

Town of Bass Lake, Sawyer County Motorboat Wake Protection Area Ordinance
No. 2018-10-08

An ordinance to regulate boating upon all the waters within the Town of Bass Lake, Sawyer County, Wisconsin and prescribing penalties for violation thereof:

The Town Board of the Town of Bass Lake, Sawyer County, Wisconsin does ordain as follows:

Section 1 – Applicability and Enforcement: The provisions of this Ordinance shall apply to all the waters within the Town of Bass Lake, Sawyer County. This ordinance shall be enforced by the officers of Sawyer County.

Section 2 – Intent: The intent of this ordinance is to provide safe and healthful conditions for the enjoyment of aquatic recreation consistent with public rights and interests and the capability of the water resources to minimize shoreline erosion.

Section 3 – State Boating and Safety Laws Adopted: State boating laws as found in ss. 30.50 to 30.71, Wis. Stats. are adopted by reference here.

Section 4 – Penalties: Wisconsin state boating penalties as found in s. 30.80, Wis. Stats., deposits established in the Uniform Deposit and Bail Schedule established by the Wisconsin Judicial Conferences are hereby adopted by reference and all references to fines amended to forfeitures and all references to imprisonment are deleted.

Section 5 – Severability: The provisions of this ordinance shall be deemed severable and it is expressly declared that the Town of Bass Lake, Sawyer County would have passed the other provisions of this ordinance irrespective of whether or not one or more provisions may be declared invalid. If any provision of this ordinance or the application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the ordinance and the application of such provisions to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected.

Section 6 – Motorboat Wake Prohibition Area: No person shall operate a motorboat, as defined in s. 30.50(6), Wis. Stats. on the waters within the Town of Bass Lake, Sawyer County in a manner to enhance an elevated wake for over 50 feet in length closer than 700 feet from any shoreline, dock, pier, raft or other restricted area(s) within the Town of Bass Lake, Sawyer County. An elevated wake is a trail of disturbed water left by the passage of a watercraft in excess of 24 inches. Such prohibited operation shall apply to wake enhancement watercraft by the use of ballast, mechanical hydrofoil(s), uneven loading or operation at transition speed. Transition speed means the speed at which the boat is operating at greater than slow-no-wake speed, but not fast enough so the boat is planning.

Section 7 – Posting Requirements: The Town of Bass Lake, Sawyer County shall place and maintain a synopsis of this ordinance at all public access points within the jurisdiction of the Town of Bass Lake, Sawyer County pursuant to the requirements of NR 5.15, Wis. Adm. Code.

Section 8 – Effective Date: This section will become effective upon its passage.

Passed this 12th day of November, 2018

Attested by:


Erica Warshawsky, Clerk