

The Green Lake and Duck Lake Association

SUGGESTIONS FOR SAFETY AND BEING A GOOD LAKE NEIGHBOR

1. Please remember all boats and Personal Water Craft (PWC - i.e. "Jet Ski") must maintain a "Slow - No Wake Speed" when within 100 feet of a raft, swimmer, dock, anchored boat or fishing boat.
2. For safety reasons never go between the shore and any (even your own) raft, anchored boat or buoy at speed. This is very dangerous for people swimming in this "protected" area. (See #1)
3. Michigan law requires an observer, in addition to the operator, in the boat or on a PWC when pulling someone on a tube, skis, wake board, etc.
4. Boat captains must have an easily accessible (not stowed away in a compartment) approved PFD (personal floatation device) for each person on board and a Type IV floatation cushion to throw. The Sheriff's Department and DNR both patrol the lake and will ask to see them.
5. Michigan law limits PWC operation to the following times: 8:00 am to one hour before sunset. All PWC riders must wear a PFD and must be at least 14. (Age 12 if they take the state approved safety class.)
6. Operators of ski boats and PWCs can be good neighbors by using the center of the lake for skiing and zooming around rather than near the shore. This helps with both safety and noise concerns.
7. All boats should use bow and stern running lights after dark.
8. Please respect private property and don't use someone else's beach. The public has the right to use the surface of Michigan lakes for recreational purposes but the inland lakeshore belongs to the riparian owner.
9. Be very careful when fueling boats and PWCs to avoid spills. (Use funnels or fuel on shore.)
10. Help protect the lake from invasive species by reminding your visitors to remove all aquatic plants and animals (Eurasian Watermilfoil, Zebra mussels, etc.) from their boat, motor and trailer before entering or leaving the lake.
11. Please do not chase or disturb loons, ducks, seagulls or other waterfowl with your boat.
12. Be sure your septic system is the right size and have your tank pumped at least once every five years to keep your system working properly. A leaking tank can deposit dangerous sewage material into the lake right where your family and neighbors swim.
13. Please avoid using fertilizers and pesticides on lawns near the lake. The chemicals feed algae and contribute to lake pollution we don't need. Try to maintain a protective "green belt" of plants along the shoreline to absorb excess nutrients before they reach the lake.
14. Protect your natural shoreline reeds and plants. They help hold the sand along the shoreline we all enjoy. Please respect your lake and avoid putting leaves, golf balls, trash and any other foreign objects in the lake. (The township has a leaf and grass recycling area on Youker Road.)
15. Most neighbors appreciate and observe quiet hours after 10 p.m. especially those with children and grandchildren. Fireworks are enjoyed most on the holiday also before 10 p.m.
16. Scuba divers or snorkelers must display a diver down flag to mark their diving area. Divers must stay within 100feet of the vertical position of their diver down flag. Vessels must remain at least 200 feet away from the flag. See <https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/things-to-do/boating/rules-and-regs>
17. Do not operate within 100 feet of anyone being towed behind another vessel.
18. You must keep a copy of your registration on your vessel at all times and present it to sheriff or DNR when requested.

Please have these suggestions easily accessible for your visitors and guests to read. Thank you.

This document is provided as suggestions. Visit Michigan.gov for a complete list of boating laws