

SPRING/
SUMMER
2022



WEQUAQUET LAKE PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION, INC.

People that care about Lake Wequaquet



A Word from the WLPAs President

Hello All,

The summer is fast approaching, and our beautiful lake will be filled with happy bathers and boaters before you know it. But at this time I would like to remind everyone again about rethinking the maintenance of their lawns to coincide with the preservation of Cape Cod. Barnstable has advised residents to discontinue the use of fertilizers on their lawns. This isn't just to preserve our lake, but to also protect our drinking water and other water outlets.

According to The Cape Cod Commission, across Cape Cod, nearly 6 million pounds of fertilizer and 1.3 million pounds of pesticides are applied annually. When applied to repel or destroy certain undesired organisms, pesticides can migrate into surface waters, groundwater, and the atmosphere. Here they can pose risks to the integrity of drinking water supplies and the health of humans, non-target species, and aquatic ecosystems. Fertilizers promote plant growth by adding nutrients to soil. Excess nitrogen from fertilizer is readily converted to nitrate in the subsurface, which poses several human health risks and is regulated under the Safe Drinking Water Act. Nitrogen and phosphorus also act as limiting nutrients in marine and freshwater systems respectively. The fertilizer runoff to

nutrient limited water bodies can lead to excess growth of algae and nuisance plants in a process called eutrophication. This process often includes the proliferation and expansion of the harmful cyanobacterial algal blooms.

Please, let's all do our part to make our lake and Cape Cod a safe place for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Alan Horvitz, WLPAs President



**New
Location
and Time**

WLPAs ANNUAL MEETING

This year's Annual Meeting will be held on **JUNE 5, 2022.**

The location is **Our Lady of Victory Church** and the time is **4:00 P.M.**

The agenda will include sewer and cyanobacteria updates. Town Officials will be available for an open forum.

WLPAs members are invited to send topics and/ or questions you wish to have addressed at the meeting to the Association Website. Website: Wequaquetlake.com

Testing Beaches For Swimming Safety

APCC WATER TESTING

APCC Cyanobacteria Testing and Where to Find Results

The warning tiers used by APCC are based on state and federal guidance and recommendations. APCC's data provides town health officials with precise measurements of cyanobacteria biomass at sampling locations, providing them with one type of science-based information which they may take into consideration in determining if a pond use advisory is warranted. As towns alone have the legal authority to issue and remove use advisories, the public is advised to consult their town to determine if a formal use advisory has been issued. APCC does not post advisories but provides our guidance as a service to the public so that individuals may make their own informed decisions about contact with water resources impacted by cyanobacteria blooms. (excerpt from APCC Website)

Monitoring for cyanobacteria is scheduled to begin again the end of May 2022.

The APCC site offers an "alert" tab for persons wishing to know the status of water bodies tested by APCC. Go to APCC. Org, and provide your email address for these messages.

The Association to Preserve Cape Cod creates an interactive map that shows Cyanobacteria test results for over 22 Cape waterways. The map is found at APCC.org

BARNSTABLE WATER TESTING

Bathing Beach Water Quality

From the Barnstable County Department of Health and Environment

We test the water for two different types of fecal bacteria; Enterococcus in marine water, and E. coli in fresh water. It is important to note that these two bacteria are considered indicator organisms, which, as their name implies, are used to "indicate" the presence of conditions that have the potential to cause illness. Both organisms are found in the intestines of warm-blooded animals, including humans. Their presence in recreational waters suggests that other harmful organisms and viruses (called pathogens) might be present. If these pathogens are inadvertently ingested while swimming, they may cause a variety of diseases, the most common of which is a mild gastroenteritis with flu-like symptoms. This can be inconvenient and even dangerous, especially for those who are immunocompromised.

When a beach sample re-test exceeds the limit for bacteria in bathing water, our program notifies the health agent in the town where the beach is located and they have 24 hours to ensure that the beach is closed to swimming. For Barnstable beach closings and warnings check: townofbarnstable.us/department/healthdivision.



Have a Spotter on Board

Section 12.07 - Rules of Conduct on DCR Properties - Boating (302 Mass. Reg. 12.07)

In areas designated as allowing water skiing, no person may:

Tow any water skier at any time unless there are at least two persons present in the towing watercraft, one person is acting as a safety observer for the skier(s), and said observer is 12 years of age or older.

