

# Lake Shoecraft Boating Regulations

## BOATING SEASON / HOURS

Snohomish County Code 12.44

### BOATS:

- **April 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am to 9:00 pm** or dusk whichever comes first.
- **October 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup> 11:00 am to 4:00 pm** or dusk whichever comes first.

### PERSONAL WATERCRAFT / JETSKIS

- **April 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup>: 10:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.**

**It is every property owner's responsibility** to make sure that anyone operating a Boat or Personal Water Craft from their property (family, guests, or renters) has read all these rules/ordinances and has a valid Washington State Boater Education Card (see links below).

## THE WATER SKI COURSE AND BUOYS

Snohomish County Code 12.44

- Waterskiing is permitted only within the water ski course as defined by the round orange and vertical white regulatory marker buoys. All Lake Shoecraft buoys are set by GPS.
- Do Not Anchor your watercraft to the buoys
- No person may water-ski or tow a water-skier when course buoy, anchoring device, or other safety buoy is missing, damaged or out of position.
- Swimming is prohibited in the waterski course during water ski hours.

## VESSEL SPEED LIMITS AND OPERATION

Snohomish County Code 12.44

- Vessels towing skiers and tubes are permitted only within the waterski course as defined by the round orange and vertical white regulatory marker buoys. (see map)
- Vessels operating in excess of eight (8) miles per hour must travel inside the marked ski course in a counterclockwise direction.
- Vessels shall keep a distance:
  - 200 feet from any and all shoreline
  - 100 feet from all swimmers and other vessels
- All persons in vessels must remain seated while the vessel is underway.
- Every motorized vessel must yield right of way to swimmers, divers, sailboats, rowboats, paddle boarders, kayakers, canoes, fishing vessels and water-skiers.
- Any vessel towing a skier or tuber must have an observer flagger 10 years of age or older facing the skier or tuber. All vessels must turn right after dropping off a skier.

## OPERATION OF PERSONAL WATERCRAFT

- **Drivers are required to have a Washington State Boater Safety ID.**
- Drivers must be a minimum of 14 years old.
- NO WAKE zones near boat launches, docks and swimming areas.
- Most boats come equipped with a "Capacity Plate" which indicated the amount of people the vessel can safely carry. If you can't locate it, check your owner's manual. Capacity can also be calculated: Number of Passengers = vessel length (ft) times vessel width (ft) divided by 15.

## SAFETY EQUIPMENT

- Water-skiers and persons on personal water are required to wear a Coast Guard Approved type I, II, or III personal flotation device.
- All vessels are required to have readily available a Coast Guard Approved personal flotation device type I, II, or III for all persons on board.
- A red 12 inch square SKIER DOWN FLAG, mounted on a 2 foot pole must be displayed when Skier or tuber is down.
- Vessels 16 feet or longer must also carry at least one Coast Guard Approved type IV throw able personal flotation device.
- Fire extinguishers (Coast Guard Approved) are required on all vessels with internal combustion motors.
- All internal combustion motors shall be equipped with a muffler.

## REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

- Any motorized vessel operated in Washington State, having an engine larger than 10 horsepower, must be registered. For further information on vessel registration, contact the Washington Department of Licensing or the Snohomish County Auditor's Office.

## RECKLESS OPERATION

- It is unlawful to operate a watercraft in a manner so as to endanger life, limb or cause damage to property.
- It is unlawful to operate or be in physical control of any watercraft when under the influence of intoxicating liquor or narcotics.
- All powered watercraft are responsible for their wake
- Swamping or capsizing other smaller vessel requires the driver to come to the immediate aid of the smaller vessel.

## ACCIDENTS

The operator of any watercraft involved in an accident resulting in injury or death to any person or damage to property, shall immediately stop and give name, address, and number of vessel and address of the owner of the vessel, and shall render reasonable assistance. Report of an accident must be filed with the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office within 48 hours, if the accident involved a death or personal injury requiring medical treatment, or property damage in excess of \$200.00.

### [Reporting an incident](#)

## COMMON COURTESY

Lake Shoecraft is a small lake unlike Lake Goodwin or Lake Stevens. This means all watercraft activity can become concentrated and exasperated very quickly. All your activities on the water directly or indirectly involve your neighbors. Disregard for common sense safe boating activities has effects on everyone. Not following the Snohomish County's rules/ordinances could cause Lake Shoecraft to lose their power boat and personal watercraft / jet ski privileges for. If our boating status is revoked this could shut down certain boating activity, consequently lowering or severely impacting property values for every lake resident.

## LAKE SHOECRAFT RECREATION ASSOCIATION (LSRA)

The LSRA was formed in 1989 by Snohomish County to allow power boats to operate on Lake Shoecraft. LSRA monitors lake activity, but rules/laws are enforced by the Parks & Recreation Department and the Sheriff's Department.

Our goal is to allow everyone the enjoyment of our special lake resources. Members also monitor lake water quality in conjunction with various County and State Departments. This includes milfoil issues. If you need further information on LSRA meetings or want to be included on the email distribution list, please sign up on the website.

## RESOURCES

### **Snohomish County**

<https://www.snohomishcountywa.gov/1263/Rules-Policies-Regulations>

Wave Boat Damage / Information:

<https://www.snohomishcountywa.gov/5784/Motorized-Watercraft-Conversation>

<https://www.snohomishcountywa.gov/6058/Boat-Water-Safety>

Stay Informed, sign up or modify your Snohomish County / Lake Shoecraft county meetings and news:

[https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WASNOHOMISHCO/subscriber/new?topic\\_id=WASNOHOMISHCO\\_172](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WASNOHOMISHCO/subscriber/new?topic_id=WASNOHOMISHCO_172)

### **Washington State Boating Regulations**

<https://parks.wa.gov/about/rules-and-safety/recreational-boating-laws-regulations>

### **Washington State Mandatory Boater Safety ID / Education Program**

<https://parks.wa.gov/about/rules-and-safety/boater-education-safety>

**BE ADVISED: This is a general guide to boating regulations on Lake Shoecraft. For more information on Snohomish county Boating Laws, call the Snohomish County Sheriff's Marine Patrol at 425-388-5401.**