

ORDINANCE # 2025-1

An ordinance repealing and recreating Ordinances #1983-1, #1985-1, 2008-1, 20210-1, and any other Town ordinance regulating water traffic, boating and water sports upon the waters of Pleasant Lake, located in the Town of Coloma and the Town of Springfield, and prescribing penalties for violation thereof.

Section 1. Intent

The intent of this ordinance is to provide safe and healthful conditions for the enjoyment of aquatic recreation consistent with public rights and interest and the capability of the water resource.

Section 2. Applicability and Enforcement

The provisions of this ordinance shall apply to the waters of Pleasant Lake located within the jurisdiction of the Town of Coloma, Waushara County, Wisconsin and within the jurisdiction of the Town of Springfield, Marquette County, Wisconsin.

Section 3. State of Wisconsin Boating and Safety Laws Adopted

All State of Wisconsin boating laws, specifically including Chapter 30, Wis. Stats, together with amendments thereto, are adopted by reference. To the extent that this Ordinance conflicts with State Statutes, the applicable State Statute shall apply.

Section 4. Definitions in the Ordinance

- A. "Swimming Area" means an authorized area of water established by regulatory markers to designate a swimming area.
- B. "Public Access" means any access to the water by means of public property.
- C. "Slow-no-wake" means that speed at which a boat moves as slowly as possible while still maintaining steerage control.
- D. "Boat" means every description of water craft other than a sea plane on the water used or being capable of being used, as a means of transportation on the water.
- E. "Motor Boat" means any boat equipped with propulsion machinery, whether or not the machinery is a principal source of propulsion.

Section 5. Boat Operation

- A. All boats and motorboats operating on Pleasant Lake, in the area designated as no-wake and marked as such, shall only operate at a slow-no-wake speed.
- B. No person shall operate a boat in excess of slow-no-wake speed, except during the hours from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. During the hours from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM, all boats shall be operated in a Counter Clockwise direction on the lake.
- C. Artificial Wake Enhancement Prohibited.
 - 1. Prohibited Equipment. No person may use or employ ballast tanks, ballast bags or fins to cause a boat to operate in a bow-high manner, or which increases or enhances a boat's wake.

- bags, or mechanical fins, or continuous operation at transition speed (the speed below planing speed in which a boat is operating in plowing mode).
3. **Certain Operations Excluded.** In no event shall any of the following operations be deemed a violation of this Ordinance, provided such operations do not use or employ ballast tanks, ballast bags or wake enhancing fins:
- a) water skiing,
 - b) tubing,
 - c) wake boarding employing a tow rope;
 - d) brief transition operation to empty a boat of bilge water, or
 - e) brief transition operation of a boat accelerating into a planing condition.

NOTE: Paragraph B is necessary due to the damage this activity causes to shorelines and property, and in producing other negative environmental effects. Wisconsin Statute 30.68(4)(b) supports the protection of property and from action of boat wakes. Wisconsin Administrative Code NR40 prohibits transport of invasive species from one Wisconsin water body to another.

Section 6. Swimming and Water Skiing

- A. **Time:** Water skiing, aquaplaning and similar activities are allowed only between the hours of 11:00 AM and 3:00 PM daily.
- B. **Use of Personal Flotation Device:** No person shall engage in water skiing, aquaplaning, or similar activity unless they are wearing a United States Coast Guard approved flotation device.
- C. **Swimming Distance from Shore:** No person shall swim more than 200 feet from shore unless accompanied by a competent person in a boat and having readily available a United States Coast Guard approved Personal Flotation Device for each person on board and in the water.
- D. **Floating Devices:** No person shall float more than 200 feet from shore in, or on, an inner tube or similar floating device unless accompanied by a competent person in a boat and having readily available a United States Coast Guard approved Personal Flotation Device for each person on board and on the floating device.
- E. **Scuba Diving:** When scuba diving, divers must display at all times, a regulation dive flag visible from the surface and marking their position and movement.

Section 7. Restricted Areas

- A. No person shall operate a boat, except for emergency or rescue operations, within the Town of Coloma's designated official buoyed swimming area.
- B. The Town of Coloma, Waushara County, Wisconsin is authorized to place said buoys.

Section 8. Penalties

- A. Any person violating any provision of this Ordinance shall forfeit not more than \$500 for the first offense.

- A. Any person violating any provision of this Ordinance shall forfeit not more than \$500 for the first offense.
- B. Any person violating the same provision of this Ordinance within one year of the previous violation shall forfeit not more than \$1000.

Section 9. Severability

If any provision of this Ordinance or application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the Ordinance and the application of such provision to other persons and/or circumstances, shall not be deemed affected.

Section 10. Enforcement

This Ordinance shall be enforced by any law enforcement officer authorized to enforce the laws of the State of Wisconsin.

This Ordinance becomes effective upon publication and posting. The Town Clerk of Coloma and the Town Clerk of Springfield shall promptly publish and post this ordinance as required under Wisconsin Statutes.

Adopted by Town of Coloma this 3rd of June, 2025

Richard Jackson William Palazzo sup II
Chairman, Richard Jackson

Terri Jackson -W#88 sup I
Town Clerk, Terri Jackson

Adopted by Town of Springfield this 10th of July, 2025

Terry Janke
Chairman, Terry Janke

Megan Hockerman
Town Clerk, Megan Hockerman