Mass Department of Conservation and Recreation

Health Effects of 30 Commonly Used Pesticides

	Health Effects						
	Cancer	Endocrine Disruption	Reproductive Effects	Neurotoxicity	Kidney/Liver Damage	Sensitizer/Irritant	Birth Defects
Herbicides							
2,4-D*	X ⁴	X ¹⁰	X ¹	X ⁵	X ⁸	X ¹	X ¹¹
Benfluralin					X ¹	X ¹	
Bensulide				X ²	X ¹	X ²	
Clopyralid			X ¹			X ²	X ²
Dicamba*			X ¹	X ²	X ²	X ¹	X ¹
Diquat Dibromide			X ¹²		X ¹¹	X ¹	
Dithiopyr					X ¹	X ¹	
Fluazipop-p-butyl			X ¹		X ¹		X ¹
Glyphosate*	X ¹²	X ⁸	X ¹		X ⁸	X ¹	
Imazapyr					X ²	X ²	
Isoxaben	X ³				X ²		
MCPA		X ⁶	X ²	X ²	X ¹¹	X ¹	
Metoprop (MCP) [†]	Possible ³	X ⁶	X ²	X ¹	X ⁹	X ¹	X ¹
Pelargonic Acid*						X ¹	
Pendimethalin*	Possible ³	X ⁶	X ¹			X ²	
Triclopyr			X ¹		X ⁹	X ¹	X ²
Trifluralin*	Possible ³	X ⁶	X ¹		X ²	X ¹	
Insecticides							
Acephate	Possible ³	X ⁶	X ¹¹	X ⁹		X ²	
Bifenthrin**	Possible ³	Suspected ^{6,10}		X ⁸		X ¹	X ⁸
Carbaryl	X ³	X ¹⁰	X ⁶	X ¹	X ¹¹	X ¹¹	X ²
Fipronil	Possible ²	X ⁶	X ⁸	X ⁸	X ⁸	X ⁸	
Imidacloprid ‡			X ¹		X ²		X ²
Malathion*	Possible ³	X ¹⁰	X ¹¹	X ⁹	X ²	X ²	X ²
Permethrin**	X ³	Suspected ^{6,10}	X ^{1,7}	X ^{9,7}	X ⁹	X ¹	
Trichlorfon	X ³	X ⁶	X ¹¹	X ²	X ²	X ²	X ²
Fungicides							
Azoxystrobin					X ²	X ²	
Myclobutanil		Probable ⁵	X ²		X ²		
Propiconazole	Possible ³	X ⁶	X ²		X ¹	X ¹	
Sulfur						X ¹	
Thiophanate methyl	X ³	X ¹	X ¹	Suspected ¹	X ¹	X ²	X ¹
Ziram	Suggestive ³	Suspected ¹		X ²	X ²	X ²	
Totals:	16	17	21	14	25	26	12

* These pesticides are among the top 10 most heavily used pesticides in the home and garden sector from 2006-2007, according to the latest sales and usage data available from EPA (2011), available at http://www.epa.gov/opp00001/pestsales/07pestsales/market_estimates2007.pdf.
 † EPA lists all synthetic pyrethroids under the same category. While all synthetic pyrethroids have similar toxicological profiles, some may be more or less toxic in certain categories than others. See Beyond Pesticides' synthetic pyrethroid fact sheet at bit.ly/TLBz9S for additional information.
 ‡ Imidacloprid is a systemic insecticide in the neonicotinoid chemical class, which is linked to bee decline.

Avoid Fertilizer and Pesticides in Lakeside Lawn Care

Message by Andrew Gottlieb, executive director of APCC

As a homeowner concerned about the environment, there are some things you ought to consider and questions you ought to ask before committing to any lawn care or pest services.

Nutrient pollution is the primary source of water quality degradation on Cape Cod. Lawn fertilizer is a significant, and easily remedied, part of the problem. The best option is to refrain from lawn fertilization.

Those little yellow flags pesticide applicators are required to post in the yard are there because you have just authorized the use of poisons (herbicides, pesticides, and fungicides) on your lawn.

If lawns are important to you, consider a more traditional Cape Cod lawn that is a mixture of grasses, clover and moss that occasionally has hints of brown but also one that supports a healthier ecosystem and better water quality.

Rather than employing a killing-based yard management strategy, a more environmentally appropriate approach relies in reducing lawn and planting more native species that provide the habitat required to support the insect predators and birds that keep the pest in control naturally. Birds and bats eat lots of mosquitos, so attract them. Pay attention to eliminating the standing and stagnant water in which mosquitos breed and your yard will be a better place.

