

Town of Eastham

BOATING BYLAWS

Article I. General Regulations

§ 30-1. Horsepower limit. No motor boat or vessel shall be operated on any pond other than Great Pond that has a total horsepower in excess of three as defined by manufacturer's specification.

§ 30-2. Operation near swimming areas. No motor boat or vessel shall be operated within 150 feet of any swimming area designated by the Board of Selectmen and marked by buoys.

§ 30-3. Operation on freshwater ponds. No person shall operate, or permit to be operated, any motor boat or vessel, except a seaplane, on any freshwater pond in the Town of Eastham which violates any of the following regulations:

- A. No motor boat or vessel shall be operated on, or placed on, any freshwater pond without an annual inspection permit from the Natural Resources Department of Eastham. Said permit shall be kept on board and available for examination.
- B. No motor boat or vessel shall be operated at a speed in excess of 30 miles per hour.
- C. No motor boat or vessel shall be operated by a minor under the age of 16 years without a person 18 years, or over, aboard.
- D. No motor boat or vessel shall be operated which has a total horsepower in excess of 50 as defined by manufacturer's specifications.
- E. No racing-type motor boats or vessels, i.e., hydroplanes or jet skis, so-called, shall be operated at any time on any freshwater pond within the Town of Eastham.
- F. Gasoline tanks shall not be filled while a boat or vessel is in the water or within 50 feet of the edge of a freshwater pond.
- G. No motor boat or vessel shall be used for waterskiing except on even-numbered days. Tow lines shall not exceed 75 feet in length and only one skier may be towed per boat. All waterskiing shall be conducted in a counterclockwise direction, and all stops and starts shall be in deep water (five feet or more.)
- H. No waterskiing shall be allowed on any freshwater pond other than Great Pond.
- I. Hours for waterskiing shall be from 7:00 a.m. to 1/2 hour before sunset.

§ 30-4. Waterskiing on Salt Pond prohibited. No waterskiing on Salt Pond, so called.

§ 30-5. Violations and penalties. Violation of any of the above regulations shall be punishable by a fine of up to \$200 and/or loss of inspection permit with each violation constituting a separate offense.

Article II. Personal Watercraft

§ 30-6. Definitions. As used in this bylaw the following terms have the following meanings:

PERSONAL WATERCRAFT

A vessel usually less than 16 feet in length (measured from end to end over the deck excluding shear) which uses an inboard, internal combustion engine powering a water jet pump as its primary source of propulsion. The vessel is intended to be operated by a person or persons sitting, standing or kneeling on the vessel rather than within the confines of the hull. Personal watercraft includes vessels commonly referred as jet ski, waverunner, wavejammer, wetjet, ski-doo, wet bike, and surf jet.

§ 30-7. Areas in which operation prohibited. Except as provided in § 30-8 below, the operation of personal watercraft is prohibited in the waters of the Town of Eastham in the following areas:

- A. Within the boundaries of the Cape Cod National Seashore as set forth in Public Law 87-126, 7 August 1961, 75 Stat. 293, and as most recently surveyed by the U.S. Department of Interior.
- B. Tidal waters of Town Cove, Nauset Harbor, Nauset Marsh, Hemenway, Salt Pond, Station Bay and any adjoining rivers, inlets, covers, embayment's, ponds or harbors.

§ 30-8. Operation in prohibited areas by governments or for emergency purposes. Personal watercraft may be operated within the waters described in § 30-7 as follows:

- A. The personal watercraft is owned or licensed by the United States, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, or the Town of Eastham and/or County of Barnstable and used solely for official purposes and is clearly identifiable.
- B. The personal watercraft is needed for emergency purposes when there is reasonable belief that such use is necessary to protect persons, animals or property.

§ 30-9. Invalidity. The invalidity of any section or provision of this bylaw shall not invalidate any other section or provision hereof.

§ 30-10. Violations and penalties. Violation of any of the above regulations shall be punishable by a fine as provided in Chapter 1, Article I, General Penalty.