

**PROPOSED ORDINANCE  
REGARDING REGULATION OF WAKE BOAT OPERATIONS  
ON LAKE WARAMAUG**

**FOR ADOPTION BY THE TOWNS OF KENT, WARREN AND  
WASHINGTON**

CONCERNED with the increasing operation on Lake Waramaug of watercraft with ballasts, motor power and hull design that produce harmful wakes;

COGNIZANT of the serious risks that such large wakes cause for other concurrent uses of Lake Waramaug, including without limitation kayaks, rowing shells, paddle boards, swimmers and dock facilities and that such large wakes are not compatible with other long established public uses of the lake;

AWARE, based upon the advice of expert lake limnologists, that such wakes cause destructive erosion of the lake shoreline, upset the balance of native shoreline vegetation that protect the lake from erosion and that the operation of such watercraft disturbs the lake bottom impairing water quality and risks the import of invasive species into the lake;

MINDFUL of our responsibility to protect Lake Waramaug, a Heritage Lake of exceptional natural beauty and tranquility that is enjoyed by the general public;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. No person shall at any time operate on Lake Waramaug a power watercraft which contains one or more ballast tanks, weights or other devices so as under power to produce an enhanced or increased wake.
2. Prior to their launching on Lake Waramaug all power watercraft shall be inspected and the owner or operator thereof shall be required to certify in writing (a) that any ballast tanks or other devices in such watercraft have been rendered inoperable and (b) that the watercraft shall not be operated on Lake Waramaug so as to produce harmful wake.

3. Whenever a violation of this Ordinance occurs, proof of the registration number of any watercraft concerned shall be prima facie evidence that the owner was the operator thereof.
4. Any person violating this Ordinance shall be fined two hundred and fifty dollars for each occurrence and shall be required to remove the operating watercraft from Lake Waramaug for thirty (30) days. Such fines shall be levied by law enforcement by citations in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 7-148 as the same may be amended from time to time.
5. In addition to any fines or penalties imposed by this Ordinance, this Ordinance may be enforced by injunctive procedure in Superior Court. The town may further recover from any violator any and all costs and fees, including reasonable attorney's fees, expended by the town in enforcing the provisions of this article.
6. This Ordinance shall not preclude any additional enforcement action taken by any appropriate town, state or federal official conducted pursuant to any applicable ordinance, regulation or law of the town or the State of Connecticut.
7. All remedies and penalties provided for in this ordinance shall be cumulative and independently available to the town, and the town shall be authorized to pursue any and all remedies set forth in this section to the fullest extent allowed by law.
8. This Ordinance is adopted pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 7-148.
9. This Ordinance shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication of a summary of its provisions pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 7-157(b).
10. It is hereby declared to be the intention of the town that the sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this Ordinance are severable, and if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Ordinance shall be declared unlawful by valid judgment or decree of the court of competent jurisdiction, such unlawfulness shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and sections of this Ordinance.

Adopted at a Town Meeting of the Town of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_2023.

Published \_\_\_\_\_, 2023;

Effective \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.