Mosquitos fly in and out of your yard. If you have a neighborhood mosquito problem, it's more productive, and likely more successful, to contact the [Cape Cod Mosquito Control Program](#) for a more system wide approach to controlling problem mosquito populations at no cost to you and without many of the negatives that come from individualized efforts.

Andrew Gottlieb, Executive Director of the APCC writes regular columns on the website. For full article see Feb. 4, 2022 column titled "What I'm Thinking"

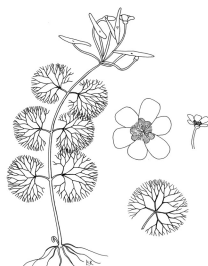
Wild Care executive Director Stephanie Ellis reported in the March 22, 2022 Cape Cod Times that bird flu has been detected in Canada Geese found in Wellfleet.

What to do if you find a sick or injured bird?

Sick or injured birds should be reported to Mass Wildlife: 508-389-6300.

If you are local, call Wild Care: 508-240-2255 first, prior to containing and transporting to their center.

When handling wild birds, wear gloves, masks, and safety goggles.



Fanwort Plans

DASH, fanwort hand removal, is expected for about 12 days this upcoming summer.

Work will be done on Wequaquet Lake, Bearse Pond, and Gooseberry Cove.

PALS Testing Begins

On April 25, plans are in place for Association Directors Frank Ward and Gail Maguire to assist Ambur Unruh, DPW Special Projects Manager, with PALS testing. PALS, Pond and Lake Stewardship, was established in 2000 to study water health in many Cape Cod fresh water bodies. Town officials with the help of volunteers collect water samples. These will be sent for testing to the University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth- Coastal Systems Program.

BIRD FLU on Cape Cod KNOW THE FACTS

What is Avian Influenza?
Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) is caused by a virus that exists naturally in wild birds. Wild birds usually do not become sick, but they carry the virus and can pass it on to non-wild birds, such as chickens, turkeys, and ducks (fowl), which can become very sick and die.

How Does the Disease Spread?
Infected birds can shed Avian Influenza A viruses in their saliva, nasal secretions, and feces. Birds can become infected when they have contact with the virus as it is shed by infected birds. They also can become infected through contact with surfaces that are contaminated with virus from infected birds.

What are the Symptoms in Birds?
Symptoms in sick birds include lack of energy, lack of appetite, nasal discharge, coughing, sneezing, reduced egg production, swelling of various parts of the body, diarrhea, lack of coordination, and even sudden death.

Can People Get Bird Flu?
There have been no cases of HPAI in humans in the United States according to the CDC. While cases of Bird Flu in people is rare, precautions are necessary. People can get bird flu if the virus gets into their eyes, nose of mouth or it is inhaled. There can be no symptoms to mild illness, conjunctivitis, mild flu-like UR symptoms, fever, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, muscle or body aches, shortness of breath. Although the risk of human cases from any outbreaks appears to be low, you should take precautions when handling wild birds, particularly waterfowl, gulls, and raptors. Fewer than 20% of wild birds will show any symptoms of illness when infected with Avian Influenza. Monitor your health for any symptoms within a week of handling wild birds and consult your health care provider if you have any questions.

HOW TO STAY SAFE when handling BIRDS

- Wear gloves, masks, and safety glasses and avoid touching your face.
- Don't drink, eat or smoke.
- Don't touch objects with gloves on.
- Wash hands thoroughly for 30 seconds after removing gloves.
- Wash field clothes each day and disinfect/wear dedicated footwear.
- Avoid visiting poultry.

Is it Safe to Have a Bird Feeder in my Yard?

