

Watch Your Wake

The impacts of Boat Wake

Lake users receive a great deal of enjoyment from various recreational boating activities. Over the last 40 years the use of motorized recreational water-crafts have increased significantly. The recreational activities we do on the water can have many impacts on lake health. If we adapt our recreational activities to include good lake stewardship we can minimize our impacts and help preserve habitat for future generations.



Boat Wakes Can:

- Drown bird nests and their young
- Cause shoreline erosion and can even cause banks to collapse
- In shallow waters, boat wake and boat propeller wash can disturb sediment on the lake bottom and release nutrients, which can result in increased plant growth, algal blooms, and fish kills
- Cause damage to boats that are secured to docks and boat docking and mooring hardware
- Cause inexperienced swimmers and children to get overturned
- Passengers of neighboring boats can lose their balance and can even be thrown overboard

5 Ways You can be Wake Wise:

- 1) Be aware of your wake size during displacement, transition, and planning speeds
- 2) Look behind you to see and understand the impact your boat wake has on shorelines, swimmers, and docks and adjust your speed and direction as necessary
- 3) Reduce your speed below 10km/h when you are within 30m of the shore
- 4) Utilize deeper parts of the lake for sporting and high speeds
- 5) When purchasing a new boat consider the size of wake the boat will produce