows are open. Wouldn't a better noise solution be to ban fishing boats from sun up until 9:30 am? If the complaint about wake boat noise comes not from the boat, but from the speaker system, then we should ban people younger than 50 years old from operating a boat since youth is highly correlated with both annoying musical taste and a desire to play it loudly?

A clear threat to the lake and its habitats, as opposed to the recent complaints, is foreign AIS species. Should we close all the public launches because it appears that most AIS species are coming from transient boats, which would cut down on aggregate boat traffic?

Even "balanced" proposals are problematic. Other people have discussed only surfing only certain days. Would this lead to only cruisers being only to operate on certain days also? How would our local marinas and restaurants feel about this? (Cove/Maynard/Fletchers)?

To be clear, I support all types of boating and not new regulations. These conversations appear to be driven by a tiny minority. Education and communication are essential, not additional regulations.

Thank you,

Hansberger Family

1720 Shadywood Rd

## LMCD

---

**From:** Ed Rockwell <eddierockwell@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 6, 2022 4:16 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Re: Update Regarding Boat Generated Wakes Review and Draft Code Amendment

I'm following up on my comment below about the setbacks that are being proposed for Lake Minnetonka. If that gets approved, will the corridor in West Arm between Seaton Channel and Lord Fletchers turn into a No Wake area because of the width of the corridor and the new setbacks?

As you may recall, I supported the effort in 2014 to keep that area from turning into a no wake zone.

Please follow up and let me know if this is a possibility. If it is going to make that area a no wake, then I oppose this change as that area should stay as is. The LMCD had a 100% vote to keep it from becoming a no wake in 2014.

Please reach out to me. My phone is 612-481-6100

thanks

Ed Rockwell  
Harrisons Bay  
4888 Edgewater Drive  
Mound, MN 55364

On Tue, Jul 26, 2022 at 10:58 AM Ed Rockwell <[eddierockwell@gmail.com](mailto:eddierockwell@gmail.com)> wrote:

My name is Ed Rockwell and I live at 4888 Edgewater Dr, Mound, MN 55364 on the south shore of Harrisons Bay.

We have lived at our house for 22 years.

The recent uprise of wake boats (within the last 5-10 years) has been horrible for our shoreline, dock, boats tied to dock and enjoyment of the lake. We have received damage on our boat because of the 2-3 foot wake boat waves rolling in most of the day on weekends and throughout the day on weekdays.

These boats not only do harm to the shoreline and property, they also put huge amounts of pressure under the boats and harm the bottom of the lake. Our bay is on average of only 15 feet deep. Most of the bay is around 10 feet and only ONE SMALL area where it is 30 feet. This underwater damage to me is unknown but I'm sure you have done your research and know that these boats MUST run in larger bays where it's deep enough for them so it doesn't damage the lake bottom.

My vote is to make the distance 600 feet from shore for them to produce their wakes AND SOME BAYS they should NOT BE ALLOWED to operate. Please mention this comment in your meeting. These should NOT BE ALLOWED in Harrisons Bay. Not at all!!!

Please understand that these boats have completely changed how Harrisons Bay is enjoyed by all lakeshore owners.

I understand that this is a public lake and should be enjoyed by all. But allowing a water sport that damages the lake in ways that is catastrophic shouldn't be allowed.



## LMCD

---

**From:** Paul Gendler <paul.gendler@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 11:48 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Wakesurfing -- do not support proposed restrictions

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Committee Members,

I'm writing to provide input around waves generated by boats (specifically, wake boats) on Lake Minnetonka. I have been an avid boater on Lake Minnetonka for last 40 years and **do not support the proposed restrictions limiting use of the wakesurf boats to 300 feet from shore and / or use while boats are anchored.**

Important things to note:

- Wakesurfing has exposed Lake Minnetonka nationally and has brought significant revenue into the west metro.
- Local popularity of wakesurfing drives significant revenue (including tax revenue) for businesses (including small businesses) in the West metro area.
- Wake surfing also requires calmer water to create a wave so on weekends, wake surfing is almost nonexistent after 10am.
- Surf boats do not have a problem maintaining their distance from my shoreline, as they require deeper water to create their surf wave.
- Load music on boats happens on every style boat, not just wake surfing boats.
- Wakesurfing brings families together.
- Limiting wakesurfing is fueled by personal motivations of a few.

We all share our natural resources and Lake Minnetonka specifically.

Thank you for our careful consideration,

**LMCD**

---

**From:** Trudy Johnson <tjohnson1952@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 10:47 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Opposition to the proposed 300' regulation

As a lakefront part-time resident of Lake Minnetonka, I opposed to the proposed 300' regulation you are currently proposing.

After speaking with some of the lake residents, the proposal seems that it would make Lake Minnetonka a congested no wake area in so many parts of the lake. It potentially could create huge bottle necks and will most likely close some bays almost completely. It will cause a great inconvenience to those who live in "no wake bays" to travel 20-30 minutes just to get out to where they can enjoy boating recreation-that makes no sense for its residents.

The current restrictions appear to be unenforceable so why would there be more restrictions placed on us- we should focus on managing the regulations we have and then do a better in-depth study into what is being proposed rather than a knee jerk reaction to those making the most noise.

This impacts many Lake Minnetonka residents who call this lake their home. Please reject this proposal for those of us who act responsibly on this lake.

Sincerely,

Trudy Johnson

## LMCD

---

**From:** bob johnson <bobinaz1949@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 11:00 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Proposed 300' regulation-please REJECT

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I am asking you to reject the proposed 300' regulation.

As a lakefront part-time resident of Lake Minnetonka, I opposed to the proposed 300' regulation you are currently proposing.

The proposal seems it would make Lake Minnetonka a congested no wake area in so many parts of the lake. It potentially could create huge bottle necks and will most likely close some bays almost completely. It will cause a great inconvenience to those who live in "no wake bays" to travel 20-30 minutes just to get out to where they can enjoy boating recreation-that makes no sense for its residents.

Why do we need more restrictions placed on us when it seems we aren't enforcing what is currently regulation. I believe we need do a better in-depth study into what is being proposed rather than a knee jerk reaction to those making the most noise. Maybe a task force with those lake residents who disagree with the proposal as part of the regulation making proposal.

This impacts many Lake Minnetonka residents whose voices aren't being heard.

Sincerely,

Bob Johnson

## LMCD

---

**From:** Kevin Abbott <abbott.kevin@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 8:45 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** No wake proposal

To whom it may concern,

The proposed no-wake restrictions including no-wake when a boat is tied up in a bay is over-restrictive and will ruin the recreational activity of boating on Lake Minnetonka.

I strongly oppose any wake restrictions. I am a responsible boater and keep the wake away from shore, but having to idle around anyone who chooses to tie up in the middle of a bay is a proposed change that is a tremendous over-reach.

Thanks,

Kevin Abbott

## LMCD

---

**From:** thartmann <tdhartmann@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 4:11 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Proposed rule change - 300 ft setbacks

Good morning LMCD team,

It's great you allow the community to weigh in and provide feedback on proposed changes before they occur. As a member of that community, I appreciate the opportunity and wanted to respectfully provide my feedback in OPPOSITION of increasing the current 150ft buffer zone rule to 300ft.

I'm against the change primarily because I feel it would keep people from being able to enjoy large chunks of the lake, and significantly slow or impede the ability to navigate the lake as a whole. In a large round body of water such as Mille Lacs, a change like this would have little downside. One of the more enjoyable aspects of Lake Minnetonka however, is the variety which comes with being made up of numerous smaller yet connected bays. A 300ft change here would effectively eliminate recreational boating in Harrison, North Arm, Forest lake, the north side of Halstead bay, etc etc. These areas would simply be too narrow to stay between the larger set-backs for any type of boating.

It seems that one of the catalysts for proposing the change is wake style boats, but the change itself would be impactful to all in the community. To pull children on a tube, waterski, or cruise for recreation would mean being out into much deeper, rougher, and more populated areas of the lake. There are also several areas on the lake where a single boat which has anchored to fish, or anchored to swim would eliminate all other's ability to navigate it.

I hope there can be some alternative to the proposed change which retains the ability for all boats to motor and enjoy the lake.

Tyler Hartmann

## LMCD

---

**From:** Abby Ludens <abby.ludens@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 11:17 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** No! To a 300' regulation

To whom it may concern:

As a lakefront resident of Lake Minnetonka, I am strongly opposed to the proposed 300' regulation you are currently proposing.

While this proposal may be good in theory and would appease many of the loud voices you're hearing from, the proposal inevitably makes Lake Minnetonka a congested no wake area in so many parts of the lake. It will create huge bottle necks and will close some bays almost completely. It will cause those who live in "no wake bays" to travel 20-30 minutes just to get to boat able/recreational water.

Today, you are unable to enforce current restrictions (we see this every single day!) How will you be able to enforce even greater restrictions?! You should first attempt to manage what is currently in place and then move to study what you're proposing before making a rash decision.

I implore you to not make a hasty decision. This impacts many Lake Minnetonka residents who call this lake their home and responsibly and carefully use it.

Sincerely,

Abby Ludens  
Resident of Gideons Bay

--

Abby

## LMCD

---

**From:** cory ludens <cory.ludens@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 7:54 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** No to 300' proposal

To whom it may concern:

As a lakefront resident of Lake Minnetonka, I am STRONGLY opposed to the proposed 300' regulation you are currently proposing.

While this proposal may make sense in theory and would appease some of the loud voices you're hearing from (a very vocal minority), the proposal inevitably makes Lake Minnetonka a congested no wake area in so many parts of the lake. It will create huge bottle necks and will close some bays almost completely. It will cause those who live in "no wake bays" to travel 20-30 minutes just to get to boat able/recreational water. That is just NOT an acceptable arrangement so that some vocal, long time residents with nothing better to do can flex their lake muscles.

Today, you are unable to enforce current restrictions (we see this every single day!) How will you be able to enforce even greater restrictions?! You should first attempt to manage what is currently in place and then move to study what you're proposing before making a rash decision.

I implore you to not make a hasty decision. This impacts many Lake Minnetonka residents who call this lake their home and responsibly and carefully use it.

Sincerely,

Cory Ludens  
Resident of Gideons Bay

## LMCD

---

**From:** Bryan Anderson <bma1321@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 10, 2022 6:21 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** New Rule Proposal

Hello,

I live at 1444 Baldur Park Road which is on North Arm Bay. I strongly **disagree** with the rule proposal that you will be voting on today. It will be nearly impossible to follow a rule that changes based on an individuals choice where to anchor their boat. I believe that this rule would completely ruin Lake Minnetonka. Please take this into consideration from someone who lives on one of the busier wake surfing bays on the lake. Thank you!

Bryan Anderson



## LMCD

---

**From:** Katie Stewart <katie.stewart@mchsi.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 10:45 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** 300 ft rule change feedback

We would like to share a few thoughts about the new proposed restrictions on Lake Minnetonka. Let us first start by saying we are on the lake every day, and we just don't see people abusing the 200 ft guidance that is currently in place.

Problems with the recent University of MN test on Lake Independence:

The study used two different types and sizes of boats and ran them at different speeds with a different number of people in them, so this inconsistency makes the study flawed from the beginning. The testers lacked an understanding of how to use the wakeboat and at what speeds they typically run. The criteria they used for their study just doesn't make sense.