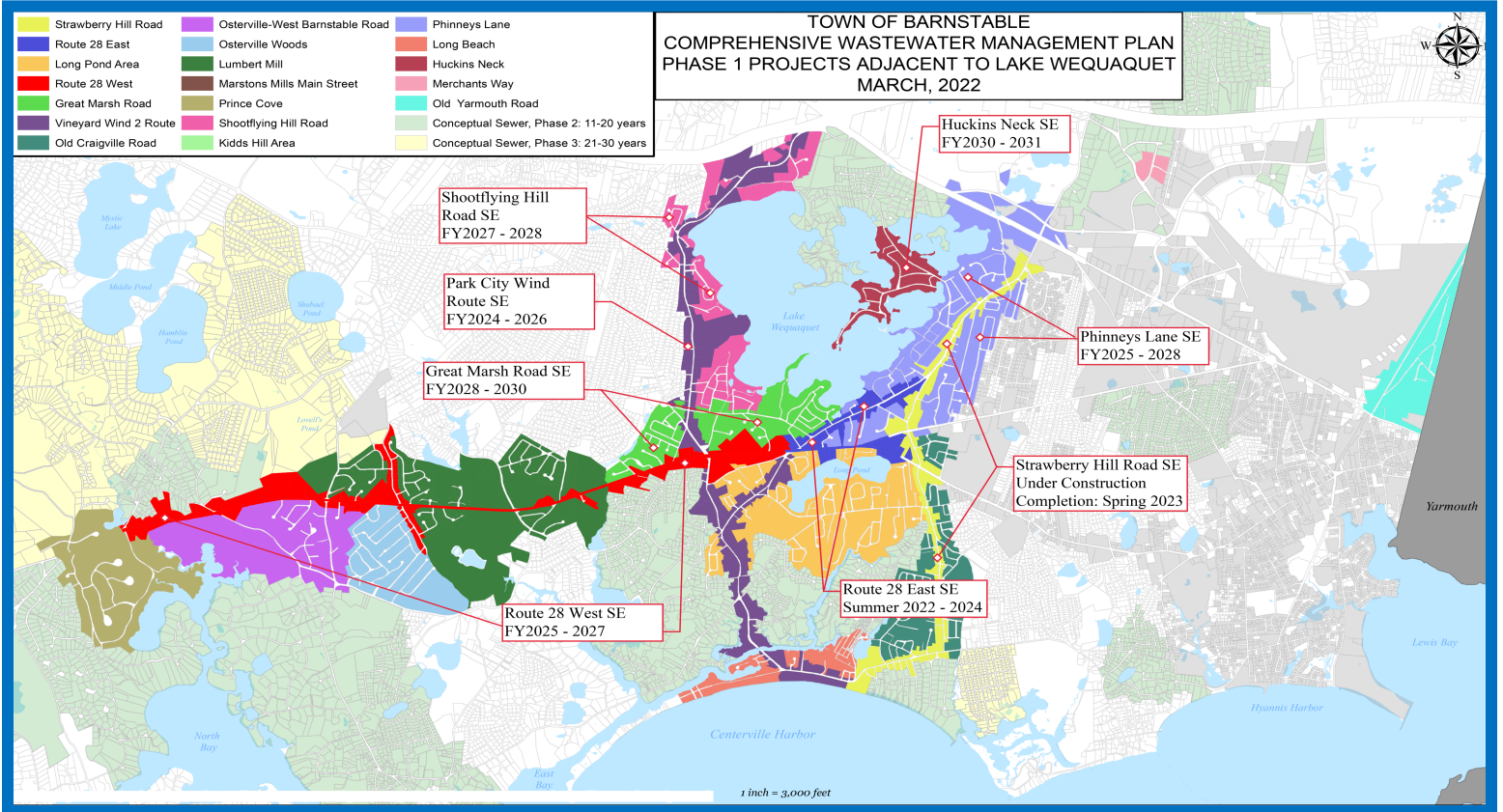
Maintaining a clean bird feeder or bird bath is generally safe. It is always best to wear protective gloves when handling or cleaning these items to avoid contact with bird droppings or contaminated water in a bird bath. Always wash your hands with soap and water after coming in contact with these items. Clean feeders and bird baths with a 10% bleach solution (one part bleach mixed with nine parts water), rinse with water, and allow to air-dry.

I Have Chickens at Home. How do I Protect Them?

Keep visitors to a minimum. Wash hands and wear disposable boots. Change clothes entering and exiting. Clean and disinfect tools or equipment before moving them. Look for signs of illness. Report sick birds. Don't wait. If your birds (poultry) are sick or dying, call a local or state veterinarian, cooperative extensive service, or the USDA toll-free at 1-866-536-7593.

Call Wild Care if you see sick or injured birds
508-240-2255
 We're here to help.
 EVERYDAY
 9AM-5PM

 10 Smith Lane
 Eastham, MA 02642



Town of Barnstable CWMP Update on Projects Adjacent to Lake Wequaquet

3/28/2022

The Town of Barnstable continues implementation of Phase 1 of the Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan (CWMP). The Town continues to employ an adaptive management approach to the CWMP in order to take advantage of opportunities, such as Vineyard Wind and Park City Wind, to save money and improve efficiency. Below is an update on on-going projects that involve sewer expansion in the area of Lake Wequaquet.

