

Sugar Springs: Lake Lancer & Lake Lancelot

Important Michigan Boating and Personal Watercraft (PWC) Safety Rules

- Michigan law prohibits anyone from boating while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- All Boat/PWC operation must be 100 feet from shore and other vessels when above idle speed.
- Personal Floatation Device (PFDs) must be worn by all tubers, skiers, wakeboarders, and PWC operators/riders.
- PFDs must be worn by children under 6 years old and should be worn by all children on board.
- Keep all channels clear: No anchoring, fishing, swimming, skiing/tubing.
- Non-motorized craft (sailboats, rowboats, canoes, etc.) and any boat being overtaken have the right-of-way over motorboats.
- Observe passenger limits on your boat.
- High speed times: 11:00 am to 7:30 pm. (Per Butman Township High Speed Boating Ordinances)
- All boats/PWCs must be operated in a counterclockwise direction around the lake.
- Observe idle speeds (no white water behind watercraft) in all No Wake areas.
- All boat passengers must be within the railing of the boat. No riding on gunwale, bow or stern.
- All boats operating from sunset to sunrise must display navigation lights.
- All boats/PWCs skiing, tubing or towing must have an observer.

PWC Specific Rules (In addition to the above)

- All PWC passengers must ride **behind** the driver, never in front of the driver. Children who are too small to do this should not ride.
- A PWC shall not cross a boat's wake closer than 150 feet from the boat.
- Anyone riding on or being towed behind a PWC must wear a PFD.
- The lanyard of the PWC engine cut-off switch must be attached to the operator.
- It is illegal to operate a PWC from sunset to 8:00 am.
- Legal PWC Operation:
 - Is not allowed by anyone under 14 years of age
 - Is allowed by those 14 and 15 years of age with a boating safety certificate **and** accompanied by or within 100 feet of a parent/guardian
 - Is allowed by those 16 years of age and born after 12/31/1978 **only if** in possession of a boating safety certificate.
 - Is allowed by anyone born on or before 12/31/1978 without restrictions.