

Friendly Wakeboarding Guidelines

Our waterways provide an incredible opportunity for recreational use. However, it is important we respect others' property (shoreslines, docks, boats), as well protect the habitat of many of the "non-human" residents in Whitestone Township.

Wakeboarding has become a popular activity, but due to the slower speeds and heavier boats, larger waves can cause damage to docks and moored boats as well as destroying waterfowl nests on narrow lakes such as the ones in our municipality".

As such, we would like to discourage the **EXTREME practices** that cause "monster" wakes that do much of the damage. We suggest/request:

- 1) No use of "wake enhancing devices"**, such as ballast tanks, fat-sacks, wedges, lead or other weights for the purposes of creating large wakes. (Normally found in "Wakeboard Boats", but includes all boat types.)
- 2) No "wake-surfing" or "teak-surfing"** that requires very low speeds to create wakes large enough to negate the use of a tow-rope by a wake-boarder or surf-rider. (Normally performed by "Wakeboard Boats", but includes all boat types.)
- 3) No "two-boat wake creation practices"** where two boats travel in the same direction at slow speeds, offset, to create ultra large combined wakes. (All boat types)
- 4) No deliberate placement of numerous passengers at the rear of a boat**, combined with slow speeds, for the purpose of creating large wakes. (All boat types)

Note: By current law, any damage caused by the wake of a boat, becomes the responsibility of the boat driver causing those wakes.

Summary: In essence, it is not the intent to impact the free use of our waterways for a variety of towing practices (water-skiing, tubing, wakeboarding), but it is an attempt to discourage the extreme PRACTICES that cause the property and environmental damage caused by very large boat waves.