The proposed idea that boaters will need to stay 300 ft away from an anchored boat is not realistic. Very frequently we will be out surfing on a busy part of the lake and a fisherman or other boater will come and anchor right in our path. Then they get mad if their boat gets rocked a little. It just isn't fair to blame the wakeboat. Everyone needs to take responsibility. If someone wants to anchor their boat, they should go find a quiet spot out of the way to do so.

Adding more restrictions will have an economic impact. If you look up and down the shoreline, a very large percentage of homes have wakeboats. If you start restricting boats you can watch your property values tank. Lake Minnetonka is a fully recreational lake and the bulk of the shoreline has been fortified with boulders. Everyone who moves to Lake Minnetonka knows that it is a busy lake.

99% of the time, we stay way more than 300 ft from shore, and I believe the majority of other boaters do as well. But there are times when we are forced to change our course because someone cuts us off, parks in our way, etc. If this occurs, we should not be considered the ones at fault when we are pulling a skier and have the right of way.

I don't think most people realize exactly how far 200 ft or 300 feet actually is. Increased education would be more helpful than imposing more restrictions. The new bouy on Cooks bay indicating the 150 and 300 ft distance is a great example of this and it is very helpful.

In smaller bays the 300 ft rule would actually force more boats into a smaller area. This will dramatically increase the chance of an accident, especially when participating in water sports.

Thank you for taking these points into consideration.

--  
Katie Stewart  
Realtor, Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate  
Marketing Professional  
612-845-8546

## LMCD

---

**From:** Nick Culotti <nculotti@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2022 8:07 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Update Regarding Boat Generated Wakes Review and Draft Code Amendment

LMCD Board -

I'm writing in regards to the proposed ordinance of five-miles-per-hour speed limit on all boats within 300 feet of shorelines, beaches, docks, anchored boats and swimmers. I think this increase would create a lake of boats driving 5 mph during evenings and weekends in all bays with the exception of the Upper, main and lower parts of Lake Minnetonka which can accommodate multiple boats. However, no one is using the main part of Lake Minnetonka for recreational activities due to the size of waves created by wind and boats.

This proposed ordinance basically forces all bays into no wake bays when multiple boats are out. The 300 ft setback limits the area any boat can maneuver for water sport activities. I'm in favor of increasing the setback to 200ft from shorelines, beaches, docks and swimmers. However, restricting boats to 300ft setbacks truly limits the space for water sport activities. Additionally - there should not be a change to anchored boats or fishing boats.

Imagine a family is out boating (tubing, water skiing, wakeboarding) in a bay, then another boat comes along and drops anchor within 300ft or starts fishing. This ordinance would favor the boat who came into the bay and decided to drop anchor or fishing over the existing boat already enjoying the lake. The ordinance should not favor one family over another. The ordinance should not include fishing boats or anchored boats. Keeping the 150ft setback for these would be sufficient to maintain a balance.

Lake Minnetonka should provide equal balance to all boaters, creating additional restrictions is not practical, fair or just.

Thank you for your consideration.

Nick Culotti

## LMCD

---

**From:** Ryan Coatney <rycoatney@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2022 6:24 PM  
**To:** LMCD; Vickie Schleuning  
**Cc:** Chris Boll; Matthew Steiner; Matthew Jaeger; Sullivan.thomas16@yahoo.com; reholderness63@gmail.com; vachocha@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Safety & Boat Generated Wakes

To The Lake Minnetonka Conservation District,

I love Lake Minnetonka and all it has to offer the people who enjoy it, and the last thing I want is it to be ruined. **That's why I'm vehemently opposed to the proposal of the New Ordinance that would place a 5mph speed limit on all boats within 300ft of shorelines, beaches, docks, anchored boats, and swimmers** without seeing any empirical data that supports this addition 150ft of space will resolve the issue.

In the absence of this empirical data, it feels like the only thing this policy will be destroying is the recreation that the citizens of Lake Minnetonka and its visitors enjoy.

As the law stands today, I find it difficult to understand where 150ft is without it feeling arbitrary. Is the LMCD going to provide guidance and/or add additional markers to the lake so it's clear where this line begins and ends?

Secondly, if every other lake in Minnesota doesn't have this issue on their lake, then I find it hard to believe Lake Minnetonka has this issue.

I also find it absurd that a boat generated wake does any extensive damage to shorelines, especially when most those shorelines have been modified with rock landscaping. The consistent natural waves that are created, everyday all day, by wind and nature don't even seem to have much of an effect on these shorelines. I am open to implementing solutions if the empirical data shows that without a doubt the ordinance will resolve the issues.

### **My questions to you?**

1. How does one measure 150ft or 300ft on a body of water while in a boat?
2. How can you be certain that someone is violating this rule without have markers placed all around the lakes shoreline? Arbitrarily ticketing people seems wrong, and authoritarian to me.
3. What is the scientific evidence that this additional 150ft will resolve this issue? What what is the scientific evidence that boat generated wakes have caused any harm?

### **My Lake Minnetonka Experience:**

I average 4 out of 7 days per week for the last 6 years on Lake Minnetonka. Most of the time the majority of these bays are pretty much empty. Even on busy days, there is always a bay you can move to if escaping the crowds is what you desire.

I only have a 20ft boat, and some paddleboards... I am one of these smaller vessels on the lake that have to learn to play along side these larger vessels. Lake Minnetonka is a very large lake and any vessel that enters it's waters should be aware of the possible dangers that a lake of this size can generate, both man made and natural. It would be asinine to enter the ocean on a kayak and be upset at the naturally large waves and the larger "safer" vessels people choose to use to navigate these waters.

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED MINNESOTA BOATING ACCIDENT SUMMERY.

Sincerely,

## Preliminary 2022 Minnesota Boating Accidents Summary

Prepared by Minnesota Department of Natural Resources  
as of 5/31/2022

### Summary of Accidents – as of 5/31 each year

Accident Category and Year	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Boating Fatalities	2	5	3	3	3
Non-Fatal Boating Accidents	8	14	15	11	8
Non-Boating Drownings	1	15	11	10	8

There is usually a delay in the reporting of non-fatal accidents.

### Summary of Accidents for the Entire Year – January -

Accident Category and Year	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Boating Fatalities	18	16	10	14	12
Non-Fatal Boating Accidents	69	89	90	64	92
Non-Boating Drownings	53	49	35	40	31

### 2022 Statewide Summary – as of 5/31/2022

#### *Boating Fatalities*

1. 4/29 – Washington Co. – Big Marine Lake – A 55-year-old motorboat when he and his passenger (see #2) were thru left the boat launch at a high speed. The boat took a hard without life jackets, which were still in the boat. Another gone under and did not resurface. The operator's body w  
(Life jacket worn – no)

### *Non-Fatal Boating Accidents*

<b>Type of Accident</b>
Capsizing
Collision with a fixed or floating object
Collision with another watercraft

<b>Type of Accident</b>
Collision with an underwater object
Collision with swimmer or person in water
Fall in boat
Falls overboard
Fire/Explosion
Grounding, Hitting Bottom
Struck by Propeller
Sinking / Flooding / Swamping
Water-skiing, wake boarding or tubing mishap
Carbon Monoxide exposure
Other
Total reportable non-fatal boating accidents as of 5

Notes:

1. Reportable non-fatal boating accidents are those

2004	45	.90	30
2005	68	1.32	45
2006	63	1.22	49
2007	41	0.78	26
2008	43	0.83	33
2009	43	0.82	28
2010	46	0.87	34
2011	66	0.94	50
2012	55	1.02	40
2013	43	.80	30
2014	43	0.79	29
2015	53	0.97	35
<b>Year</b>	<b>Total boating fatalities and non-boating drownings</b>	<b>Deaths per 100,000 population</b>	<b>Drownings (non-boating)</b>

## LMCD

---

**From:** john kallas <johnkallas23@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 8:15 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Proposed New Lake Minnetonka Setbacks

To Whom it May Concern:

I continue to support and endorse the WSIA, Wake Responsibility Campaign, with 200 foot setbacks for wake surfing, keeping music at reasonable levels, and minimizing repetitive passes while wake surfing. I also believe a more prudent course of action for the LCMD would be to work with law enforcement partners to better enable and support them to enforce the restrictions currently set for Lake Minnetonka.

You can't punish ALL BOATERS for the irresponsible actions of such a small percentage of the total.

John Kallas  
Avid Respectful Boater

**LMCD**

---

**From:** David Fisher <dlf.investments@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 8:14 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Lake set back proposal

Dear LMCD board,

David and Lisa Fisher, residents at 6718 Cove Point Road, Minnetrista on Halstead Bay.

We are supportive of a 200 foot shoreline restriction. The 300 foot proposal we believe is overly limiting to water sports on the lake.

Kind regards,  
David and Lisa  
515-491-3108

Sent from my iPhone



## LMCD

---

**From:** Jake Petersen <jake@golfthejake.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 8:34 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Boating restrictions

I am writing to let you know that I am NOT in favor of the proposed 300' setback increase from all boats, swimmers, docks, shorelines, etc. I think the current 150' setback is fine and we do not need further restrictions on our lakes.

Jake X. Petersen  
Resident  
(952) 738-2551

## LMCD

---

**From:** Chris Massoll <chris.massoll@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 8:47 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Proposed Lake Minnetonka Shore Distance Restrictions Commentary

To whom it may concern:

I am providing commentary regarding the proposed setback increase from 150ft to 300ft for any boat traveling faster than 5MPH.

Thank you for hearing from the community regarding this important topic.

I believe the most prudent course of action for the LCMD would be to work with law enforcement partners to better enable and support them to enforce the restrictions currently set for Lake Minnetonka.

I would suggest that we see what kind of effect better enforcement has to mitigate some of the problems LMCD is trying to address, rather than enacting more restrictions and regulations.

If any additional restrictions are to be considered, I would support and endorse the WSIA, Wake Responsibility Campaign, with 200ft setbacks for wake surfing, keeping music at reasonable levels, and minimizing repetitive passes while wake surfing.

To be clear I am not advocating for any new regulations, but enforcement of current regulations. If additional regulations are to be enacted, I support the WSIA recommendations.

--

Chris Massoll  
612-860-6018

## LMCD

---

**From:** Lisa Turner <blturner82@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 9:38 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Wake rules

I agree with increasing the set back for boats to 300' or further. We also need to address the surf boat wakes in small bodies of water.

Bruce Turner

## LMCD

---

**From:** Ryan Miller <ryanmitchellmiller@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 9:38 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Wake set back

200 yards is enough  
Don't screw up lake Minnetonka  
You loose the surf boats you loose a lot of Buisness for the local community  
Ryan miller  
612-940-6715

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

## LMCD

---

**From:** Jesse Botker <orthosportsdoc8@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 10:01 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Upcoming meeting on restrictions

I continue to support and endorse the WSIA, Wake Responsibility Campaign, with 200 foot setbacks for wake surfing, keeping music at reasonable levels, and minimizing repetitive passes while wake surfing. I also believe a more prudent course of action for the LCMD would be to work with law enforcement partners to better enable and support them to enforce the restrictions currently set for Lake Minnetonka.

The restrictions you have proposed are very onerous and will only create more issues.

