

## SUMMARY OF JOINT UNIFORM LAKE LAW ORDINANCES - GENEVA LAKE, WISCONSIN

### **SPEED LIMITS:**

45 MPH - Weekdays (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday until NOON on Friday)

35 MPH – Weekends (Friday at NOON – Sunday) & ALL Holidays

15 MPH – Night (Sunset to Sunrise)

**CARELESS, NEGLIGENT, OR RECKLESS OPERATORS:** No person shall operate or use any boat powered by an engine or any other boat, or manipulate any water skis, aquaplane or similar device in or upon the waters of Geneva Lake in a careless, negligent, or reckless manner so as to endanger another person's life, safety or property of another.

**ZONES, AREAS AND RESTRICTIONS:** All areas marked by buoys and/or regulatory markers and properly permitted by the DNR and local municipalities are so designated as swimming zones.

The traffic area shall be beyond 200 feet distant and parallel to the shoreline, and 100 feet from any dock, raft, pier, structure, mooring area or buoyed restricted area.

Traffic lights. Any municipality may install and operate boat traffic lights and when so installed and operating they must be obeyed by all boat or other watercraft operators using such traffic area.

No water traffic outside the traffic area shall exceed the "slow-no-wake" speed limit.

**SWIMMING: Swimming From Boats.** No person shall swim from any boat unless such boat is anchored or the boat is manned by a competent person.

Swimming in Traffic Area. No person shall swim in the traffic area unless accompanied by a boat manned by a competent person. Such boat shall stay within 50 feet of and guard such swimmer. This paragraph is subject to the provisions set forth in paragraph 3 below.

No person shall swim in the traffic area from sunset to sunrise.

**WATER SKIING:** All water skiing is limited to the traffic area.

No watercraft which shall have in tow a person or persons on water skis, surf-boards, or similar devices shall be operated upon Geneva Lake unless such watercraft shall be occupied by at least 2 competent persons. One person shall operate the boat and observe boat traffic at all times and the second shall observe the towed person.

Any person using water skis, an aquaplane or a similar device, or any person who is towed in any manner by a watercraft or other means shall wear a United States Coast Guard approved Personal Flotation Device.

**SPEARFISHING:** Under or in water spear fishing is prohibited within 100' of municipal piers, harbors, (Lake Geneva/Riviera, Williams Bay, Fontana, Linn Pier/Trinke Estates, Abbey Harbor) and marinas.

**LITTERING OR POLLUTING:** No person shall deposit, place or throw any cans, bottles, debris, refuse, garbage, solid or liquid waste, sewage or effluent into the waters of the lake or upon the ice when formed or cause or permit the same to be done by any agent or employee.

## **BOAT SAFE, BOAT SMART!**

### **SUGGESTIONS FOR SAFE BOATING**

- Leave Alcohol on Shore.
- Stay Alert, Be Aware.
- Use and maintain the right safety equipment.
- Wear USCG Approved Personal Flotation Device.
- Be weather wise.
- Follow navigation and other rules on the water.
- Tell someone where you are going and estimated time returning.

### **10 MOST COMMON BOATING VIOLATIONS ON GENEVA LAKE**

1. Operate a PWC greater than Slow No Wake within 100' of another boat.
2. Riding on gunwales or deck.
3. Violate Slow No Wake.
4. Speeding.
5. Towing a water skier without observer.
6. Failure to display registration or decal.
7. Failure to register boat.
8. Failure to have proper number of PFD's.
9. Operate a boat at night without required lights.
10. Operate a boat while intoxicated.

### **CONTACTS**

#### **EMERGENCY – 911**

**GENEVA LAKE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY**  
PIER 422  
P.O. BOX 416, FONTANA, WI 53125  
262-248-3132 DISPATCH 262-245-9824 OFFICE

#### **WATER SAFETY PATROL** PIER 351

451 OUTING STREET, P.O. BOX 548  
WILLIAMS BAY, WI 53191  
262-245-6577

[WWW.WATERSAFETYPATROL.ORG](http://WWW.WATERSAFETYPATROL.ORG)

Revised: 3/2018  
Update 06/30/21