

Prohibited Methods of Operation

It is unlawful:

- To operate a motorboat or use water skis, aquaplane or similar device while under the influence of an intoxicant or a controlled substance. The use of intoxicants impairs a boat operator's senses and judgment. Intoxicants are related to 30% of all boating accidents. In Wisconsin, all motor boat operators are deemed to have given consent to a blood alcohol test.

		Body Weight in Pounds							
		100	120	140	160	180	200	220	240
Number of Drinks	1	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
	2	0.08	0.06	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.03
	3	0.11	0.09	0.08	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.05	0.05
	4	0.15	0.12	0.11	0.09	0.08	0.08	0.07	0.06
	5	0.19	0.16	0.13	0.12	0.11	0.09	0.09	0.08
	6	0.23	0.19	0.16	0.14	0.13	0.11	0.1	0.09
	7	0.26	0.22	0.19	0.16	0.15	0.13	0.12	0.11
	8	0.3	0.25	0.21	0.19	0.17	0.15	0.14	0.13
	9	0.34	0.28	0.24	0.21	0.19	0.17	0.15	0.14
	10	0.38	0.31	0.27	0.23	0.21	0.19	0.17	0.16

Key:

- Impaired (may be under the influence)
- Under the influence
- Absolutely Do Not operate

It is unlawful:

- To fail to stop for duly authorized patrol boat displaying a blue light or requesting you to stop by any other method.
- To operate or use any boat, or manipulate any water skis, aquaplane or similar device in a careless, negligent, or reckless manner so as to endanger his or her life, property or the life, property or person of another.
- For any person in charge or control of a boat to authorize or permit the boat to be operated by any person who is knowingly physically or mentally incapable of operating such boat under the prevailing circumstances.
- To operate a motorboat repeatedly in a circuitous course within 200 feet around any other boat or around any person who is swimming.
- For any boat or water skier to operate or approach closer than 100 feet to any skin diver's flag or any swimmer unless the boat is part of the skin diving operation or is accompanying the swimmer.
- While operating a motorboat to allow any person to ride or sit on the gunwales, tops of seat, backs or sides or on the decking over the bow while under way, unless such person is inboard of guards or railings provided on the boat to prevent passengers from being lost overboard, except for anchoring, mooring or cast off.
- It is further recommended that on fishing boats (i.e. bass boats etc.) with carpeted decks, no person remain on the carpeted deck when the boat is moving faster than idle speed. Use only permanently attached, true seats.
- To operate a boat within an area clearly marked in accordance with law by buoys or some other distinguishing device as a bathing or swimming area or other restricted use area, except in the case of emergency or patrol or rescue craft.

- To move, remove, molest, tamper with, destroy or attempt to destroy or moor or fasten a boat (except to mooring buoys) to any navigation aids or regulatory markers.
- To anchor, place, affix, or abandon any unattended boat, raft, float or similar structure in the traveled portion of any river, channel, or in any traffic lanes established and legally marked, so as to prevent, impede or interfere with safe passage of any other boat through the same.
- To operate any boat beyond the safe carrying capacity of passengers or cargo or to equip a boat with propulsion in excess of its safe power capacity, taking into consideration existing operating conditions.
- To unnecessarily sound any sound-producing device on any boat or to use a siren except on authorized patrol boats.
- **To operate contrary to any legally posted municipal boating ordinances.**