

# Boating Rules & Regulations

1. Boats must have one life jacket for every person on board. All persons on personal watercraft (skis, tubes, jet skis, etc) must wear a personal flotation device.
2. Watercraft must be driven **counter**clockwise around the lake.
3. Operating watercraft under the influence of drugs or alcohol is illegal.
4. Be sure the way is clear before you start. A boat already in motion has the right of way. Stay alert and vigilant -- know the "Rules of the Road."
5. Keep watercraft in good working order. Don't overload the boat.
6. Pass or overtake another boat on the left side only.
7. Do not create an unnecessary wake for fishermen, skiers or pontoons. Do not sweep or spray docks, floats or other boats.
8. Motorized watercraft traveling above planing speed must stay at least 100 feet away from docks, rafts, swimmers, and other watercraft. Personal watercraft must stay 150 feet from boats if crossing a wake.
9. An observer (spotter) in boats & jet skis is required when pulling skiers, tubers, etc. Pick up fallen tubers and skiers immediately.
10. Skiing, tubing, etc from a boat is prohibited from one hour after sunset to one hour before sunrise.
11. Skiing, tubing, etc behind a jet ski is prohibited from one hour before sunset until 8:00 am.
12. Operating a jet ski or other personal watercraft is prohibited from sunset until 8:00 am.



13. Be on the lookout for swimmers, fallen water skiers, tubers, etc.
14. Children under age 12 may not operate motorized watercraft without an adult on board. Operators from 12-16 must have a Boater's Safety Certificate.
15. Dumping passengers off personal watercraft is considered "Reckless Endangerment" and carries heavy penalties.
16. Do not stand or allow others to stand in a moving boat.
17. Driving boats at high speed after dark is extremely dangerous.

Refer to the **Handbook! Of Michigan Boating Laws and Responsibilities** for the complete rules & to make sure you are doing everything possible to ensure a safe time on the water.

Support boater safety classes, and remember:

**IGNORANCE OF THE LAW IS NO EXCUSE**

Our lake is patrolled by the Clare County Sheriff's Department, the DNRE (Department of Natural Resources & Environment), and our own Marine Safety Watch Patrol.

**Report violations to the Sheriff's Dept.**

**539-7166**



Perhaps the oldest boat on our lake is the Indian Queen, built c. 1910 (Racine Boat Co.), and restored and relaunched in 2008. Owners: Maggie & Gene Verrette.