

TOWN OF RICE LAKE

ORDINANCE #21-102

REGULATIONS FOR BOATING, LAKE ACCESSES, DOCKS, PARKS AND CEMETERIES

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SECTION 1. INTENT.

The intent of this ordinance is to regulate certain activities on lake accesses, docks, parks and property owned by the Town of Rice Lake in order to enhance and promote to the fullest the public's use, enjoyment and safety of such designated areas.

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS.

- A. **BODIES OF WATER.** The bodies of water covered by this ordinance shall be the Red Cedar River, Rice Lake, Moon Lake, Desair Lake, Stump Lake, Lake Montanis, and Lake Tuscobia.
- B. **DOCK.** Any wood, metal, concrete or otherwise non-natural structure erected, placed, constructed or built by the Town of Rice Lake for recreational or economic purposes which abuts or extends into or on or over a body of water.
- C. **PUBLIC ACCESS AREA.** Any location within the Town of Rice Lake where the public has access to the bodies of water by the use of lands which have been dedicated to the public or are owned by the Town of Rice Lake and from which boats and other watercraft are launched from public facilities constructed for that purpose.
- D. **POWER LAUNCHING.** Power launch and/or recovery of watercraft driven onto or off trailers by the watercraft's propulsion system.
- E. **PARKS AND PUBLIC LANDS.** All grounds, structures and watercourses which are or may be located within any area dedicated to the public use as a park, cemetery, parkway, recreation facility, boat launch, walking trail or conservancy district in the town.
- F. **TOWN.** The Town of Rice Lake, Barron County, Wisconsin.
- G. **DRONE.** An unmanned aircraft or ship that can navigate autonomously, without human control or beyond the line of sight.

SECTION 3. BOATING.

- A. **State boating and safety laws adopted.** State boating laws as found in ss. 30.50 to 30.71, Wis. Stats., are adopted by reference here.

B. Governance.

1. Boating and water safety on all bodies of water shall be governed by the Department of Natural Resources and/or other state agencies authorized by the Wisconsin Statutes.
2. This ordinance shall be enforced by the officers of the water safety patrol of Barron County and WI DNR wardens.

C. No Wake Zones.

1. No person shall operate a boat in the following areas at a speed faster than "Slow – No Wake", as defined in 30.50(12), Wisconsin Statutes, which states "that speed at which a boat moves as slow as possible while still maintaining steerage control."
 - a. Moon Lake - the entire area of the lake.
 - b. Desair Lake - the entire area of the lake.
2. Notice to public. The Town of Rice Lake shall place and maintain signs at all public access points within the jurisdiction of the Town on applicable lakes to advise the public of the provisions of this Section.

SECTION 4. PUBLIC ACCESS AREAS TO BODIES OF WATERS.

A. Illegal parking, stopping or standing.

1. No person shall park, stop or leave standing any motor vehicle or boat trailer upon any street, turnaround area, boat launch ramp, or grounds in a public access area where parking, stopping or standing is prohibited. Such parking, stopping or standing is declared to be a hazard to traffic and public safety. The operator, upon request of any police officer, shall remove a motor vehicle or boat trailer to a location where such parking, stopping or standing is permitted or will be cited.
2. Any police officer, after issuing a citation for illegal parking, stopping or standing, is authorized to remove such motor vehicle or boat trailer. The officer may order a licensed towing service which provides vehicle towing services to remove and store such vehicle or trailer in any storage garage, rental parking grounds or any other facility of the person providing towing services. In addition to the penalty provided herein, the owner or operator of such vehicle or boat trailer so removed shall be responsible to pay the cost of towing and storage prior to the return of such motor vehicle or trailer.

B. Boat Launch Ramp.

1. Launching of boats and other motorized watercraft shall be allowed by members of the public at existing boat ramps.
2. Usage Fees. The Town may establish and impose a fee for either a single use permit or annual pass for use of boat launch ramps within the Town. Said fee shall be as set forth in the Town's Fee Schedule as so adopted from time to time. Signs shall be posted in the vicinity of the boat ramp advising the public of the allowable use, the fees imposed, and how to obtain a pass or permit.

C. Power launching prohibited. Launched vessels must be floated and the trailer then pulled out from beneath; and the recovered vessels must be floated or pulled onto the trailer by a winch or other mechanism.

