

Lake Waynoka Lake Advisory Committee

Rule Change Recommendation Summary

December 2023

Boat Size

Most small lake communities specify some limitation on boat size. The primary logic in doing this is not necessarily to restrict standard recreational watercraft but to avoid the possibility of someone registering an oversize watercraft. As an example, many of the cabin cruisers used on the Ohio River waterway exceed forty feet in length.

Recommendation: *Pontoons Maximum Length = 26 feet*
 Power Boat Maximum Length = 24 feet
 All Boats Maximum Beam (Width) = 8.5 feet

Outboard Motors

Using essentially the same logic as restricting boat size, the committee recommends documenting boundaries for the use of outboard motors. Less than 10 years ago a 300HP outboard was not available, but now they are commonly in use. It would be reasonable to expect that available outboard horsepower will continue to increase. In addition, outboard motors can be installed in dual, treble, and even quad configurations, doubling and tripling potential horsepower on a single watercraft. When making this recommendation, the Committee allowed for trolling outboards sometimes used in addition to a large outboard on a fishing boat.

Recommendation: *One outboard motor with a maximum of 300HP and*
 One additional outboard per boat of 25HP or less.

Boater Education

Current Lake Waynoka regulations require that a boat operator born after 1981 must have successfully completed a NABSBLA approved safe boating course and carry evidence of the same on board the watercraft. The above certification is available on-line for a nominal cost and is offered at Lake Waynoka and other Ohio locations by certified trainers on a periodic basis. In the interest of safety, the committee recommends that ALL boat owners and operators be required to take this training to be authorized to operate a watercraft on Lake Waynoka. It is suggested that this requirement be phased in over a period of three years as in the table below.

Recommendation:	<i>1st Year</i>	<i>Communicate Current & Upcoming Certification Requirement</i>
	<i>2nd Year</i>	<i>Require Owner NABSBLA Certification (card) to register boat.</i>
	<i>3rd Year</i>	<i>All operators required to have NABSBLA certification.</i>

Boat Storage on Vacant Lots

A chronic area of concern is the storage of boats on vacant lots. Often boats are left on a lot and abandoned for years. Current state laws restrict what can be done to remove these boats from private property and often the owner is no longer able to be located. The committee suggests amending our rules and/or governing documents to prohibit the storage of watercraft on vacant lots not adjacent to the home of the lot/boat owner, which is allowed per current state law as we interpret it.

Wake Surfing

After extensive research the committee submitted a report to the Board in August of this year detailing any negative effects of wake surfing and wake boarding utilizing watercraft designed for that purpose (wake boats). The report determined that given the water surface area, average depth of water available for this activity at Lake Waynoka and the increasing amount of boat traffic on the lake, environmental and safety concerns were warranted. Environmental concerns include shoreline erosion and sediment resuspension which is a contributing factor to algae/weed growth. Also, the large waves produced by this activity potentially introduce some safety concerns including the potential for swamping small watercraft (i.e. kayaks, canoes).

Algae, Weed, Invasive Species

The committee recognizes that the regulation requiring all watercraft bilges and live wells be flushed is rarely enforced. This practice risks the introduction of toxic algae and other invasive species into our lake. The committee recommends that all security guards be trained to inspect for this requirement and the inspection be conducted on all watercraft coming through the front gate.

Although the committee has not had the time to develop a full report with recommendations from the recent paper received from MAD Scientists Associates, an initial review of the document prompts us to encourage the Board to consider the suggestions given that may reduce mitigating factors and may be easily implemented, such as utilizing lakefront property buffer zones and educating property owners on the negative effects of lawn fertilizers and other practices that may promote algae growth such as blowing leaves in the lake.