Jesse Botker

**Jesse Botker M.D., FAAOS**

*Board Certified Orthopaedic Surgeon and Sports Medicine Specialist*

*Team Physician MSU Mankato Athletics*

*Orthopaedic and Fracture Clinic*

[1431 Premier Dr.](#)

[Mankato, MN 56001](#)

[Orthosportsdoc8@gmail.com](mailto:orthosportsdoc8@gmail.com)

<https://ofc-clinic.com/staff/jesse-c-botker-md/>

[763-442-7991](tel:763-442-7991) (c)

[507-386-6600](tel:507-386-6600) (w)



## LMCD

---

**From:** David Birkemeier <d.birkemeier@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 9:28 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Re: Wake surfing on Lake Minnetonka

Good morning - thank you for your update regarding the proposed change to boat setbacks on Lake Minnetonka.

I think doubling the setback distance to 300' is excessive.

On many lakes the standard is 200' - this seems to work well for boaters and lakeshore residents.

I also believe moving to 300' will cause crowding of boats in this reduced area and possibly create a safety issue.

Thanks for considering my input.

Dave Birkemeier

---

**From:** David Birkemeier  
**Sent:** Monday, June 6, 2022 9:34 AM  
**To:** lmcd@lmcd.org <lmcd@lmcd.org>  
**Subject:** Wake surfing on Lake Minnetonka

Dear Sir,

I would like to express my disagreement with the recent petition activity to limit/ban wake surfing on Lake Minnetonka. It seems more emotional than fact based.

I'm interested to see the hard data linking shore erosion/damage specifically caused by wakeboard boats. Given the number of other fast and large boats causing waves on the lake, it seems unfair to pin the perceived damage on one type of boat.

All boaters should be courteous and respectful to other watercraft, docks, and sensitive shoreline areas.

Please make a fair and balanced decision regarding this issue. I'd like to think there's a "middle ground" that's workable for residents and boaters.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Respectfully,

David Birkemeier

## LMCD

---

**From:** Braden Dent <bradydent007@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 9:31 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Proposed Ordinance Change for Lake Minnetonka

I am unable to attend the meeting tonight but i wanted to provide feedback on the propose ordinance change for Lake Minnetonka increasing the shoreline restriction from 150-300 feet. As a resident on the lake and an avid user of both motorized and non-motorized craft, i understand the logic of it, however, given the shape of some of the bays, it will remove usability in some due by effectively reducing the usability by an additional 300 feet. i would recommend 200 feet if there is a need to increase from 150.

Thank you for your consideration

Braden Dent 586-925-0847  
1130 cove circle  
55364

## LMCD

---

**From:** John Woerner <john\_woerner@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 10:17 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Comments on Proposed Change to Wake Set back rules

I am writing to express my views on the proposed change in wake set back rules for Lake Minnetonka. From what I have read, there are very valid arguments on each side of this issue. My only opinion to add is that I feel a change that **doubles** the wake set back is an extreme change, in that it doubles the current rule. Perhaps there is a more suitable compromise of 200 feet or 250 feet as the new set back, so as not to implement such an extreme change.

Sincerely

John Woerner



## LMCD

---

**From:** Mike Connelly <mconnelly@mjmktg.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 10:13 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Proposed 300 Foot Distance Ordinance

Hello,

I have read the proposed ordinance change. As someone who has been boating for 45 years and as a lake shore owner, I find the proposed distance in the ordinance change to be extreme. I believe it will be more difficult to enforce, cause more animosity among boaters, lake shore owners and neighbors as we all have a different perspective of what 300 feet distance looks like.

The proposed ordinance will also cause more issues due to the ambiguity of rules surrounding anchored rafts or moored watercraft. The way the ordinance is proposed is likely to cause an additional surge of lake shore owners to put out floating rafts of any type just to push boat traffic further out in the lake. Is there a maximum distance a lake shore owner can put a raft out from shore? The same is true of remotely anchoring / mooring a sailboat or other watercraft in front of a lake shore owners property. This appears to be a significant hole in the proposed ordinance.

What has the input from enforcement teams (Sheriff's team and DNR) been on how to more effectively enforce the existing ordinance? What is their input on the proposed 300 foot ordinance? To expect people to keep a football fields distance from the shoreline and all objects noted if going over 5 m.p.h. seems unrealistic.

Good luck with the process. It is great to have this topic gain some publicity as I do not believe that most boaters are even aware of the current ordinance. Creating more awareness of the current ordinance would likely result in the most benefit.

Thanks!  
Mike Connelly

## LMCD

---

**From:** walt gren <grentek@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 10:22 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Cc:** walt gren; Mike Gren; Nazar Gren  
**Subject:** Re: Update Regarding Boat Generated Wakes Review and Draft Code Amendment

Hello,

I continue to support the WSIA Wake Responsibility Campaign and the 200 foot setback for wake surfing, keeping music at reasonable levels and minimizing repetitive passes while wake surfing.

Recommend for the LMCD committee to focus on how the current, active regulations can be better enforced rather than enacting more restrictions on families and boat owners who accept the responsibility of the public (not private) lake property use.

Thank you.

Walt Gren

515 3rd Street South  
Stillwater, MN 55082

Cell: 763.226.7094  
Email: grentek@outlook.com

On Jul 24, 2022, at 2:18 PM, Vickie Schleuning <vschleuning@lmcd.org> wrote:

Hello,

The Lake Minnetonka Conservation District (LMCD) has heard from many community members that the large wakes created by boats near the lake's shoreline make it difficult for people using small watercraft to enjoy the lake. In addition, these wakes can be harmful to people, damage property, hurt the environment, and contribute to shoreline erosion. We have also heard from community members who believe all boats have a place on Lake Minnetonka.

Lake Minnetonka is important to many people, and we are committed to preserving it and ensuring everyone can enjoy the lake safely. After listening to community concerns and conducting our own review, one step the LMCD board is considering is updating the rule to limit boat-generated wakes near the shore, structures, and people.

The new ordinance would place a five-miles-per-hour speed limit on all boats within 300 feet of shorelines, beaches, docks, anchored boats and swimmers. This would be an increase from the current 150-foot distance rule. A draft of the new ordinance is available for review on our webpage [Safety & Boat Generated Wakes](#) and directly at this [LINK](#), along with a brief summary of the draft code amendment at this [LINK](#). Learn about the status of the review of boat generated wakes on [the Boat Generated Wakes Review webpage](#). A map with a summary of the Quiet Waters Areas can be found in the [Summer Rules brochure](#).

**Before the board votes on the new ordinance, tentatively in August, and we want to hear from you. We invite you to attend our next board meeting to learn more about the proposed rule change and share public comments.**

**LMCD Board Meeting**  
July 27, 2022  
7 p.m.  
Wayzata Community Center  
600 Rice St.  
Wayzata, MN 55391

We are also accepting written comments sent via email to the LMCD office at [lmcd@lmcd.org](mailto:lmcd@lmcd.org) or by mail to LMCD, 5341 Maywood Rd., Suite 200, Mound, MN 55364.

Regardless of whether this updated rule moves forward, we encourage you to stay safe and pay attention to your speed, wakes, and everyone around you when using Lake Minnetonka.

Thank you!

***Vickie Schleuning***

Executive Director | Lake Minnetonka Conservation District  
5341 Maywood Road, Suite 200 | Mound, MN 55364  
Ph 952-745-0789 | [vschleuning@lmcd.org](mailto:vschleuning@lmcd.org)  
[www.lmcd.org](http://www.lmcd.org)

CONNECT WITH US  



*To preserve and enhance the Lake Minnetonka experience*



July 27, 2022

Lake Minnetonka Conservation District  
5341 Maywood Road, Suite 200  
Mound, MN 55364

Dear Lake Minnetonka Conservation District Board Members and Staff,

On behalf of the recreational boating industry and partners, thank you for your stewardship of Lake Minnetonka and surrounding communities.

By way of background, the Marine Retailers Association of the Americas (MRAA) is the leading trade association of North American small businesses that sell and service new and pre-owned recreational boats and operate marinas, boatyards, and accessory stores. MRAA represents more than 1000 individual member retail locations throughout the United States. The National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA) is the largest trade association for the recreational boating industry, representing nearly 1,300 marine businesses, including recreational boat, marine engine and accessory manufacturers. The Water Sports Industry Association (WSIA) is the towed water sport's industry's leading advocate. WSIA develops best practices, maintains waterway access rights, educates participants, promotes safety, and more.

In the state of Minnesota, the recreational boating industry contributes \$3.1 billion in economic impact, supporting more than 10,900 jobs and 700 businesses. Further, Minnesota has the second-most registered boats in the U.S., with nearly one boat for every six people, underscoring the robust boating community across the state. Much of this impact is concentrated in the Lake Minnetonka communities, as boating is a key economic driver of the community at large.

We appreciate the effort by the Lake Minnetonka Conservation District (LMCD) to inform key stakeholders of important topics and potential ordinance amendments by giving notice for opportunity to submit comments. Regarding the upcoming July 27, 2022 Board Meeting and draft ordinance titled, "An Ordinance Amending Watercraft And Personal Watercraft Speed Limits Under The Lake Minnetonka Conservation District Code Of Ordinances", we do not support the proposed 300 foot setback from shorelines and structures for all boats as drafted.

Based on recent research, wakes from boats do not degrade shorelines and structures when operated at a distance of 200 feet. According to a report from the University of Minnesota's St. Anthony Falls Laboratory titled [\*Quantifying Wave Energy on Minnesota Lakes\*](#), "shoreline erosion is driven mainly by wind-generated wave energy," not wakes from boats.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) through its "Own Your Wake" campaign indicates "by staying at least 200 feet from shore or other structures boaters can reduce the likelihood their wakes will cause damage." NMMA supports the DNR's "Own Your Wake"



campaign and encourages the LMCD to continue supporting the DNR campaign and efforts by adopting its recommended 200 foot setback from shorelines and structures.

We recognize the LMCD Board has a responsibility to collect comments from all stakeholders and balance the needs of the community. We encourage the LMCD to carefully weigh the impacts of ordinances on the boating community as a whole and to seek direct conversation with businesses operating on Lake Minnetonka.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to weigh in through these comments. If the boating industry can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to reach Chad Tokowicz (chad@mraa.com or 978-569-5127) from Marine Retailers Association of the Americas, Jill Sims (jsims@nmma.org or 612-961-2220) from the National Marine Manufacturers Association or Lee Gatts (lee@wsia.net or 931-267-0673) from the Water Sports Industry Association at anytime.

Sincerely,

Chad Tokowicz, Government Relations Manager  
Marine Retailers Association of the Americas

Jill Sims, Senior Manager, Great Lakes Policy and Engagement  
National Marine Manufacturers Association

Lee Gatts, Director of Government Affairs  
Water Sports Industry Association

## LMCD

---

**From:** connor kindom <ckindom@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 10:33 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Lake Minnetonka setback proposal for 200 NOT 300 from its original 150ft limits

Thanks for considering this comment and I would suggest it remain the same at 150ft or be bumped to 200ft. 300ft is the distance of dang near a WHOLE FOOTBALL FIELD that is a little excessive.  
Lake Minnetonka setback proposal for 200 NOT 300 from its original 150ft limits

Thanks  
Connor Kindom

## LMCD

---

**From:** Jennifer Myster <jenmyster12@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 10:30 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Opposed to 300 feet restriction

I am writing to oppose the proposed ordinance restricting boat speed within 300 feet. I live on Lake mtka and slalom ski in my bay. My boat has a really small wake and minimal impact on the shoreline. At 300 feet I will be unable to ski in my bay.