The Town continues construction of the Strawberry Hill Road Sewer Expansion Project in coordination with the Vineyard Wind Project. Construction along Phinney's Lane is anticipated to begin in the fall. The project is approximately 40% complete and on schedule to be completed in the Spring of 2023.

The Route 28 East Sewer Expansion Project is currently out to bid, with bids due in late April. This project will install fundamental sewer infrastructure which will support the remainder of the sewer expansion plan around Lake Wequaquet and into the western portions of Town. The project includes construction of a sewer pump station on the Town owned property at 1456 Falmouth Road (intersection of Route 28 and Phinney's Lane) which will convey sewage to the Water Pollution Control Facility. Targeted construction is anticipated to begin this summer and the project is anticipated to be completed in the Winter of 2024/2025.

The Town has commenced design of sewer expansion along the proposed Park City Wind upland duct bank route in coordination with Park City Wind. This project will include sewer construction along the length of Shootflying Hill Road. This sewer infrastructure will allow for sewer connection of properties fronting along Shootflying Hill Road and future sewer expansion into the residential areas on the west side of Lake Wequaquet. Construction is currently anticipated to begin in the Winter of 2023/2024.

Preliminary design of the Phinney's Lane Sewer Expansion continues. This project will install sewers in the residential areas on the west and east side of Phinney's Lane, providing municipal sewer to all properties on the east side of Lake Wequaquet. The sewer infrastructure installed as part of this project will also support further sewer expansion to the north of Lake Wequaquet in subsequent Phase 1 and Phase 2 projects. Construction of the Phinney's Lane Sewer Expansion Project is currently anticipated to commence in 2025.

Planning of the Route 28 West Sewer Expansion Project is on-going. This project will install sewers along Route 28 from Phinney's Lane to Route 149. The infrastructure installed as part of this project is necessary to support the sewer expansion to the south and west of Lake Wequaquet. Construction of this project is currently anticipated to commence in 2025.

Report provided courtesy of Griffin Beaudoin, PE Town Engineer.

Stormwater Improvements in Vicinity of Lake Wequaquet

- **Huckins Neck Road – Completed**
- **460 Shootflying Hill Road – 2022**
- **80 Holly Point Road - 2022**

Drainage Improvements, 460 Shootflying Hill Road, Centerville, MA.

Drainage Improvements, 80 & 94 Holly Point Road, Centerville, MA.

Town of Barnstable, Department of Public Works

EPA Road Runoff Warning

Runoff picks up fertilizer, oil, pesticides, dirt, bacteria and other pollutants as it makes its way through storm drains and ditches - untreated - to our streams, rivers, lakes and the ocean. Polluted runoff is one of the greatest threats to clean water in the U.S.

