

BOATING ORDINANCE
(Ord. No. 96-36)

THE JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

An Ordinance to regulate boating upon the rivers and streams in Jefferson County and prescribing penalties for violation thereof.

SECTION 1. APPLICABILITY AND ENFORCEMENT. (a) The provisions of this ordinance shall apply to the rivers and streams in Jefferson County as described below.

(b) The provisions of this ordinance shall be enforced by the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office which is authorized to issue citations in accordance with Section 66.0113, Wis. Stats., for violations of this ordinance.

SECTION 2. INTENT. The intent of this ordinance is to provide safe and healthful conditions for the enjoyment of aquatic recreation consistent with public rights and interests and the capability of the water resources and to permit the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office to issue citations for violations of state boating laws incorporated herein.

SECTION 3. STATE BOATING AND SAFETY LAWS ADOPTED. Sections 30.50 through 30.71, Wis. Stats. (2018) inclusive, are incorporated herein and hereby adopted by reference, including all changes and amendments hereafter made thereto.

SECTION 4. SLOW-NO-WAKE DEFINED. The term Slow-No-Wake shall mean the speed at which a boat moves as slowly as possible while still maintaining steerage control.

SECTION 5. SLOW-NO-WAKE AREA DEFINED. The term "Slow-No-Wake Area" shall mean that area within which boats and/or watercraft shall be operated at the slowest speed at which said boat and/or watercraft can be operated and still maintain forward motion and steering control. Slow-No-Wake Areas shall be so designated by buoys and notices posted at points of public access. No person shall operate a boat and/or watercraft at greater than Slow-No-Wake speed in areas so designated.

SECTION 6. SLOW-NO-WAKE DURING HIGH WATER. No person shall operate a boat and/or watercraft at greater than Slow-No-Wake speed on Any portion of the Rock River downstream from the Dodge/Jefferson County lines to the West Milwaukee Street Bridge when the water level at the USGS gauge 0542550 (Rock River @ Watertown) is 3.5 feet above Datum gauge height of 792.38; and no person shall operate a boat and/or watercraft at greater than Slow-No-Wake speed on any portion of the Rock River downstream from the West Milwaukee Street Bridge (Watertown) to Lake Koshkonong when the water level at the USGS gauge 05427235 (Lake Koshkonong near Newville) is 8 feet above Datum gauge height of 769.77. [Ord. 2014-26, 11-12-14].

SECTION 7. DESIGNATED SLOW-NO-WAKE AREAS. No person shall operate a boat and/or watercraft faster than Slow-No-Wake speed in the waters of the Rock River between the following coordinates at any time:

- latitude 42.893815°N, longitude -88.905639°W and latitude 42.895962°N, longitude -88.903109°W.
- latitude 42.894193°N, longitude -88.905856°W and latitude 42.896203°N, longitude -88.903582 W

SECTION 8. POSTING REQUIREMENTS. Jefferson County shall place and maintain a synopsis of this ordinance at all public access points within the jurisdiction of Jefferson County pursuant to the requirements of NR 5.15, Wis. Adm. Code.

SECTION 9. PENALTIES. For violations of the incorporated statutory sections above, the penalties shall be the Wisconsin State Boating Penalties as found in Section 30.80, Wis. Stats., and deposits shall be as stated in the Uniform Deposit and Bail Schedule established by the Wisconsin Judicial Conferences, which are hereby adopted by reference, with all references to fines being amended to forfeitures and all references to imprisonment being deleted.

SECTION 10. SCHEDULE OF CASH DEPOSITS. Jefferson County Ordinance No. 96-17 is hereby amended to include the applicable portions of the Uniform Deposit and Bail Schedule described above for citations issued for violations of this ordinance.

SECTION 11. SEVERABILITY. The provisions of this ordinance shall be deemed severable and it is expressly declared that Jefferson County 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 circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the ordinance and the application of such provisions to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected.

SECTION 12. EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance amendment shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication as required by Wisconsin law.

Ord. No. 96-36 adopted 03/11/1997; published 03/15/1997

Amended: 11-12-14, 07-9-19, 05-09-23