I would advocate for enforcement of the current 150 feet law or at most move to 200 feet.

Thank you

## LMCD

---

**From:** Michael Gren <michael.t.gren@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 10:29 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Wake boating vote

Hello,

I continue to support the WSIA Wake Responsibility Campaign and the 200 foot setback for wake surfing, keeping music at reasonable levels and minimizing repetitive passes while wake surfing.

Recommend for the LMCD committee to focus on how the current, active regulations can be better enforced rather than enacting more restrictions on families and boat owners who accept the responsibility of the public (not private) lake property use.

Thank you,

Mike Gren.



## LMCD

---

**From:** Tyler Allen Larson <tyler.allen.larson@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 10:48 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Feedback on Draft Code Amendment for Boat Generated Wakes

Hey there,

My name is Tyler Larson. I am a Lake Minnetonka lakeshore owner on Cook's Bay at 5072 Tuxedo Blvd, Mound, MN.

This amendment seems entirely unnecessary and not actually addressing the real problem of bad boaters who ignore rules regardless of what they are.

The fact you are willing to support this requirement/amendment instead of a boating safety course requirement/amendment (which I do support) is absolutely absurd and misguided. This is the wrong solution to a problem of poor boat driver skill and awareness. Much more good will come from requiring boating safety courses to drive on the lake than this will create. This will accomplish nothing, next year it will be 450ft, the year after it will be 700ft, and so on until a minority group of boat owners force the lake to be a no wake fishing and paddle board only lake.

I get waves crashing into my shore from yachts cruising a quarter mile away and I really don't care despite the fact that I'm frequently in the water at my dock, on my paddle board/kayak, or operating my 23ft boat. The issues I have on this lake are boaters not following existing rules and courtesies. This new amendment won't accomplish anything tangible.

--

Tyler Larson 612.202.0068

## LMCD

---

**From:** Don Ankeny <danken@westcore.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 11:16 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Setback Proposal

Hello. My wife Joy and I live at 3342 Robinson Bay Road in Deephaven (technically Wayzata). Our house is beachfront on Robinson Bay. We actively enjoy accessing the lake for swimming, sailing, stand-up paddleboarding and power boating – including wake-surfing.

We are opposed to the proposed setback increase. Our observation is that power boats in general, and wakesurf boats in particular, are respectful of our bay and do not come too close to shore. The sheltered nature of the bay attracts a large number of boaters who anchor for good parts of the day and/or evening. There are occasional times when a boat will be blasting music but in general folks are very well-behaved.

If there is a problem with wave generation too close to shore, I would recommend enforcement of the existing 150' distance regulation. It will make no difference if the setback is increased to 300' if it is not enforced either, and it will end up being one more regulation imposed on the general boating public to deal with the few inconsiderate bad apples. For what it's worth, we NEVER see a water patrol or sheriff boat on the lake these days.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Don Ankeny**

**858.692.0032**

IMPORTANT: This information is confidential and may be protected by the attorney/client privilege and is intended only for the named addressee(s). If the recipient is not an intended recipient (or the individual responsible for the delivery of this email message to an intended recipient), please be advised that any use, dissemination, distribution, or copying of this email is prohibited. If you have received this email in error, please reply to sender that you have received it in error and delete it.

---

No binding legal agreement with regard to any real estate transaction will be created by email correspondence.

## LMCD

---

**From:** Vickie Schleuning  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 12:09 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** FW: Update Regarding Boat Generated Wakes Review and Draft Code Amendment

**From:** ratherton120@gmail.com <ratherton120@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 12:01 PM  
**To:** Vickie Schleuning <vschleuning@lmcd.org>  
**Cc:** 'John G. Bendt BENDT' <JOHNGBENDT56@msn.com>; pcox@mpr.org  
**Subject:** RE: Update Regarding Boat Generated Wakes Review and Draft Code Amendment

Vickie, I also wanted to add that even though the current 150ft limit is insufficient today the wake surfers do not currently abide by this rule now . When there is one or two boats wake surfing they will start in the middle of the bay but as more boats add to the mix they push closer and closer to shore, often operating around 100-120 ft from the docks and much closer as they cut close to the point on the north shore of Gideons bay. The only solution property owners have is to call 911 and leave a message for the water patrol who given their small numbers and large areas to cover cannot get to the bay for generally 30 minutes or so rendering enforcement unlikely.

I also would recommend that music on all boats be limited to a volume that can be enjoyed by the boat occupants in a slow wake mode. This makes it enjoyable for all boat and property owners to enjoy the music of their choice on their boat or on their property.

Thank you to the LMCD for listening and taking action.

All the bet,  
Rick

**From:** ratherton120@gmail.com <ratherton120@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 11:31 AM  
**To:** 'Vickie Schleuning' <vschleuning@lmcd.org>  
**Cc:** 'John G. Bendt BENDT' <JOHNGBENDT56@msn.com>; pcox@mpr.org  
**Subject:** RE: Update Regarding Boat Generated Wakes Review and Draft Code Amendment

Vickie, this is a great first step in the right direction. It will be helpful and appreciate that we are getting something done now. The problems have been well documented and the science conducted around the nation's lakes have been well documented regarding environmental damage caused by wake surf boats operating in the wake surf mode. My biggest concern is that this amendment to the existing 150 ft rule will be seen as a final solution to all the issues; it is not. This is a start and a band aide. It does not address the science and the damage , it rather treats all the issues as just nuisances.

To review:

Wake surfing drives out all other water activities in the bay- it imposes its will on all others. One person who spoke at the last meeting said it well: you just have to leave the area when they are surfing.

We need time constraints on wake surfing activity like we do with jet skis. You cannot jet ski before 9:30 or later than one hour before sunset yet you can wake surf until ½ hour after sunset. This provides zero relief to all other activities

trying to find time to enjoy some peace and quiet. I suggest we implement time limits where boats can still operate, just not in wake surf mode: example would be say every other day or not before 10AM or after 6pm.

300 ft does not follow the science. We need 500-700 ft distance and at least 30 ft of depth to reduce environmental damage. Wake surf mode directs prop wash downward, unlike all other boating activities that direct the wake horizontally. This stirs up and disrupts the bottom, releasing phosphorus and pushes the silt towards shore. This issues has to be addressed. I have the figures now on dredging. In our neighborhood association we have a collection of twelve docs. In 2010 they dredged the first 4 slips at a cost of \$10,000. In 2017 they did it again for the same cost. It needed to be done now in 2021 but waited till winter of 2022 or 5 years , the same 4 slips cost \$19,000 as there are now costly regulations on where and how you can dispose of this waste. So the frequency and cost to dredge due to wake surf waves pushing the bottom to the shore is becoming a very costly endeavor to home owners.

We are not dealing with vey loud noise which consistently rates as a top nuisance. Large speakers are mounted behind the driver on towers and are turned up high to overcome the loud roar of the engine, especially run in the low rpm mode. So they crank up the volume to be able to hear it. Unfortunately water is a perfect medium to efficiently transfer sound. I would love to be able to open my windows and doors to fresh air but you simply cannot due to loud pounding music. The current ordinance has no teeth. I suggest that we have certain times, again before 10am or after 6 where music is reduced to what can be consumed in a slow moving vessel.

We have implemented quiet waters and slow buoys around the lake to minimize the disruption waves cause in high traffic areas. Well, the shorelines in the bays have now become high traffic areas and deserve the same consideration.

I believe there are simple solutions that exist as I have suggested above. Wake surfing as an activity can easily be moved to deeper waters farther from shore without impeding the sport. Limiting their hours of operation like we do with jet skis will allow others to enjoy the bays as well.

700 ft and 30 ft depth will reduce the need to dredge, will not disrupt the bottom or release damaging phosphorus into the water and will protect our shorelines from erosion.

Thank you to the LMCD for taking early action. But I feel there is more to do to reduce the damage to a more acceptable level.

All the best,

Rick Atherton  
Lake front home owner

**From:** Vickie Schleuning <[vschleuning@lmcd.org](mailto:vschleuning@lmcd.org)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 24, 2022 2:18 PM  
**To:** Vickie Schleuning <[vschleuning@lmcd.org](mailto:vschleuning@lmcd.org)>  
**Cc:** LMCD <[lmcd@lmcd.org](mailto:lmcd@lmcd.org)>  
**Subject:** Update Regarding Boat Generated Wakes Review and Draft Code Amendment

Hello,

The Lake Minnetonka Conservation District (LMCD) has heard from many community members that the large wakes created by boats near the lake's shoreline make it difficult for people using small watercraft to enjoy the lake. In addition, these wakes can be harmful to people, damage property, hurt the environment, and contribute to shoreline erosion. We have also heard from community members who believe all boats have a place on Lake Minnetonka.

Lake Minnetonka is important to many people, and we are committed to preserving it and ensuring everyone can enjoy the lake safely. After listening to community concerns and conducting our own review, one step the LMCD board is considering is updating the rule to limit boat-generated wakes near the shore, structures, and people.

The new ordinance would place a five-miles-per-hour speed limit on all boats within 300 feet of shorelines, beaches, docks, anchored boats and swimmers. This would be an increase from the current 150-foot distance rule. A draft of the new ordinance is available for review on our webpage [Safety & Boat Generated Wakes](#) and directly at this [LINK](#), along with a brief summary of the draft code amendment at this [LINK](#). Learn about the status of the review of boat generated wakes on [the Boat Generated Wakes Review webpage](#). A map with a summary of the Quiet Waters Areas can be found in the [Summer Rules brochure](#).

**Before the board votes on the new ordinance, tentatively in August, and we want to hear from you. We invite you to attend our next board meeting to learn more about the proposed rule change and share public comments.**

**LMCD Board Meeting**  
July 27, 2022  
7 p.m.  
Wayzata Community Center  
600 Rice St.  
Wayzata, MN 55391

We are also accepting written comments sent via email to the LMCD office at [lmcd@lmcd.org](mailto:lmcd@lmcd.org) or by mail to LMCD, 5341 Maywood Rd., Suite 200, Mound, MN 55364.

Regardless of whether this updated rule moves forward, we encourage you to stay safe and pay attention to your speed, wakes, and everyone around you when using Lake Minnetonka.

Thank you!

**Vickie Schleuning**  
Executive Director | Lake Minnetonka Conservation District  
5341 Maywood Road, Suite 200 | Mound, MN 55364  
Ph 952-745-0789 | [vschleuning@lmcd.org](mailto:vschleuning@lmcd.org)  
[www.lmcd.org](http://www.lmcd.org)

CONNECT WITH US  



*To preserve and enhance the Lake Minnetonka experience*

## LMCD

---

**From:** Jon Goode <jongoode1112@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 12:49 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** New 300 foot wake proposal

I will not be able to attend tonight's meeting but as a Harrison Bay homeowner I would like to voice my opinion that I see no need for new restrictions regarding wakes on lake mtka. I believe that instead we should be enforcing the existing rules and educating lake users accordingly. Thank you.