D. Docks.

1. **Establishment.** The Town may from time to time establish, build, erect, construct or place a dock adjacent to, abutting into or on or over a body of water to allow for the citizens of the Town of Rice Lake to use said dock for recreational purposes.
2. **Designated Uses.**
 - a. All docks within the Town shall be used exclusively for the loading or unloading of boats and watercraft. Activities that are prohibited include swimming off or near the docks and boat ramps, loitering on any ramp or dock, or interfering with the proper use of the lake access. As used in this Section, "loitering" means to remain in an area for no obvious reason or justification. No other purpose is allowed unless authorized by the Town Board, and in such case proper signage shall be posted at the site. The Town may designate a particular use for any dock established, built, erected, constructed or placed by the Town and may limit the particular uses of any dock to the exclusion of other uses. Such uses may include the mooring of watercraft, swimming, fishing, bait storage and commercial loading or unloading.
 - b. A dock owned by the Town and posted by any sign limiting or permitting specific use shall be used exclusively for the use permitted or the use not prohibited. Said uses shall be determined and approved by the Town Board of Supervisors.

SECTION 5. PARKS, CEMETERIES AND PUBLIC LANDS.

A. Specific Regulations.

1. **Littering Prohibited.** No person shall litter, dump or deposit any rubbish, refuse, earth or other material in any park or public land.
2. **Sound devices.** No person shall operate or play any amplifying system unless specific authority is first obtained from the Town.
3. **Pets.** Dogs, cats or other pets are prohibited in any park or public land unless on a leash and under control. The only exceptions will be trained service animals solely used by special needs individuals, or upon prior approval by the Town Board.
4. **Postings.** No person shall post, paste, fasten, paint or attach any placard, bill, notice, sign or advertising matter upon any structure, tree or other natural object in any park or public land, except park regulations and other signs authorized by the Town Board of Supervisors.
5. **Throwing stones and missiles prohibited.** No person shall throw stones or other missiles in or into any park or public land.
6. **Removal of park equipment and relocation of boat launch docks prohibited.** No person shall remove benches, seats, tables or other park equipment from any park or public land. No person shall remove, relocate or alter the placement of any dock located on public lands.
7. **Trapping.** No person shall trap in any park or public land unless specific written authority is first obtained from the Town Board.
8. **Making of fires.** No person shall start, tend or maintain a fire except in personal grills or designated fireplaces. Personal grills shall be used only in designated picnic areas. The use of personal grills is permitted, provided that lawns and vegetation are not endangered. Unburned fuel and ashes shall be disposed of in such a manner as to prevent fire or damage to any property within a park or public land.
9. **Protection of property.** No person shall kill, injure or disturb or attempt to injure or disturb waterfowl, birds or animals, wild or domestic, within any park or public land without first obtaining approval from the Town Board or their designee. No person shall climb any tree or remove flowers or fruit, wild or cultivated, or break, cut down, trample upon, remove or in any manner injure, deface, write upon or ill use any tree, shrub, flower, flower bed, turf, soil, sand, fountain, ornament, building, structure, apparatus, dock, bench, table, official notice, sign or

other property within any park or public land without first obtaining approval from the Town Board or their designee.

