

TOWN OF SPRINGWATER
WAUSHARA COUNTY
STATE OF WISCONSIN

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-1

AN ORDINANCE TO REGULATE BOATING
UPON THE WATERS OF THE TOWN OF SPRINGWATER
AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Springwater has found and determined that it is necessary for the public health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Town of Springwater to regulate boating upon the waters of the Town of Springwater; and

WHEREAS, Subsection 30.77(3) of the Wisconsin Statutes authorizes the Town of Springwater to adopt ordinances regulating boating on the waters within its jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, a copy of this ordinance was submitted by the Town of Springwater to the Department of Natural Resources at least 60 days prior to final action by the Town Board as required by Subsection 30.77(3)(d), Wis. Stats.;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Town Board of the Town of Springwater, Waushara County, Wisconsin, does ordain as follows:

Section 1. Applicability and Enforcement

- a. The provisions of this Ordinance shall apply to all the waters of the Town of Springwater within the jurisdiction of said Town, except for Long Lake.
- b. The provisions of this Ordinance shall be enforced by the officers or any law enforcement officer authorized by the Town Board.

Section 2. Intent

The intent of this Ordinance is to provide safe and healthful conditions for the enjoyment of aquatic recreation consistent with the public rights and interest and the capability of the water resources.

Section 3. State Boating and Safety Laws Adopted

State Boating laws as found in Sections 30.50 to 30.71 Wis Stats are adopted herein by reference.

Section 4. Definitions

- (a) "Boat" or "vessel" means every description of watercraft, used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on water, except a seaplane on the water and a fishing raft.
- (b) "Public access" means any access to the water by means of public property.
- (c) "Slow-No-Wake" means that speed at which a boat moves as slowly as possible while still maintaining steerage control.
- (d) "Swim area" means an authorized area marked by regulatory markers to designate a swimming area.
- (e) "Water ski" means a boat towing a person using water-skies, aquaplane, wake board, or any similar device or any person or persons engaged in water-skiing, aquaplaning, wake boarding or any similar activity.

Section 5. Speed Restrictions

- (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) below, no person shall operate a boat at speeds in excess of "slow-no-wake" on the waters of Gilbert Lake, Kusel Lake, Pine Lake, Round Lake or Wilson Lake between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m. the following morning.
- (b) At no time shall any person operate a boat of any nature at speeds in excess of "slow-no-wake" on the following waters:

1. Gilbert Lake

Within any areas marked as "Slow-No-Wake", "Swimming", "Restricted", or "Protected".

Section 6. Traffic Rules

On the waters of Gilbert Lake, Kusel Lake, Pine Lake, Round Lake and Wilson Lake between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., no person shall operate a boat at a speed greater than "slow-no-wake" except in a counter-clockwise direction.

Section 7. Restricted Areas

- (a) No person shall operate any type of boat upon the waters of Little Silver Lake in any manner other than by wind power or manual power,

- (b) Between Memorial Day weekend and Labor Day weekend “swim areas” shall be enforced on Kusel Lake, Pine Lake, Wilson Lake, and Round Lake. The “swim areas shall be marked by buoys, approved by the Department of Natural Resources, and shall be more specifically defined as follows;

Kusel Lake

1. Evergreen Campsites and Resort: Sec. 26 T20N R11E. Area: 83 feet shore by 300 feet on the lake.

Pine Lake

1. Pine Lake Lutheran Camp: Bradley Point – Subdivision Gov Lot 1, Sec. 2 T20N R11E Lot 12. Area: 50 feet short by 175 feet out on the lake.

Round Lake

1. Camp LuWiSomo: Sec. 35 T20N R11E NW1/4SE1/4 Gov. Lot 9. Area: 130 feet shore by 200 feet out on the lake.

Wilson Lake

1. Wilson Lake Campground and Resort: Sec. 27 T20N R11E. Area: 150 feet shore by 150 feet out on the lake.

Section 8. Prohibited Activities

1. No person shall swim more than 200 feet from shore unless accompanied by a competent person in a boat and having readily available a United States Coast Guard approved Personal Floatation Device for each person on board and in the water.
2. Prohibited Equipment: No person may use or employ on any lake covered by this Ordinance, water sacks, ballast tanks, submersible wings or any other device which causes a boat to operate in a bow-high manner, or which increases or enhances a boat’s wake.
3. Prohibited Operation: No person may operate a boat on any lake covered by this Ordinance in an artificially bow-high manner in order to increase or enhance the boat’s wake. Such prohibited operation shall include wake enhancement by use of ballast, mechanical hydrofoils, uneven loading or operation a transition speed (the speed at which the boat is operating at greater than slow-no-wake speed, but not fast enough so that the boat is planning or operating at a speed to support a skier).

4. Certain Operations Excluded: In no event shall any of the following operations be deemed a violation of this Ordinance, provided such operations do not use or employ ballast tanks, water sacks, mechanical hydrofoils or wake enhancing fins: a) water skiing b) tubing c) wake boarding d) wake surfing e) knee boarding f) brief transition operation to empty a boat of water, g) brief transition operation of a boat accelerating into a planing condition, h) new skier instruction.

Section 9. Posting Requirements

The Town Board of the Town of Springwater shall place and maintain a synopsis of this ordinance at all public access points within the jurisdiction of the Town of Springwater pursuant to the requirements of NR 5.15, Wis. Adm. Code.

Section 10. Penalties

(a) Any person violating any provision of Sections 30.50 to 30.71, Wis. Stats., for which a penalty is not provided under subs. (2) to (6) of Section 30.80, Wis. Stats, shall forfeit the maximum total penalty, including all costs, fees and assessments for each offense, as set forth in the State of Wisconsin Revised Uniform Deposit and Bail Schedule for Boating Violations.

(b) Any person violating any other provisions of this Ordinance shall upon conviction thereof forfeit five hundred dollars (\$500.00) as well as all costs, fees and assessments for their first offense and one thousand dollars (\$1000.00) for each additional offense.

Section 11. Repeal of Prior Ordinances

All ordinances regulating water traffic, boats, boating or water sports upon the waters covered by this Ordinance heretofore enacted by the Town Board of the Town of Springwater are hereby repealed.

Section 12. Severability


The provisions of this Ordinance shall be deemed severable and it is expressly declared that the Town Board would have passed the other provisions of this Ordinance irrespective of whether or not one or more provisions may be declared invalid. If any provision of this Ordinance or the application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the Ordinance and the application of such provisions to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected.


Section 13. Effective Date

- (a) This Ordinance will become effective upon passage and the day after publication.

(b) The Town Clerk is directed to file a copy of this Ordinance with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources in Madison, Wisconsin.

Passed this 13 day of January, 2025.


Edward Hernandez, Town Chairman
Town of Springwater


Carolann Yeska, Town Clerk
Town of Springwater

ATTEST:


Carolann Yeska, Town Clerk

Posted in the following places in the Town of Springwater:

1. Town website
2. Springwater Town Hall

Published in the Waushara Argus on the _____ day of _____, 2025.