## LMCD

---

**From:** Dan Malone <dptv23@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 12:20 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Cc:** Vickie Schleuning  
**Subject:** Re: Update Regarding Boat Generated Wakes Review and Draft Code Amendment

To whom it may concern,

Thank you for the update on the progression of this discussion. I am an avid Lake Minnetonka boater over the past 10 years, highly involved in the watersports community, and very interested in making Lake Minnetonka a safer place to boat for generations to come. My main concern with the new suggested 300' setback is how it will be enforced. Is the current 150' setback enforced strictly on Lake Minnetonka? If existing regulations on the lake are not being enforced, why not? How would enacting new regulations and new distances help solve any of the issues on the lake?

This lake is an extraordinary lake, large in size, high volumes of users, and lots of day users/rentals/beginner boater-types. Therefore safety will always be of concern. The LMCD, businesses, boaters, and communities in the area should strongly encourage and support better funding for Water Patrol on the lake so they can properly enforce current regulations on the books to deter illegal or unsafe boating practices. Enough with the safety inspections and warnings, start writing tickets! Music too loud, write a ticket. No throwable on board, write a ticket. Sitting on the side of the boat, write a ticket. While not a popular way to help educate boaters, this is most likely the most effective way to help people learn. Hit them where it hurts, the WALLET. A simple 5-year plan to write more tickets for illegal activity could help improve safety for the next 10-20 years!

We live and use the busiest lake in the upper Midwest, enforcement of the regulations should and needs to be strict. Especially as boating continues to increase in popularity, and the number of boats on Lake Minnetonka only increases, enforce the regulations in place before creating new regulations PLEASE!

Thank you for your time,  
Dan Malone  
Shorewood Resident and Boating Enthusiast

On Sun, Jul 24, 2022 at 2:18 PM Vickie Schleuning <[vschleuning@lmcd.org](mailto:vschleuning@lmcd.org)> wrote:

Hello,

The Lake Minnetonka Conservation District (LMCD) has heard from many community members that the large wakes created by boats near the lake's shoreline make it difficult for people using small watercraft to enjoy the lake. In addition, these wakes can be harmful to people, damage property, hurt the environment, and contribute to shoreline erosion. We have also heard from community members who believe all boats have a place on Lake Minnetonka.

Lake Minnetonka is important to many people, and we are committed to preserving it and ensuring everyone can enjoy the lake safely. After listening to community concerns and conducting our own review, one step the LMCD board is considering is updating the rule to limit boat-generated wakes near the shore, structures, and people.

The new ordinance would place a five-miles-per-hour speed limit on all boats within 300 feet of shorelines, beaches, docks, anchored boats and swimmers. This would be an increase from the current 150-foot distance rule. A draft of the new ordinance is available for review on our webpage [Safety & Boat Generated Wakes](#) and directly at this [LINK](#), along with a brief summary of the draft code amendment at this [LINK](#). Learn about the status of the review of boat generated wakes on the [Boat Generated Wakes Review webpage](#). A map with a summary of the Quiet Waters Areas can be found in the [Summer Rules brochure](#).

**Before the board votes on the new ordinance, tentatively in August, and we want to hear from you. We invite you to attend our next board meeting to learn more about the proposed rule change and share public comments.**

**LMCD Board Meeting**

July 27, 2022

7 p.m.

Wayzata Community Center

600 Rice St.

Wayzata, MN 55391

We are also accepting written comments sent via email to the LMCD office at [lmcd@lmcd.org](mailto:lmcd@lmcd.org) or by mail to LMCD, 5341 Maywood Rd., Suite 200, Mound, MN 55364.

Regardless of whether this updated rule moves forward, we encourage you to stay safe and pay attention to your speed, wakes, and everyone around you when using Lake Minnetonka.

Thank you!

***Vickie Schleuning***

Executive Director | Lake Minnetonka Conservation District

5341 Maywood Road, Suite 200 | Mound, MN 55364

Ph 952-745-0789 | [vschleuning@lmcd.org](mailto:vschleuning@lmcd.org)

[www.lmcd.org](http://www.lmcd.org)

CONNECT WITH US  



## LMCD

---

**From:** Steve B <trgsteve@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 12:19 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** LMCD Board Meeting

Unfortunately, I am out of town until Saturday and will not be able to attend the meeting today.

I am a soon-to be owner on St Alban's bay and a water skier, wakeboarder and surfer for decades. While I appreciate that the board is looking at more reasonable steps and not just targeting wakesurf boats when there are many many 30+ foot boats creating other similar rr much worse waves, I still wish the board would focus more on working with law enforcement and maintaining current rules rather than establishing their own rules or agenda.

Ever since the beginning of this, I have worked on the lakes to encourage surfers to respect the distance as well as inform anchored boats that their placement can cause issues with other boaters trying to maintain safe distances from shore. It is all about education, not more rules. ANd I am seeing change on our small bay in St Alban's just as one example.

I am not one to encourage adding more rules and regulations by a board.

If a change is inevitable by the board, I, like many other boaters, wish to encourage focus on the WSIA campaign with the 200ft set back, limit passes and music at reasonable levels. It is a more national approach with analysis and testing and backing of many boaters, skiears, surfers and boarders throughout the nation.

Thank you again for reading my thoughts and I am sorry I could attend in person.

Steve Blandino  
Minnetonka, MN  
(Soon to be Greenwood!)

## LMCD

---

**From:** Lundell, John <john.lundell@wintersnow.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 24, 2022 2:39 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** 300' ordinance

I appreciate the work you are doing to curtail the wakeboard boats but 300' to the shore isn't limiting enough for these specific boats. There should be something that stops them from disrupting everyone else.

Wakeboards on certain bays no certain days would have been better. I don't think this rule will help at all with boater frustration even if it hits on the erosion issue. You are wasting a chance to actually do something about these boats.

These waves don't really dissipate over distance anyway, at least not when you are trying to have a nice dinner and your food goes flying.

Thanks

John Lundell

## LMCD

---

**From:** Ray Wallander <rwallander@wayzpartners.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 24, 2022 3:16 PM  
**To:** Vickie Schleuning  
**Cc:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Re: Update Regarding Boat Generated Wakes Review and Draft Code Amendment

Under this rule, on this fairly moderate traffic Sunday afternoon, there is not a spot on my bay, Maxwell bay, where I could reasonably comply with this rule without going five miles per hour. Are you people completely nuts?

Ray Wallander.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 24, 2022, at 2:17 PM, Vickie Schleuning <[vschleuning@lmcd.org](mailto:vschleuning@lmcd.org)> wrote:

Hello,

The Lake Minnetonka Conservation District (LMCD) has heard from many community members that the large wakes created by boats near the lake's shoreline make it difficult for people using small watercraft to enjoy the lake. In addition, these wakes can be harmful to people, damage property, hurt the environment, and contribute to shoreline erosion. We have also heard from community members who believe all boats have a place on Lake Minnetonka.

Lake Minnetonka is important to many people, and we are committed to preserving it and ensuring everyone can enjoy the lake safely. After listening to community concerns and conducting our own review, one step the LMCD board is considering is updating the rule to limit boat-generated wakes near the shore, structures, and people.

The new ordinance would place a five-miles-per-hour speed limit on all boats within 300 feet of shorelines, beaches, docks, anchored boats and swimmers. This would be an increase from the current 150-foot distance rule. A draft of the new ordinance is available for review on our webpage [Safety & Boat Generated Wakes](#) and directly at this [LINK](#), along with a brief summary of the draft code amendment at this [LINK](#). Learn about the status of the review of boat generated wakes on [the Boat Generated Wakes Review webpage](#). A map with a summary of the Quiet Waters Areas can be found in the [Summer Rules brochure](#).

**Before the board votes on the new ordinance, tentatively in August, and we want to hear from you. We invite you to attend our next board meeting to learn more about the proposed rule change and share public comments.**

**LMCD Board Meeting**

July 27, 2022

7 p.m.

Wayzata Community Center

600 Rice St.

Wayzata, MN 55391

We are also accepting written comments sent via email to the LMCD office at [lmcd@lmcd.org](mailto:lmcd@lmcd.org) or by mail to LMCD, 5341 Maywood Rd., Suite 200, Mound, MN 55364.

Regardless of whether this updated rule moves forward, we encourage you to stay safe and pay attention to your speed, wakes, and everyone around you when using Lake Minnetonka.

Thank you!

***Vickie Schleuning***

Executive Director | Lake Minnetonka Conservation District

5341 Maywood Road, Suite 200 | Mound, MN 55364

Ph 952-745-0789 | [vschleuning@lmcd.org](mailto:vschleuning@lmcd.org)

**LMCD**

---

**From:** Joe Baker <jmblvre@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 24, 2022 4:00 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Fwd: Update Regarding Boat Generated Wakes Review and Draft Code Amendment  
**Attachments:** image001.png

What a stupid, proposed ordinance.

So people can anchor a boat or swim wherever they feel like it and all wake boats have to then stay away? This absolutely will happen because of this rule. It removes any freedoms from wake boats by abusers that want to control the lake.

You guys are complete morons if you vote this through.

Thanks,

Joe

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Vickie Schleuning <[vschleuning@lmcd.org](mailto:vschleuning@lmcd.org)>  
**Date:** Sun, Jul 24, 2022, 2:18 PM  
**Subject:** Update Regarding Boat Generated Wakes Review and Draft Code Amendment  
**To:** Vickie Schleuning <[vschleuning@lmcd.org](mailto:vschleuning@lmcd.org)>  
**Cc:** LMCD <[lmcd@lmcd.org](mailto:lmcd@lmcd.org)>

Hello,

The Lake Minnetonka Conservation District (LMCD) has heard from many community members that the large wakes created by boats near the lake’s shoreline make it difficult for people using small watercraft to enjoy the lake. In addition, these wakes can be harmful to people, damage property, hurt the environment, and contribute to shoreline erosion. We have also heard from community members who believe all boats have a place on Lake Minnetonka.

Lake Minnetonka is important to many people, and we are committed to preserving it and ensuring everyone can enjoy the lake safely. After listening to community concerns and conducting our own review, one step the LMCD board is considering is updating the rule to limit boat-generated wakes near the shore, structures, and people.

The new ordinance would place a five-miles-per-hour speed limit on all boats within 300 feet of shorelines, beaches, docks, anchored boats and swimmers. This would be an increase from the current 150-foot distance rule. A draft of the

**LMCD**

---

**From:** Ryan Miller <ryanmitchellmiller@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 24, 2022 4:41 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Wake boats

Hi there me name is Ryan miller  
I live on medicine lk  
We own a axis A 24  
Increasing the ordinance to 300 feet would make surfing on medicine and smaller bays on tonka almost impossible  
Please leave the law as it stands 150 feet  
Thanks Ryan miller  
612-9406715

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

**LMCD**

---

**From:** Macmillan Donald <Donald.Macmillan@bennevis.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 24, 2022 5:03 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Proposed changes

Dear LMCD,

I have had the pleasure of Lake Minnetonka for 90 % of my 52 years on this planet. I have actively participated in every possible recreation on the lake. Fishing, kayak, paddle board, kite board, sailing, personal watercraft and tow sports behind the boat. I truly love Lake Minnetonka. Your proposal has many unintended consequences.

First is many people will try to avoid the smaller bays due to less space available in those bays and not wanting to break the rules. So where will those people go? They will go to the bigger bays. More congestion. Second is a smart tow sports individual will try and find the wind protected shoreline. More congestion. Third is now all the smaller boats being closer to shore than the tow sports boats creates a whole new flow for right of ways basically pushing tow sports even further than the 300 ft proposal. The congestion now puts additional pressure and shoreline stress on other parts of the lake. I am sympathetic to shoreline erosion. There are lots of boats making waves on the lake. I see the real issue as more of a congestion problem.

