

3.0500 BOATING REGULATIONS AND WATER SPORTS

3.0501 Intent

The intent of this ordinance is to provide safe and healthful conditions for the enjoyment of aquatic recreation consistent with public rights and interest and the capability of the water resource.

3.0502 Applicability and Enforcement

- A. The provisions of this ordinance shall apply to all waters within the jurisdiction of the Town of Doty, Oconto County, Wisconsin.
- B. The provisions of this ordinance shall be enforced by the law enforcement officers of the Town of Doty, along with any and all other state and county officers authorized by law to enforce the same. Summaries or copies of this ordinance will be posted at all public landings.

3.0503 Boating and Safety Laws Adopted

The boating and safety laws of the State of Wisconsin found in ss. 30.50 to 30.71, Wis. Stats., are adopted by reference.

3.0504 Definitions

“Boat” - means every description of watercraft capable of being used as a means of transportation on water.

“Buoy” - is any device designed to float which is anchored in the water and which is used to convey a message.

“Motorboat” - means any boat equipped with propulsion machinery, whether or not the machinery is the principal source of propulsion.

“Operate” or “use” - when used with reference to a motorboat, boat or vessel means to navigate or otherwise employ.

“Personal Watercraft” – A motorized recreational water vehicle normally ridden by straddling a seat.

“Regulatory marker” - is any device designed to be placed in, or near any water within the Town, to convey an official message to a boat operator on matters which may affect health, safety, or well-being.

“Slow-no-wake” - means that speed at which a boat moves as slowly as possible while still maintaining steerage control.

“Swimming area”- means an authorized area of water established by regulatory markers to designate a swimming area.

“Water Skis” – means any apparatus used to tow a person on the water or above the water by means of ropes or lines attached to a motorboat.

3.0505 Boating Regulations

A. Speed

No person shall operate a motor boat at a speed greater than is reasonable

and prudent under the conditions, and having regard for the actual and potential hazards then existing. Speed of a motor boat shall be so controlled as to avoid colliding with any object lawfully in or on the water in compliance with legal requirements, and exercising due care.

B. Fixed Limits:

In addition to complying with section 3.0505(A) and 3.0505(C) of this ordinance, no person shall operate a motor boat in excess of slow-no-wake on any lake in the Town of Doty except as listed below:

1. Boulder Lake Slow-no wake is in effect from 5:00 PM to 10:00 AM local time
2. Boot Lake Slow-no wake is in effect from 4:00 PM to 11:00 AM local time
3. Bass Lake Slow-no wake is in effect from 4:00 PM to 11:00 AM local time

C. Prohibited Operation:

1. Except provided under section 3.0506(A)(2) of this Ordinance, no person may operate a motorboat within 100 feet of any dock, raft, pier, or buoyed restricted area on any water within the Town of Doty in excess of slow-no-wake speed.
2. No boat towing persons engaged in water skiing, aquaplaning or similar activity on any water in the Town of Doty shall engage in such activity within 100 feet of any occupied anchored boat, or marked swimming area, or public boat landing, except where pickup and drop area are established and marked with regulatory markers.
3. No person shall operate a boat faster than slow-no-wake in the waters of Boulder Lake, west bays, beginning 100' N.E. of the north lot line of N3371 Birch Lane, N.E to Traxel Point, continuing N.E. from Traxel Point to a land marked cluster of boulders on the water's edge, approximately 600' east of the east lot line of government lot #5, at any time. This area shall be marked by seven (7) buoys (slow-no-wake waterway markers).
4. No person shall operate a PWC faster than slow-no-wake within 200' from the shore per WI Statute 30.66 (3) (ar).
5. For the year 2020, when Bass Lake water level is above 1313', operation above 'slow no wake' speed on Bass Lake is prohibited. This restriction will be evaluated at the end of the 2020 boating season. Measurements will occur at least weekly to determine if the restriction can be lifted.

3.0506 Water Skiing Regulated

A. Hours

1. Except as provided in section 3.0506(A)(2) of this ordinance, no person shall operate a motor boat or personal watercraft, towing a person on water skis, aquaplaning, or similar activity at any time

between:

- a. Boulder Lake from 5:00 PM to 10:00 AM local time
 - b. Boot Lake from 4:00 PM to 11:00 AM local time
 - c. Bass Lake from 4:00 PM to 11:00 AM local time
2. Section 3.0506(A)(1) of this Ordinance does not apply to duly authorized water ski tournaments, competitions, exhibitions or trials thereof where adequate lighting is provided and where the permissions to stage such tournaments, competitions or exhibitions has been received from the Town Board of the Town of Doty, Oconto County, Wisconsin.

B. The direction of travel shall be counter-clockwise

3.0507 Littering

No person shall deposit, place, or throw from any boat, raft, pier, platform or similar structure, or from shore, any cans, paper, bottles, debris, refuse, garbage, solid or liquid waste on or into any waters in the Town of Doty, Oconto County, Wisconsin.

3.0508 Penalties

Wisconsin State boating penalties, as found in s. 30.80, Wis. Stats., and deposits as established in the Uniform Deposit and Bail Schedule established by the Wisconsin Judicial Conference, are hereby adopted by reference, with all references to fines amended to forfeitures and all references to imprisonment deleted. Any person violating a provision of this Ordinance for which no statutory equivalent exists in Ch. 30, Wis. Stats., shall forfeit the following:

- A. Anyone found guilty of violating sections 3.0505 and 3.0506 of this Ordinance shall pay a forfeiture established by the Town Board (refer to the Town of Doty Bond Schedule), together with the costs of prosecution.
- B. Anyone found guilty of violating Section 3.0507 of this Ordinance shall pay a forfeiture established by the Town Board (refer to the Town of Doty Bond Schedule), together with the costs of prosecution.

3.0509 Severability

The provisions of this Ordinance shall be deemed severable, and it is expressly declared that the Town Board 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 circumstances is held invalid, the remainder of the Ordinance and the application of such provisions to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected.