

STATE OF WISCONSIN
Town of Saint Germain, Vilas County

Code of Ordinances
Chapter 19: Boating on Town Lakes
Adopted May 11, 2020

19.01 GENERAL PROVISIONS:

- (A) Purpose: This chapter provides safe and healthful conditions for the enjoyment of aquatic recreation consistent with public rights and interests and the capability of the water resources.
- (B) Applicability: Except as expressly provided herein, the provisions of this chapter shall apply to each named and unnamed inland lake of which at least 60% of the shoreline footage is located within the Town.
- (C) Authority: The Town has the general authority to enact this ordinance under its village powers of §60.22, Wis. Stats. and specific authority under §§30.77(2) and 30.77(3), Wis. stats.
- (D) Adopted: Wisconsin boating and water safety laws as found in §30.50 through §30.70, Wis. Stats., and in the rules and regulations of the WDNR established pursuant to said statutory provisions, are adopted herein by reference, including those laws and rules and regulations adopted therein by the State or the WDNR subsequent to the enactment of this chapter. Any act required to be performed or prohibited by the provisions of any said statute, rule or regulation adopted herein by reference is required to be performed or prohibited by this chapter.
- (E) Enforcement: This chapter may be enforced by law enforcement officers of the Town, the Vilas County Sheriff's Office and the WDNR. The statutory provisions of § 66.115, 66.119, 66.12, 30.50 to 30.70 and Chapter 799, Wis. Stats. are adopted and by reference made a part of this chapter as if fully set forth herein. Any future additions, amendments, revisions or modifications of the statutes incorporated herein are intended to be made part of this chapter in order to secure uniform state-wide regulation and enforcement of boating ordinance violations. The Town specifically elects to use the citation method of enforcement.
- (F) Penalties: Wisconsin state boating penalties as found in §30.80, Wis. Stats., and deposits established in the Uniform Deposit and Bail Schedule established by the Wisconsin Judicial Conferences, are hereby adopted by reference and all references to fines amended to forfeitures and all references to imprisonment are deleted.

19.02 SEVERABILITY: The provisions of this chapter shall be deemed severable and it is expressly declared that the Town Board would have passed the other provisions of this chapter irrespective of whether or not one or more provisions may be declared invalid. If any provision of this chapter or its application to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the remainder of the chapter and the application of such provisions to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected.

19.03 DEFINITIONS: In this chapter,

Aids to Navigation means buoys, beacons and other fixed objects in the water which are used to mark obstructions to navigation or to direct navigation through safe channels.

Boating Law Administrator means a Bureau of Law Enforcement staff person whose specific responsibilities include boat safety, education, boating enforcement, waterway marker permits, boat accident investigations, patrol funding, boating ordinances, boat theft, lien fraud prevention, underwater archeological protection, managing federal boating grants, and the development of public service announcements and other media articles. Additional responsibilities include the development of proposed legislation and the drafting of natural resource rules related to boating issues.

Boat, Watercraft means any device used for navigation on water.

Condition Report means a report that is compiled by the governing entity that addresses the questions of why the proposed related boating ordinance is necessary.

Governing Entity means any county, city, village, town, town sanitary district, or public inland lake protection and rehabilitation district.

Non-Regulatory Markers means buoys and other fixed objects in the water which are used to mark navigational channels, hazards, other dangerous areas or to provide general information to the boating public.

Ordinary High Water Mark means the point on the bank of a navigable stream or on the shore of a lake up to which the presence and action of surface water is so continuous as to leave a distinctive mark by erosion, destruction of terrestrial vegetation, or other easily recognized characteristics under s. 236.025(2), Wis. Stats.

Person means a natural person, sole proprietorship, partnership, limited liability, company, corporation, association, or the owner of a single-owner entity that is disregarded as a separate entity under §71, Wis. stats.