Limit the number of tow sports boats on certain bays able to operate at a time. Limit the number of boats at the public landings. You could even charge at the public landings. I appreciate your time and thank you all for trying to find a solution. Thank you.

Donald MacMillan

Sent from my iPhone

## LMCD

---

**From:** Flavia Wilson Janzen <wils1246@umn.edu>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 24, 2022 5:55 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Concern over the 300 foot rule

To whom it may concern:

My husband and I currently live on the lake on Phelps Bay. We love it here and enjoy all the amazing things this lake has to offer. We understand people's concerns about the wakeboard boats and other large boats that cause large wakes. This lake has clearly seen an increase in boat activity over the years. However, changing the rule from 150 to 300 will only make things even more unsafe. This proposed rule seems excessive. It is going to force more boaters into the middle of the lake and it's going to become far more congested, and more dangerous. It is essentially going to turn into a densely congested highway in the middle of every single bay and will lead to more boat accidents having everyone be closer to each other. Again, we understand other people's concerns about their properties on the lake (us being property owners on the lake as well), but I don't think the solution is to make boating even more dangerous on this already chaotic and congested lake. People have a hard enough time following the 150 rule, and I don't think changing it to 300 will make anything safer or efficient.

Thank you for your time.

Flavia Wilson-Janzen  
Matthew Janzen, MD  
4937 Island View Drive, Minnetrista, MN 55364  
612-839-5994

Sent from my iPhone



## LMCD

---

**From:** LMCD Website Form <lmcd@lmcd.org>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 24, 2022 10:17 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Contact Us

### Name

Curt Wym

### Email

[curtandlauraw@gmail.com](mailto:curtandlauraw@gmail.com)

### Phone

(962) 201-8393

### Address

1785 Wildhurst Lane  
Mound Mn  
United States  
[Map It](#)

### Question or Comment

Boats performing surfing and wake board plus PWC's are ignoring one hour before sunset rules. When will this be enforced as the water patrol isn't doing it

## LMCD

---

**From:** gimprints.rp@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 24, 2022 7:31 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Boat wakes

I think you should also include human powered boats along with anchored boats, swimmers, docks and shoreline. I've had big boats fly by me when I'm on my kayak, almost flipping me over.

Thank you

Rick Parsons  
280 Big Island

Sent from my iPad

## LMCD

---

**From:** Mark Enger <markenger2@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 24, 2022 7:08 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** LMCD Proposed Restriction

The proposed distance of 300 feet specifically mentions boats with not reference to jet skis. If you are going to restrict speed inside 300 feet it needs to include jet skis.

My bigger issue is the inequality of how the cost of lake use is distributed. As a homeowner on Lake Minnetonka, I pay many thousands for dollars in property taxes. The cost to day uses of the lake is nothing. I strongly believe there should be a reasonable amount charges to boat owners to us our lake launches. The cost needs to be greater that the cost of endorsement. It needs to high enough that day users recognize they are contributing to the cost of maintaining our great lake.

Mark Enger  
2697 Casco Point Road

## LMCD

---

**From:** Doug McDougal <dmcdougal7208@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 24, 2022 5:58 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** 300' no wake zone

What's the point of making laws that aren't going to be enforced? The Sheriff's department has shown it doesn't have the time or resources to enforce wake laws - not their fault, just economic reality.

Might as well require the Sheriffs/deputies to start checking all ducks and turtles for milfoil and zebra muscle transport violations too.

Doug McDougal  
Carson Bay

Sent from my iPhone

## LMCD

---

**From:** Vickie Schleuning  
**Sent:** Monday, July 25, 2022 10:04 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** FW: Update Regarding Boat Generated Wakes Review and Draft Code Amendment

**From:** Peter Gosz <peterjosephgosz@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 24, 2022 3:30 PM  
**To:** Vickie Schleuning <vschleuning@lmcd.org>  
**Subject:** Re: Update Regarding Boat Generated Wakes Review and Draft Code Amendment

Vickie, I would like to know how many LMCD members live on lake Minnetonka and how many have boats. Specifically wake surf boats? Has anyone been hurt by a specific wave from a boat or were they not paying attention? Lastly, what percent of lake home owners have complained about waves etc. has it been memorialized and noted. Are they copies.

On Sun, Jul 24, 2022 at 2:18 PM Vickie Schleuning <[vschleuning@lmcd.org](mailto:vschleuning@lmcd.org)> wrote:

Hello,

The Lake Minnetonka Conservation District (LMCD) has heard from many community members that the large wakes created by boats near the lake's shoreline make it difficult for people using small watercraft to enjoy the lake. In addition, these wakes can be harmful to people, damage property, hurt the environment, and contribute to shoreline erosion. We have also heard from community members who believe all boats have a place on Lake Minnetonka.

Lake Minnetonka is important to many people, and we are committed to preserving it and ensuring everyone can enjoy the lake safely. After listening to community concerns and conducting our own review, one step the LMCD board is considering is updating the rule to limit boat-generated wakes near the shore, structures, and people.

The new ordinance would place a five-miles-per-hour speed limit on all boats within 300 feet of shorelines, beaches, docks, anchored boats and swimmers. This would be an increase from the current 150-foot distance rule. A draft of the new ordinance is available for review on our webpage [Safety & Boat Generated Wakes](#) and directly at this [LINK](#), along with a brief summary of the draft code amendment at this [LINK](#). Learn about the status of the review of boat generated wakes on [the Boat Generated Wakes Review webpage](#). A map with a summary of the Quiet Waters Areas can be found in the [Summer Rules brochure](#).

**Before the board votes on the new ordinance, tentatively in August, and we want to hear from you. We invite you to attend our next board meeting to learn more about the proposed rule change and share public comments.**

**LMCD**

---

**From:** Vickie Schleuning  
**Sent:** Monday, July 25, 2022 10:02 AM  
**To:** Peni Gensler  
**Cc:** LMCD  
**Subject:** RE: Update Regarding Boat Generated Wakes Review and Draft Code Amendment

Thank you for your feedback. Have a good week. Vickie

**From:** Peni Gensler <penigensler@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 24, 2022 2:54 PM  
**To:** Vickie Schleuning <vschleuning@lmcd.org>  
**Subject:** Re: Update Regarding Boat Generated Wakes Review and Draft Code Amendment

I think that is better than before.

Peni and Steve Gensler  
185 Woodpecker Ridge Road  
Tonka Bay

On Jul 24, 2022, at 2:18 PM, Vickie Schleuning <[vschleuning@lmcd.org](mailto:vschleuning@lmcd.org)> wrote:

Hello,

The Lake Minnetonka Conservation District (LMCD) has heard from many community members that the large wakes created by boats near the lake’s shoreline make it difficult for people using small watercraft to enjoy the lake. In addition, these wakes can be harmful to people, damage property, hurt the environment, and contribute to shoreline erosion. We have also heard from community members who believe all boats have a place on Lake Minnetonka.

Lake Minnetonka is important to many people, and we are committed to preserving it and ensuring everyone can enjoy the lake safely. After listening to community concerns and conducting our own review, one step the LMCD board is considering is updating the rule to limit boat-generated wakes near the shore, structures, and people.

The new ordinance would place a five-miles-per-hour speed limit on all boats within 300 feet of shorelines, beaches, docks, anchored boats and swimmers. This would be an increase from the current 150-foot distance rule. A draft of the new ordinance is available for review on our webpage [Safety & Boat Generated Wakes](#) and directly at this [LINK](#), along with a brief summary of the draft code amendment at this [LINK](#). Learn about the status of the review of boat generated wakes on [the Boat Generated Wakes Review webpage](#). A map with a summary of the Quiet Waters Areas can be found in the [Summer Rules brochure](#).

**Before the board votes on the new ordinance, tentatively in August, and we want to hear from you. We invite you to attend our next board meeting to learn more about the proposed rule change and share public comments.**

**LMCD Board Meeting**  
July 27, 2022  
7 p.m.

## LMCD

---

**From:** Michael Coughlin <mcoughlin6@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 25, 2022 9:58 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Wake restrictions on Mtka

To whom it may concern:

After reading the proposal I have a few concerns. The first concern is regarding the high performance fishing boats on the lake. These operators jet across the lake from one fishing spot to another. Usually their fishing spots are near docks and shoreline structures. Has the fishing community had time to comment? It would seem fishing tournaments will no longer be allowed on Mtka. My second concern is the large ocean going cruisers. These are the boats exceeding 30ft. If you watch the boat traffic near the Arcola Bridge you will understand. There should be a length of boat restriction on Mtka for non commercial boats.

My last point. The summer of 2021 was very busy on the water. Interestingly the summer of 2022 the boat traffic is way down. I think this should be taken into account. When the lake is crowded boaters look for a less busy area. Oftentimes moving closer to shore for tubing, waterskiing, etc. But post Covid, people have their lives back and going to the lake is no longer the only entertainment option.

Finally, I would delay this new restriction for a couple of years to gather more data on how the lake is being used in the post Covid era.

Thx.

**LMCD**

---

**From:** Douglas Smith <douglas@smith4.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 25, 2022 10:55 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Comments on potential Amendment to Watercraft Speed Ordinance

Hello,

I am in favor of the proposed wording and changes in the Ordinance amendment.

My only comment beside “please get this passed” is one on enforcement. All the rules in the world won’t solve a problem if they aren’t enforced. I live on West Arm and see little to no enforcement of the current 150 foot rule, so passing a 300 foot rule without enforcing it is a waste of everyone’s time. Please also consider what resources it will take to actually make this new rule have some positive effect on our lake living.

Thanks for listening.

Douglas Smith  
4195 Highwood Rd.  
Mound, MN 55364  
-----  
+1 (952) 212-1212



## LMCD

---

**From:** Mark von Oven <mvonoven@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 25, 2022 12:05 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** 5mph ordinance

LMCD Board Members,

As a board member of the Lotus Lake Conservation Alliance (LLCA) in Chanhassen, I understand what you go through on a regular basis. You volunteer your time to protect Lake Minnetonka, and you constantly hear arguments on both sides of the wake issue. You want the lake to be safe and usable for everyone - and you want to ensure that the decisions you make are fair for all parties.

The decision you are considering this week goes beyond the shores of Lake Minnetonka. Greater Minnesota naturally looks to you, and the decisions you make, as a precedent for other lakes. **As someone who frequently enjoys visiting Lake Minnetonka, and on behalf of all motorized lakes across Minnesota, I strongly urge you NOT to pass this new ordinance.** Despite numerous attempts on the subject, there is still no direct evidence of boat-generated wakes damaging property, hurting the environment or contributing to shoreline erosion any more or less than the last big storm to come through. Both sides can skew the results of recent studies in any direction that serves their purpose. Thanks to confirmation bias, residents who oppose motorized watersports FEEL these things are true and speak their concerns, and they are free to do so. Some of you, as members of this board, very likely *feel* this way as well. We have no right to question your opinion. It's yours. However, claiming there is scientific evidence to back this opinion is not valid. Sending notice of this meeting and ordinance consideration to residents and stating in the introductory paragraph that boat-generated wakes cause damage to property is biased. Two years ago previous LLCA board members made the same mistake, misrepresenting residents at City Hall, and several of them are no longer on the board today as a result of the public backlash. Your *opinion* should not be something upon which you can base a blanket decision such as this, especially when it has the potential to affect so many lives across Minnesota.

