

LAKE SAFETY TIPS/MARITIME LAWS

INDIAN LAKE

1. **PLEASE** drive the correct direction around the lake. All Boats and Personal Water Craft (PWC) are to be driven COUNTER-CLOCKWISE around the lake.
2. PWC are to remain AT A MINIMUM 100 FEET from all OTHER BOATS AND PWC, SWIMMERS, DOCKS, SWIM RAFTS, AND SHORE, unless operated at a slow, no-wake speed.
3. Boats are to remain AT A MINIMUM 100 FEET from all OTHER BOATS AND PWC, SWIMMERS, DOCKS, SWIM RAFTS, AND SHORE, unless operated at a slow, no-wake speed.
4. Therefore, there should be no wake in the channel, and it is VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE to have a wake in the southwest cove or in the cove west of the flag and be in compliance with the above distance laws.
5. All riders of PWC, tubes, and skiers must wear a Personal Flotation Device (PFD).
6. All boats and PWC towing a tube or skier must have a spotter.
7. All PWC towing a tube or skier must have available seating capacity for all participants – i.e. a three person PWC is required to tow a tube: a driver, a spotter and the individual on a tube.
8. Please remember, the sheriff or Conservation Officer can cite you for driving a boat or PWC while intoxicated, resulting in the same penalty as driving a vehicle while intoxicated (i.e. jail). The BAC (Blood Alcohol Content) legal limit is now .08 while driving a boat, the same as driving a vehicle. This was changed this year – reduced from .10.
9. The sheriff is concentrating on: the number of life jackets in the boat, boat lights, interference by docks/swim rafts, and alcohol as noted at the Indian Lake Association meeting last year.
10. Take a minute to consider your liability when handing the keys to your Ski Boat, PWC, Pontoon, etc. to your children, friends, and lake guests. Do they understand lake safety and etiquette? Would you be just as eager to grant the same access to your sports car?
11. When lake levels are high at various times, please try to keep lake activities such as water-skiing, tubing, and wake-boarding in the center of the lake or near the ski course.