Recreation Warden (RW) means a conservation warden who provides training and guidance to local and county law enforcement boating, snowmobile and all-terrain-vehicle safety patrols and who assists governing entities in the drafting and review of recreational related ordinances. RWs enforce recreational safety laws, conduct accident investigations and review accident reports.

Slow-No-Wake means that speed at which a boat moves as slowly as possible while still maintaining steerage control.

Swimming raft means a flat, buoyant structure anchored in a lake and used by water recreationists.

Town means the Town of St. Germain, Vilas County, Wisconsin.

Town board means the board of supervisors for the Town of St. Germain, Vilas County, Wisconsin, and includes designees of the board authorized to act for the board.

Waterbody Identification Code (WBIC) means a 7-digit state assigned number uniquely identifying a "waterbody".

WDNR means the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Wis. stats. means the Wisconsin Statutes, including successor provisions to cited statutes.

19.04 SPEED RESTRICTIONS: No person shall operate a boat or watercraft at greater than Slow-No-Wake speed as authorized in approved WDNR Waterway Marker Permits, on:

(A) Alma Lake (WBIC 967900):

(1) Anywhere or any time.

(2) Between the Slow-No-Wake buoys in the channel between and Alma and Moon Lakes

(B) Big. St. Germain Lake (WBIC1591100): Between the Slow-No-Wake buoys in the channels between Big St. Germain Lake and:

(1) Lake Content (WBIC 1592000).

(2) Fawn Lake (WBIC 2328900).

(C) Fawn Lake, WBIC 2328900: Anywhere or any time

(D) Found Lake (WBIC 1593800): Between the Slow-No-Wake buoys in East Bay

(E) Little St. Germain Lake (WBIC 1596300): Between the Slow-No-Wake buoys:

(1) Between No Fish Bay and West Bay.

(2) Between No Fish Bay and South Bay.

(F) Moon Lake (WBIC 1005800):

(1) Anywhere between the hours of 5:00pm and 10:00am.

(2) Between the Slow-No-Wake buoys in the channel between Moon and Alma Lakes

19.05 MOTORIZED BOAT PROHIBITION: No person may operate a boat or watercraft propelled by an internal combustion engine or engines anywhere on the following lakes in St. Germain (electric motors are allowed):

Deadman Lake, 15 acres, WBIC 980000

Little Bass Lake, 26 acres, WBIC 998400

No Name (Engel) Lake, 4 acres, WBIC 1161500

Shannon Lake, 35 acres, WBIC 1016800

19.06 WATERWAY MARKERS (BUOYS) PROTECTION: Unauthorized relocation of waterway markers, anchoring watercraft to waterway markers, or any other form of tampering with waterway markers is prohibited and subject to the forfeiture provisions of this chapter.

19.07 FORFEITURE: Any person who violates any provisions of this chapter may, in addition to State or County enforcement actions, be subject to a Town forfeiture of \$100.00 plus court costs for the first violation, \$200.00 plus court costs for the second violation and \$300.00 plus court costs for all subsequent violations.

19.08 RESCIND AND REPLACE: This chapter rescinds and replaces Town of St. Germain Ordinances:

- (A) Ordinance #1 to Regulate the Use and Speed of Motor Boats on All Waters Within the Town, adopted June 04, 1969;
- (B) Ordinance to Regulate Water Traffic, Boating and Water Sports Upon The Waters of Alma Lake and Moon Lake, adopted June 2, 1984
- (C) Ordinance SG-1999-6-1 to Regulate Boating and Other Activities on Inland Lakes in the Town of St. Germain, adopted September 13, 1999
- (D) Ordinance SG07-01-01 to Regulate Boating Upon the Waters of the Town of St. Germain, adopted January 8, 2007

19.09 EFFECTIVE DATE: This chapter shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of its town board passage and notice after passage per §60.80 Wis. stat.

Adopted this 11th day of May 2020



Tom Christensen
Town Chairman

Attest



June Vogel
Town Clerk