Imagine living on a golf course and being told one day that you are no longer allowed to use your driver on certain holes because some residents are tired of seeing golf balls in their backyard. Despite having moved to a golf course, these residents believe they can complain enough to change the course rules to something more desirable for their personal activities. This is what this conversation is like for watersport aficionados on Lake Minnetonka. Supporters of this ordinance knew the rules (and limitations) of the lake when they moved in - and now want to change those rules for their own personal benefit - despite the hardship and disruption they will create for others. Thousands of Lake Minnetonka residents moved to the shores of your lake to pursue their passion for watersports, and they can (and will) be as loud as the voices currently in your ears trying to shut them down. Thousands more live on lakes across Minnesota that could be changed forever if the implications of your decisions are taken myopically.

Please vote no...for all of us.

Regards,  
Mark von Oven

## LMCD

---

**From:** Mark Krezowski <mark@customer1st.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 25, 2022 12:38 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** 5mph 300' from shore+ rule

Fabulous, we support. Wish it was 500'. We live where Excelsior Bay starts (north Greenwood shore) where boats plow along our shore coming and going from Excelsior bay.

Unfortunately 95% of the lakes boaters don't even know about the existing 150 foot rule.... So education will be the difficult part of all of this, including of our sheriff boaters.

Mark Krezowski  
612-868-3783

## LMCD

---

**From:** Mark von Oven <mvonoven@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 25, 2022 12:05 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** 5mph ordinance

LMCD Board Members,

As a board member of the Lotus Lake Conservation Alliance (LLCA) in Chanhassen, I understand what you go through on a regular basis. You volunteer your time to protect Lake Minnetonka, and you constantly hear arguments on both sides of the wake issue. You want the lake to be safe and usable for everyone - and you want to ensure that the decisions you make are fair for all parties.

The decision you are considering this week goes beyond the shores of Lake Minnetonka. Greater Minnesota naturally looks to you, and the decisions you make, as a precedent for other lakes. **As someone who frequently enjoys visiting Lake Minnetonka, and on behalf of all motorized lakes across Minnesota, I strongly urge you NOT to pass this new ordinance.** Despite numerous attempts on the subject, there is still no direct evidence of boat-generated wakes damaging property, hurting the environment or contributing to shoreline erosion any more or less than the last big storm to come through. Both sides can skew the results of recent studies in any direction that serves their purpose. Thanks to confirmation bias, residents who oppose motorized watersports FEEL these things are true and speak their concerns, and they are free to do so. Some of you, as members of this board, very likely *feel* this way as well. We have no right to question your opinion. It's yours. However, claiming there is scientific evidence to back this opinion is not valid. Sending notice of this meeting and ordinance consideration to residents and stating in the introductory paragraph that boat-generated wakes cause damage to property is biased. Two years ago previous LLCA board members made the same mistake, misrepresenting residents at City Hall, and several of them are no longer on the board today as a result of the public backlash. Your *opinion* should not be something upon which you can base a blanket decision such as this, especially when it has the potential to affect so many lives across Minnesota.

Imagine living on a golf course and being told one day that you are no longer allowed to use your driver on certain holes because some residents are tired of seeing golf balls in their backyard. Despite having moved to a golf course, these residents believe they can complain enough to change the course rules to something more desirable for their personal activities. This is what this conversation is like for watersport aficionados on Lake Minnetonka. Supporters of this ordinance knew the rules (and limitations) of the lake when they moved in - and now want to change those rules for their own personal benefit - despite the hardship and disruption they will create for others. Thousands of Lake Minnetonka residents moved to the shores of your lake to pursue their passion for watersports, and they can (and will) be as loud as the voices currently in your ears trying to shut them down. Thousands more live on lakes across Minnesota that could be changed forever if the implications of your decisions are taken myopically.

Please vote no...for all of us.

Regards,  
Mark von Oven

## LMCD

---

**From:** Sheri Hoffman <sherihoffman329@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 25, 2022 1:18 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** New wake ordinance

Hello LMCD counsel,

I understand that there are things that need to be managed on our lake to keep it safe and enjoyable. I am concerned this new proposed wake ordinance will make it almost impossible to do any recreation activities in so many areas of our lake. Lake Minnetonka has so many smaller inlets and bays vs a big open area of water. You will essentially shut off large areas of most of the lake to any sports like waterskiing, tubing, wakeboarding, wake surfing. So many areas look like they may be big enough, but have hazard buoys so that it won't be usable with the 300 ft new rule and 5 mph.

I live on the lake. Everyone has a right to use the lake and enjoy it in whatever type of recreation they like to do. I see the waves made by all kinds of boats and they are all large and impactful. It is definitely not just the surf boats. The wave generation on my bay with people tubing exceeds that made by a wake boat. The same goes for cruiser boats that are like ocean vessels 32 feet and above. I am sure if these other boats and their waves were studied they would find equal or more damage and velocity.

One thing that has not been addressed is the loud music issue. I am a wake surfer. I live on the lake. The tower speakers need to be banned. I'm sorry, but the loud music has to stop. If all boats had tower speakers can you imagine? There is just no need. Sorry surfers, you can hear the music when you get back in the boat. To me, this has been a big issue for homeowners and others that are trying to relax at this time on our lake. I can't enjoy being at my home and outside without hearing loud horrible music - at all hours, totally disrespectful and needs to stop.

Another issue that should be addressed is the staggering number of uneducated, unsafe boaters. I have seen so many unsafe boaters and feel there should be something done to force mandatory education. I was lucky to grow up with a Dad who taught us how to boat safely and with courtesy to others. I see so much living on the lake...people who don't understand that if there are already 4 surf boats out, a tuber, 3 jet skis, on top of boats just going through, boats anchored in a bay that maybe that is too much and need to take turns or go somewhere else. With this 300ft rule, please also then address that people should not anchor right in the middle of an area that could be used for more active recreation and stick closer to the shoreline.

Have they looked at how many boats are on the lake and safety? Maybe people shouldn't be allowed to "rent" out their slips. Are there just too many boats on this lake now? People should definitely be able to use the public accesses and come out on this beautiful, public lake. But should a home owner add to the volume of boats on this lake in excess of what they own and use?

There are many issues, but I'm not sure 300ft with a 5mph limit will be achievable.

Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,  
Sheri Hoffman  
St. Albans Bay

## LMCD

---

**From:** Jay Kanive <jkanive@tonkapartners.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 25, 2022 3:34 PM  
**To:** LMCD; Vickie Schleuning  
**Subject:** Update Regarding Boat Generated Wakes Review and Draft Code Amendment

Vickie,

I am writing to you in opposition to the proposed rule change seeking to increase the distance of the 5 MPH speed limit from 150 feet to 300 feet from shorelines, beaches, docks, anchored boats, and swimmers. Lake Minnetonka is a large recreational lake near highly populated areas, providing a great opportunity for many people throughout the area to enjoy water sports (skiing, wakeboarding, wake surfing etc.), fishing, general boating (towing tubes, sightseeing, etc.) and personal watercraft use (i.e. jet skis). Even so, there are many parts of the lake already reserved and dedicated as “quite waters / slow areas” to accommodate those that like to anchor, paddle, play and enjoy the lake without a lot of waves. My family and I enjoy water sports and also anchoring in the many quite waters areas on the Lake. Increasing the distance from 150 feet to 300 feet to enjoy the active recreational activities available on the Lake seems unnecessarily burdensome upon those looking to enjoy those activities. Furthermore, having to reduce speeds to under 5 MPH 300 feet from any anchored boats/swimmers seems highly unfair to water sports enthusiasts as there are already many protected places for boats to anchor and people to swim without the worry of boats buzzing by them. 150 feet from every shoreline is a lot of square footage in and of itself!, not including an arbitrary 150 foot circle around boats anchored randomly offshore. Such a rule change would inevitably render entire bays inaccessible to water sports as a handful of boats could choose to anchor in a way that makes using the Lake for these water sports impossible. This is not the right balance for sharing this great resource with the broader community and all the varied interests.

Moreover, this rule seems to be aimed at placating a more narrow view of the Lake’s intended uses and I think a better rule could be developed than the seemingly arbitrary rule being proposed. We are not against protecting the lake from erosion, people from harm and property from damage, but this rule is overly punitive to the more active recreational users of the Lake. For the safety of people and boaters alike, the LMCD should look into protecting recreational swimmers and anchored boats by incentivizing those boats to anchor in the already designated calm waters and shoreline buffer zones against vessels traveling above 5 MPH. One way to do this would be by expanding the shoreline restriction from the current 150 feet to somewhere between 150-300 feet (300 feet seems excessive – 200-250 seems more reasonable) and maintaining or even reducing the operating buffer for anchored vessels outside of these zones to between 100 and 150 feet. Something like this vastly expands the area of the Lake for smaller watercraft, swimmers and anchored boats, is more protective of the shoreline, yet still allows for the Lake to be used by those that enjoy the more active water sports. Again, I am not proposing this as “the answer” but its directionally a better proposal than the current one. Thank you.

Jay Kanive  
950 Willow View Drive  
Orono, MN

-----  
On Jul 24, 2022, at 2:17 PM, Vickie Schleuning <[vschleuning@lmcd.org](mailto:vschleuning@lmcd.org)> wrote:

Hello,

(o): 952-204-5085  
(m): 646-242-5405

## LMCD

---

**From:** Colf0004 <colfordjohn@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 25, 2022 4:10 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Boat generated wakes

Dear Board Members,

I urge you to vote no regarding the new ordinance. If my math is correct, a 300' circle around an anchored boat amounts to a 6.5 acre area of 5 mph maximum speed, which is onerously excessive. Furthermore, extending a 5 mph maximum speed to 300' from docks could affect up to 1/3 the acreage of the lake. This seems an excessive amount.

Thanks,  
John Colford

## LMCD

---

**From:** Steve Elliott <sellott9369@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 25, 2022 7:19 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** No to 300'

I have lived in the lake for over 10 years and have not seen any change in my shoreline so the current regulations are sufficient.

I vote NO to the 300' proposed change.

Sent from my iPhone



## LMCD

---

**From:** Steve Elliott <sellott9369@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 25, 2022 7:36 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** No to 300' change

As follow up to my previous email.

The proposed map with the 300' boundaries would create unsafe conditions in the middle of the bays. Narrow bays have a small area down the middle that boats would be traveling at higher rates of speed in close proximity. This creates a new risk for boaters and anyone skiing, tubing or surfing not to mention boats that are passing through and want to go faster. This new regulation would force all of these boats to be very close to each other and would create a deadly new situation. It will only be a matter of time until boats hit each other and people are killed because of this new regulation.

Enforce the current 150' regulation and see if that corrects current concerns about erosion. The new 300' regulation is going to have unintended consequences that are life and death.

