



*Friends of Nantahala Lake*

# Nantahala Lake Boating Guidelines

Provided by Friends of Nantahala Lake as a courtesy to boaters.

*We trust you will safely enjoy your time on the most pristine, beautiful lake in the Eastern United States!*

*These guidelines are a summary, please refer to NC DNR boating rules and regulations for complete list of boating rules and regulations. <https://www.ncwildlife.org/Portals/0/Boating/documents/VOG.pdf>*

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## **Alcohol & Drugs:**

- Operating a watercraft while impaired is subject to prevailing enforcement and liability standards, e.g., blood alcohol concentration less than 0.08.

## **Reckless Operation:**

- Do not cross a wake closely behind another boat.
- Operators should overtake another vessel to the right.
- Be respectful of fishermen – no-wake when passing.
- Operators must remain 100 feet from swimmers, manually propelled vessels, etc.

## **Speed Limits:**

- Adhere to all No Wake zones.
- No Wake areas extend 100 feet from any dock, anchored or moored vessel, swim float, marked swimming area, swimmers, persons engaged in angling, or any manually operated propelled vessel.
- Vessels should be operated at reasonable speeds for the situation.

## **Operating a Personal Watercraft (PWC), "Jet Ski":**

- PWC's should be operated at reasonable speeds for the situation.
- Persons 14 - 16 can operate a PWC **only if** accompanied by a person 18 or over.
- PWC's cannot be operated from sunset to sunrise.
- Operator and passenger(s) must wear Life vest(s) at all times when operating a PWC.

## **General watercraft safe operating guidelines:**

- Life vests must be worn by watercraft passengers under the age of 13
- Running lights should be used from Sunset to Sunrise
- Vessels towing skiers must remain 100' from any other vessel
- When operating a watercraft with a 10hp+ motor, operators born after 1988 must possess a NC Boater Safety certificate.

## Information about Nantahala Lake:

- The lake is comprised of 1605 acres.
- The lake shoreline primarily borders USFS, Nantahala Forest.
- It is 250' deep at the deepest point.
- At 3000' above sea level, it is the 2nd highest lake elevation in the eastern US.

## Information about Friends of Nantahala Lake (FONL):

FONL is an organization comprised of residents interested in the preservation of Nantahala Lake environment and promoting safe boating and recreation.

### FONL mission:

- Protect the natural environment of the lake and surrounding area.
- Monitor water quality.
- Promote safe lake recreation.

*For more information on FONL please contact: FaceBook: Friends of Nantahala Lake*

