

Rules of the Waterways

The Lenawee County Sheriff and the State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) patrol Sand Lake. Residents and their guests are reminded to follow all Michigan boating, fishing, and game rules and regulations. The information is available on line at www.boat-ed.com/michigan/handbook/

Important Highlights

- In general, a person must be age 12 or older to drive a boat
- Safe boating certificates are required for operators younger than 16 years old
- It is illegal to operate a PWC from sunset until 8 am
- It is illegal to operate a boat if ones blood alcohol is above 0.07.
- On inland lakes, boat traffic should move counter-clockwise
- Maintain a safe speed. Maximum inland water speed limit is 55 mph.
- Powered vessels give way to a boat under sail, unless it is overtaking.
- Operators of watercraft must not exceed slow-no wake speed, if within 100 feet of shoreline, any moored or anchored vessel, a dock, raft, any marked swimming area or persons in the water
- PWC operators traveling faster than slow-no wake speed cannot cross within 150 feet behind another vessel other than a another PWC
- It is illegal to jump other vessels' wakes, weave in congested waterways, or purposely drive toward another boat head on which requires the operator(s) to swerve at the last moment
- A boat must have personal floatation devices for all passengers
- Anyone younger than 6 years old must wear a type 1 or 2 personal floatation device
- Riding in the bow of a boat is illegal if the vessel is traveling faster than slow no-wake speed, unless the boat has bow seating
- Do not exceed noise decibel limits. 90 decibels at idle from 3 feet away or 75 decibels when measured from shore
- Use diving flag when diving. Boat operators keep 200 feet away from dive flags
- It is illegal to harass wildlife or disturb vegetation