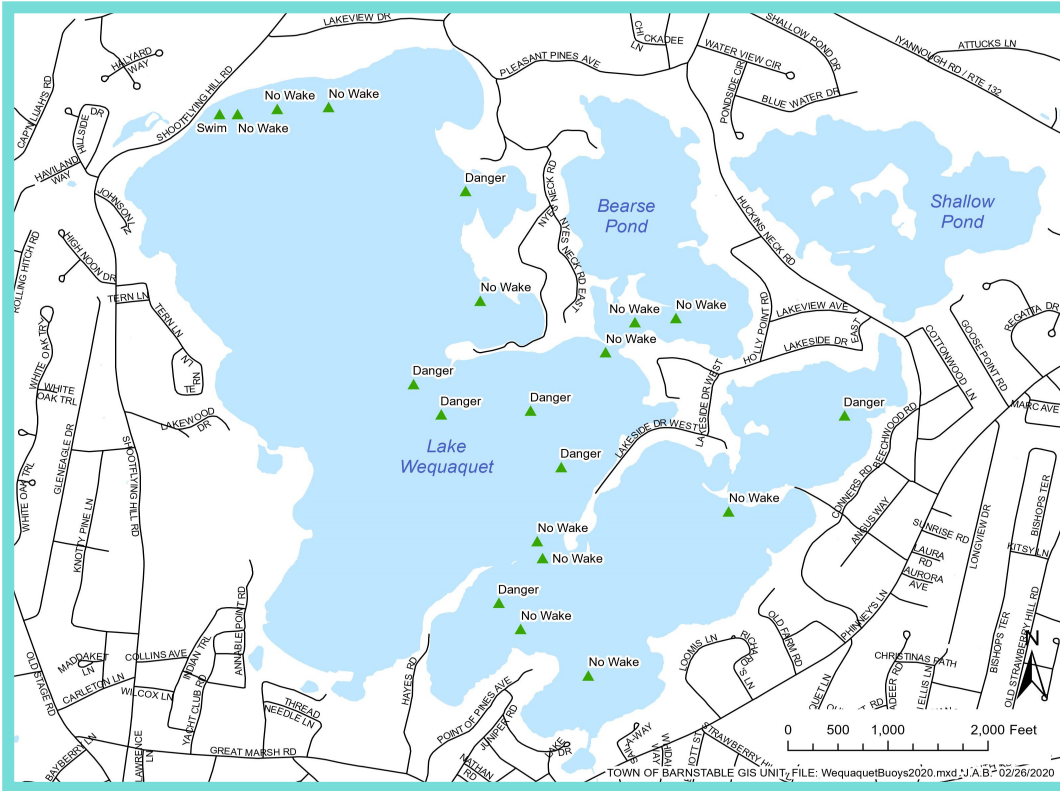
Fishing Wequaquet



The following fish species were found during MassWildlife surveys: Pumpkinseed, Yellow Perch, Golden Shiner, Brown Bullhead, American Eel, Alewife, White Sucker, Banded Killifish, Chain Pickerel and Largemouth Bass. The alewife population is sea-run, entering from Vineyard Sound by the Centerville River and Long Pond-Centerville and then reaching Wequaquet Lake via a man-made herring run. Northern pike were stocked in 1979, 1986 and 1989 and are now naturally reproducing in the lake.

Wequaquet Lake is a popular Largemouth Bass fishing pond. Good fishing has also been reported for Chain Pickerel in the more sheltered coves, and Northern Pike are reported. Due to abundant forage species, all game fish in the pond show good growth rates. Wequaquet Lake has produced Yellow Perch, White Perch, Brown Bullhead, Black Crappie, Largemouth Bass, Northern Pike, and Sunfish that meet minimum sizes for recognition by the Freshwater Sportfishing Awards Program.

From massachusettspaddler.com 5/2020



Placement of 22 buoys during the 2021 boating season. Similar buoy placement is expected this year.



Sunfish Sailing

If your boat should Capsize Stay; with the boat - no matter what. If your rudder floats away.....if your daggerboard float away..... If your lunch floats away..... **STAY WITH THE BOAT.**

Capsize prevention tips: Keep the boat balanced Keep the dagger board below the boom If sailing windward, let go of the line (mainsheet) to the sail if the boat feels like it's going to turn over.

When righting a sunfish, make sure the mainsheet is free and the bow (front of the boat) is turned into the wind. Use the dagger board as a lever to right the boat.

Stopping: If the water is shallow, take the board out just before turning. To slow down while going upwind, let your sail out and turn into the wind (tiller toward the sail). To slow down while sailing downwind, pull your sail in. If you want to stop, turn the tiller toward the sail and **IMMEDIATELY** let the sail out.

Excerpts from Squarespace.com

Water Skiing, Wake Boarding, and Wake Surfing Concerning Wake Boats

Several environmental studies have been done and are underway involving wave heights produced by the modern wake surfing boats. There is concern that the larger the waves, the more likelihood there is for stirring sediment and increasing shoreline erosion. Following is a best practice list for wake boats that was issued by the Michigan Lake and Streams Association.



- 1) Reduce speed within 300 feet of shore.
- 2) Do not add ballast water or other extra weight to wake boats.
- 3) Do not operate wake boats near sandy areas, wetlands, or lakefront residences.
- 4) Avoid turning wake boats in tight circles (tight circles increase wave height and frequency)
- 5) Avoid operating wake boats in shallow water or near natural shoreline.



Stand Up Paddleboard Safety Tips

The best conditions for a beginner are calm, flat days with low wind. Be alert because weather conditions can change quickly.

Paddle out to deep water and try to avoid going near submerged objects. It's also important that you're mindful of the other people in the water. Avoid any boats or water traffic in the area. For less experienced boarders, stay away from swimmers and other surfers until you get more comfortable.

Always wear a leash when paddle boarding. A leash keeps you attached to your board and is designed to keep you safe, especially if you fall in a strong current or heavy wind. You don't want to become separated from your board. Even in a light breeze, your board will travel away from you in seconds if it's not attached.

Excerpts from protips.dickssportinggoods.com

The Police Number to report unsafe boating, excessive noise or other non-emergency issues is:
508-775-0812

Gathering WLPA Email Addresses

A WLPA Membership email address database is being formed.

To be added to this list, please go to:
Wequaquetlake.com.

Scroll to the bottom of the site and provide your email address.