Sent from my iPhone

**LMCD**

---

**From:** Robin Gipson <robingipson76@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 25, 2022 5:58 PM  
**To:** LMCD; Vickie Schleuning  
**Subject:** Update Regarding Boat Generated Wakes Review and Draft Code Amendment

LMCD board and staff,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed rule change seeking to increase the distance of the 5 MPH speed limit from 150 feet to 300 feet from shorelines, beaches, docks, anchored boats, and swimmers. As a person who recently purchased a wake surfing boat, this would largely make use of our boat impossible, especially on weekends. Such a rule change would inevitably render entire bays inaccessible to water sports as a handful of boats could choose to anchor in a way that makes using the Lake for these water sports impossible. The lake has always permitted tubing, surfing and skiing. It seems that you are trying trying to make these activities impossible without outright banning them as you know that would cause a huge public outcry. This is not the right balance for sharing the lake with the entire community.

Respectfully,

Robin and Jon Caneff Gipson

3103 Brooks Lane  
Minnetonka Beach, MN

651 398 4005

## LMCD

---

**From:** Raphael Wallander <rwallander@maxwellbayadvisors.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 25, 2022 4:41 PM  
**To:** LMCD; Vickie Schleuning  
**Subject:** Update Regarding Boat Generated Wakes Review and Draft Code Amendment

LMCD board and staff,

I own a home on Maxwell Bay and another home on North Arm Bay. I write to express my opposition to this proposed rule. I am opposed to this rule on several grounds.

First, 300 feet from any other boat, dock, swimmer or other object on the lake will render smaller bays, like Maxwell, North Arm and Stubbs, unusable for tubing, surfing, skiing or recreational activity unless there are almost no other boaters on the bay. Realistically speaking, it would make going more than 5 mph on these bays, other than in the slowest of times, not possible. This may be exactly what a few of the noisy individuals who live on my street want, but they don't own the lake. The lake is a public good, not proprietary exclusively to ornery property owners who hate wake boats. Lake Minnetonka is a recreational lake that is situated in a large metro area. The notion that we should try to turn back the clock and make it into a calm up north style lake is not workable (unless you also plan to shut down all the public boat launches). As a user of the lake for boating, tubing, swimming, surfing, kayaking and fishing, I know that there are certain times when those activities are harder to accomplish and other times when the lake is perfect for each one. I don't ask my neighbors and fellow lake goers to adjust their use to permit me to do what I want when I want. The folks behind this rule change would be well advised to take the same approach rather than to jam a completely unworkable rule on others to be able to use the lake exactly as they wish all the time.

Second, the 150 foot rule is not enforced right now. ON any crowded day on Maxwell Bay, it is violated ad nauseum. Law enforcement can enforce a less restrictive rule (no knock on them – there are only a few of them trying to manage the lake on busy days). The idea that we would pass an even more restrictive rule that won't be enforced is an absurdity. If the LMCD really wanted to reduce density on the lake (and in my mind, that is the real issue), it would regulate how many boats can enter the lake. There are ways to do this. An annual use fee for each vessel (coupled with a very stiff penalty for violation) might help. Charging for launch access during high use periods and limiting users in those time slots (perhaps even auctioning off access at those times) would be a way to lessen density of users and enforce the annual fee requirement. Frankly these methods might also raise a little capital to assists with shoreline restoration and weed control efforts. This is a much more easily enforced alternative to an arbitrary 300 foot rule that we all know will not be enforced.

Third, concerns about shoreline erosion are a ruse. Again, Lake Minnetonka is a recreational lake surrounded by residential development in a major urban setting. Much of the lake is rip-wrapped. While the extreme naturalists might not like this, it is a sound approach for an urban recreational lake. We would be better off addressing erosion by being practical and not trying to turn Minnetonka into the BWCA – it never will be. Some of the largest wakes come off fishing boats, who have been traversing Lake Minnetonka for much longer than wake boats. The problem of large wakes is neither recent nor novel. It has been present on Lake Minnetonka for a long time. Wake boats are a whipping boy for a problem that pre-dates them.

Fourth, as a practical matter, what happens if I am going 20mph across my bay and a jet skier cuts within 200 fee of me, have I violated the new rule unless I immediately give all of my passengers whiplash? This stuff happens all the time. It is reality on the lake and not going away. The proposed rule looks like it was written by people who have an imaginary vision of what actually happens on the lake.

## LMCD

---

**From:** Steven Donen <csdonen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2022 9:25 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** 5 mph 300 ft

First of all you are basically blaming boats for shoreline erosion, there are many causes of shoreline erosion, boats, wind created waves and ice in the winter . Most shoreline erosion is actually caused by homeowners putting grass and sand down to the beach, basically removing the natural protection that was there for millions of years before them. This basically creates the situation where any waves of any size caused by boats or wind, ice, will cause erosion. This is proven by over 80% of the shoreline has been protected and does not have erosion issues.

Secondly you are setting a precedent for all of Minnesota as Minnetonka will be looked at for their actions and there is no data that supports this new rule. The studies have shown that yes big waves cause more erosion that is not rocket science and who can argue. But what size wave is okay and what is not has not been defined and the reason is it cannot be defined as every shoreline has different resistance. Protected shorelines either naturally or manmade will not have an issue with any size wake, wave from wind or ice, whereas as stated previously sand and grass at the shoreline is susceptible to all forms of erosion, waves from boats, wind and ice. So again no science proves your solution of 5 mph solves the erosion issue as wind and ice will still cause erosion on those unprotected shorelines.

Thirdly, there are many parts of Minnetonka that a 300 ft 5 mph rule will eliminate all watersports from those areas. Homeowners purchased lots expecting to do recreational watersports and will not have to travel long distances at 5 mph to do those.

Everybody brings up safely, when I go to the ocean I have waves as they are expected and when I go to a lake waves are expected. I waterski and do that at times when there are no waves, which is about 80% of the time. So if you go to a lake and do not expect waves then you are not on the lake you should be one you should be on a pond with no boats.

Last but not least, for the shoreline owners who do not protect their shorelines, I paint my house because the sun hits it and over time the paint needs to be replaced. The same with shorelines, you buy a house on a lake. Your shoreline is being damaged because it is not protected so instead of doing what 80% of the other shoreline owners do protecting your shoreline (like painting my house) you decide not to and try to eliminate waves but you cannot eliminate waves like you cannot eliminate the sun.

So you are trying to solve a problem homeowners have caused by stopping recreational use of many parts of the lake and in the end those shorelines will still be damaged by waves caused by wind and ice.

The science does not support your solution, people protecting their shoreline will.

Regards,

Steven Donen  
Concerned user of lakes in Minnesota.

## LMCD

---

**From:** Ed Rockwell <eddierockwell@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2022 10:58 AM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Cc:** Susie Wittine; Neighbor - Eric Wittine; Neighbor - Dustrude, Jim; Ed Rockwell  
**Subject:** Update Regarding Boat Generated Wakes Review and Draft Code Amendment

My name is Ed Rockwell and I live at 4888 Edgewater Dr, Mound, MN 55364 on the south shore of Harrisons Bay.

We have lived at our house for 22 years.

The recent uprise of wake boats (within the last 5-10 years) has been horrible for our shoreline, dock, boats tied to dock and enjoyment of the lake. We have received damage on our boat because of the 2-3 foot wake boat waves rolling in most of the day on weekends and throughout the day on weekdays.

These boats not only do harm to the shoreline and property, they also put huge amounts of pressure under the boats and harm the bottom of the lake. Our bay is on average of only 15 feet deep. Most of the bay is around 10 feet and only ONE SMALL area where it is 30 feet. This underwater damage to me is unknown but I'm sure you have done your research and know that these boats MUST run in larger bays where it's deep enough for them so it doesn't damage the lake bottom.

My vote is to make the distance 600 feet from shore for them to produce their wakes AND SOME BAYS they should NOT BE ALLOWED to operate. Please mention this comment in your meeting. These should NOT BE ALLOWED in Harrisons Bay. Not at all!!!

Please understand that these boats have completely changed how Harrisons Bay is enjoyed by all lakeshore owners.

I understand that this is a public lake and should be enjoyed by all. But allowing a water sport that damages the lake in ways that is catastrophic shouldn't be allowed.

I've even been hurt because I was floating by my dock and was pushed up and UNDER my dock by wake boat waves and could have been seriously injured. Once the waves arrived, it was too late to react and I had to ride it out for at least 5-6 waves.

These waves are so large that sometimes they are higher than the decking on docks. If anyone gets trapped by getting pushed under or into a dock could result in serious injury or even death.

I also have some video of these waves coming in so you can see how large they can be.

Thank you,

Ed Rockwell  
4888 Edgewater Drive  
Mound MN  
Phone: 612-481-6100

## LMCD

---

**From:** mmorey@mchsi.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2022 1:24 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** Wake Surfing

Thank you for the work you are doing on this. I've lived on North Arm bay for the last 17 years. Several years ago, we considered moving - with one of the big factors being the impact of the wake surf boats. I still remain firm that they are the only boat that impacts every other boat on the lake. The wakes are just too large, our rip-rap looks like it's been tossed in the air, the music is loud and I can only imagine what it's doing to the eco-systems in the bottom of our lakes.

We had friends house-sitting this weekend and even though they were experienced boaters, they weren't use to these types of waves. They were anchored near shore and the large waves sent them into the rocks, damaging their prop. They also couldn't make it out without having to walk their boat to a near-by dock to get control of the boat and make it out to a deeper area.

That said, I have seen an improvement over the last couple of years. Drivers are staying in the middle and aren't as disrespectful with the volume of their music. I can only assume that some of these improvements have come by educating these drivers, so I appreciate that.

I am definitely for regulations on these crafts, and would support your 5 mph proposal in addition to other stipulations :-). I'd still love to see certain days or times of the days were they weren't allowed in certain bays, but I know that would be hard to manage.

Again, thank you for the work you've put into this. It is ver appreciated.

Michelle Morey & Scott Bissen  
825 Tonkawa Road  
Orono  
763-232-1745

## LMCD

---

**From:** Vickie Schleuning  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2022 2:53 PM  
**To:** LMCD  
**Subject:** FW: Update Regarding Boat Generated Wakes Review and Draft Code Amendment

**From:** Jim Friedlander <jimfriedlander1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2022 9:15 AM  
**To:** Vickie Schleuning <vschleuning@lmcd.org>  
**Subject:** Re: Update Regarding Boat Generated Wakes Review and Draft Code Amendment

Thanks Vickie.

I appreciate the incremental step LMCD is taking to address this issue and respect the rights of all boaters.

As with many well intended regulations, enforcement and respect will be the key to making this effective.

How will this change be communicated?

How will it be enforced?

In order to make it clearer, Can LMCD provide additional No Wake buoys in areas that would be impacted? (I can think of a few bays, channels and coves (Robinson's, Carmen or Tanager Lake for example) where 300' from either shore would in effect create the entire bay as No Wake)

Thanks again, Jim

On Sun, Jul 24, 2022 at 2:18 PM Vickie Schleuning <[vschleuning@lmcd.org](mailto:vschleuning@lmcd.org)> wrote:

Hello,

The Lake Minnetonka Conservation District (LMCD) has heard from many community members that the large wakes created by boats near the lake's shoreline make it difficult for people using small watercraft to enjoy the lake. In addition, these wakes can be harmful to people, damage property, hurt the environment, and contribute to shoreline erosion. We have also heard from community members who believe all boats have a place on Lake Minnetonka.

Lake Minnetonka is important to many people, and we are committed to preserving it and ensuring everyone can enjoy the lake safely. After listening to community concerns and conducting our own review, one step the LMCD board is considering is updating the rule to limit boat-generated wakes near the shore, structures, and people.