



Protecting Our Shoreline Is Everyone's Responsibility

Horseshoe Lake is a treasured space for all of us — whether we're tubing, skiing, fishing, surfing, cruising, or just enjoying the peace from a dock. But with more lake activity comes more wake, and that wake takes a toll.

Shoreline erosion, dock damage, and stirred sediment are real and growing issues. These impacts are not limited to wake boats — any vessel that throws a wake near shore contributes to the problem.

That includes personal watercraft (PWCs) like Jet Skis. PWCs are fast, maneuverable, and often ridden close to shore — but their wakes can be just as damaging, especially when repeatedly crisscrossing the same areas. Riders should keep well clear of docks, fishing boats, swimmers, and shoreline vegetation, especially at higher speeds.

Protecting our shoreline is everyone's responsibility — from wake boats to pontoons, from Jet Skis to ski boats. Every operator on Horseshoe Lake plays a part in preserving the health and beauty of the lake we love.

Guiding Principles for All Boaters

- Boats practice no wake within 100 ft. of shoreline and docks, and 200 ft. for PWCs.
 - Suggested operation of wake surfing is 400 ft. from shore and docks in the areas shown on the map.
- Avoid repeated passes along the same stretch of shoreline.
- Drive a predictable path and avoid power turns — idle through your turns.
- Avoid shallow or congested bays — stay in deeper, open water.
- Be aware of your wake and how it affects others (kayaks, paddleboards, swimmers, anchored boats, etc.).
- Keep music to a reasonable level — sound carries far over water.
- Lead by example — educate guests and family members on responsible boating.
- Respect earns respect — small actions make a big difference.

Join the Discussion

Shoreline erosion and wake control will be discussed at the Annual Horseshoe Lake Public Inland Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District Meeting. This is our chance to lead and protect the future of responsible boating on Horseshoe Lake. If we don't show up and take initiative, decisions will be made without us — and possibly **against** the activities we value most.

- Saturday, August 16, 2025
- 9:00 AM at Beaver Town Hall





Wake Sports Require Extra Responsibility

Wake surfing and wakeboarding are some of the most fun — and most powerful — activities on the lake. But those large wakes can cause shoreline erosion, stir up sediment, and impact other lake users.

Across Wisconsin and Minnesota, some lakes have already restricted or banned wake surfing. Horseshoe Lake is part of that conversation.

Let's protect the privilege to ride here by being proactive and respectful.

Wake Sport Best Practices

- Only wake surf or wakeboard in designated areas - Stick to the deep-water zones marked on the map to reduce shoreline impact and avoid conflicts.
- Maintain at least 400 ft. from shore, docks, and other lake users - Always give the maximum possible distance from other boats, kayaks, paddleboards, and swimmers.
- Wake surf only in water 20 ft. deep or more - Shallow water increases damage — deeper zones disperse wave energy more safely.
- Power down when turning or picking up riders - Idle through turns and pickups to reduce wake impact.
- Avoid looping the same area repeatedly - Repeated passes stack wave damage. Vary your path when possible.
- Keep music to a respectable level - Sound carries. Be courteous — not everyone enjoys your playlist.