10. **Motorized vehicles.** No person shall operate an unlicensed or licensed motorized vehicle outside of areas specifically designated as parking areas or areas where the operation of such vehicles is specifically permitted.
11. **Snowmobiles.** No person shall operate a snowmobile in a Town park or public land except in designated areas.
12. **Speed limit.** No person shall operate any vehicle in a Town park or public land in excess of 15 miles per hour unless otherwise posted.
13. **Glass beverage bottles in parks and on public lands prohibited.** No person shall possess any glass beverage bottle on park or public lands within the Town.
14. **Alcohol beverages.** No alcohol beverages shall be consumed by any person in any Town park or public land between the hours of 10:00 pm and 6:00 am without the written permission of the Town Board or their designee.
15. **Reckless driving in parks prohibited.** No person shall operate a motor vehicle in a reckless manner in any of the public parks or lake accesses of the Town.
16. **Parking in parks or on public lands.** No person shall park any motor vehicle in any park or public land except in a designated parking area or in any park or public land after closing times.
17. **Radio-controlled model airplanes and drones.** No person shall fly a radio-controlled model airplane or drone in any park or public land in the Town except in areas specifically designated and posted for such purpose.
18. **Use of metal detectors on public property.** The use of metal detectors and digging for buried objects on Town property, except beaches where no vegetation is present, is prohibited unless authorization has first been obtained by the Town Board or their designee.
19. **Public access areas and park hours.** All Town public access areas and parks shall be closed between 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. Vehicles and persons are prohibited on Town public accesses and parks between said hours for any purpose, without the written permission of the Town Board of Supervisors of the Town of Rice Lake or their designee. Overnight camping is strictly prohibited.
20. **Unattended watercraft.** No motorboat, sailboat, canoe, kayak, launch or any other boat or watercraft or equipment of any kind shall be parked, left unattended, stored or kept upon property of the Town, including any Town Park or lake access, other than in designated parking areas, such areas and times to be specified by written permission of the Town Board or its designee. Any watercraft or equipment left on Town property unattended or after the hours specified in Section 5.A.19 of this ordinance shall be subject to removal, towing charges, and fines to be paid by the owner as written in Section 7 of this ordinance.
21. **Feeding of waterfowl or other wildlife prohibited.** No person shall feed any waterfowl or wildlife on Town owned property.
22. **Swimming.** Swimming or diving from the docks, bridges, or from any other structure located in a park or on public land is prohibited.
23. **Trash.** All trash must be placed in designated containers. Batteries, oil, and other wastes cannot be placed in trash containers. These substances are considered hazardous and must be discarded properly in containers so designated for hazardous wastes.
24. **Noise.** It shall be unlawful to make or cause to be made any noise or sound of such volume or of such a nature as to cause annoyance to other individuals. Quiet time must be observed between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.
25. **Cemeteries.** The Town Board shall establish policies and procedures for managing town cemeteries including lot sales and transfers, visitor rules, privileges and restrictions for lot

owners, burial and monument rules. Said policies and procedures shall be available for viewing in the clerk's office. Sections 6 and 7 of this ordinance shall apply to all violations of cemetery rules, policies, and procedures.

SECTION 6. ENFORCEMENT.

This Ordinance may be enforced by the issuance of a citation to any violator of this Ordinance by any Sheriff or Deputy Sheriff of the County of Barron, State of Wisconsin, by any State of Wisconsin Officer with police powers, or by any other Law Enforcement Officer employed by the Town.

SECTION 7. VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES.

Wisconsin state boating penalties as found in s. 30.80, Wis. Stats. and deposits as established in the Uniform Deposit and Bail Schedule established by Wisconsin Judicial Conference, are hereby adopted by reference and all references to fines amended to forfeitures and all references to imprisonment deleted.

Any person, partnership, corporation, or other legal entity that fails to comply with the provisions of this ordinance shall be subject to a forfeiture of not less than \$100 or more than \$500, plus the applicable surcharges, assessments, and court costs for each violation. Each day a violation exists or continues constitutes a separate offense under this ordinance. In addition, the town board may seek injunctive relief from a court of record to enjoin further violations.

SECTION 8. REPEAL.

This Ordinance hereby repeals Ordinance #79-103 "Prohibiting Overnight Parking on Public Access Roads", Ordinance #96-108 "Boating Ordinance for Desair Lake" and Ordinance #01-102 "Boating Ordinance for Moon Lake". All other ordinances or part of ordinances of the Town of Rice Lake, Barron County inconsistent or conflicting with this ordinance, to the extent of the inconsistency only, are hereby repealed.

SECTION 9. SEVERABILITY.


The provision of the ordinance shall be deemed severable. If any provision of this ordinance or the application to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the remainder of the ordinance and the application of such provisions to other person's circumstances shall not be deemed affected.


SECTION 10. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This ordinance shall become effective upon its publication and/or posting in the manner provided for by law.


Adopted this 12th day of July, 2021.

AYES 5 NAYS 0


Dean A. Borofka, Chairman


Peter W. Gallagher, Town Supervisor


David Crotteau, Town Supervisor


Brooke Harycki, Town Supervisor


Donald Putnam, Town Supervisor

Posted: July 13, 2021

Published: July 21, 2021