

**ATTENTION: PERSONAL WATERCRAFT OWNERS  
DO YOU WANT TO BE BANNED FROM THE LAKE?**

Personal Watercraft operators can count on increased scrutiny of their behavior during the upcoming boating season. Some residents are lobbying to restrict the hours of usage or ban personal watercraft from Lake Cavanaugh completely. So, if your answer is “**NO**,” then you **NEED** to monitor your PWC behavior and the PWC behavior of your visitors!

Of greatest importance is to adhere to the “**5 MPH/NO WAKE ZONE**” and “**NO RIDING ½ HOUR AFTER SUNSET**” in accordance with the Washington State rules and regulations. The committee suggests that stunts such as “360’s and wave jumping” be performed in the center of the lake to reduce the noise level and to increase safety by avoiding the skiers/tubers. The types of activity that will ban us from the lake are:

1. **“Punching it” from the shore**
2. **“360’s” at the end of docks**
3. **No rear facing flagger when towing a tuber or skier**
4. **“Zipping” across the ends of docks at full speed within the NO WAKE ZONE**
5. **“Splashing” people sitting on the docks with your wake**
6. **Drivers under the age of 14**
7. **Operating a PWC under the influence**
8. **Riding ½ hour after “dusk”**
9. **Ignoring the “5 MPH/NO WAKE ZONE’ regulation**
10. **Repetitious noise and activity around the islands or close to shore**
11. **Jumping wakes too close astern**
12. **Jumping wakes behind boats pulling skiers/tubers**
13. **“SHOWING OFF” in restricted areas**

If you are guilty of any of these activities, please take responsibility and **STOP NOW!**

Some PWC operators display an “in your face” attitude, don’t know the rules or ignore them, and seem to relish the irritation that they cause. If there is continued unsafe PWC practices, it is probable that PWC will have no use on our lake in the future. It would be unfortunate for all of us to lose our privileges due to a few “inconsiderate” neighbors. Rather than waste a significant monetary investment in these machines, having owners control PWC behavior seems to make more sense. Being banned from the lake seems a harsh penalty when self-policing will work. If there is a problem with the machine, it’s probably a “loose nut” holding the handlebars. It’s the person who turns the key or the owner of the machine that assumes the responsibility of the personal watercraft’s operation!

The “**NEED FOR SPEED**” and “**UNRULY BEHAVIOR**” will find personal watercraft owners looking for a new place to play!

By Larita Humble, Boating Safety Committee