

NEW JERSEY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE
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*** THIS FILE INCLUDES ALL REGULATIONS PUBLISHED THROUGH THE ***
*** NEW JERSEY REGISTER, VOL. 37. NO. 10, MAY 16, 2005 ***

TITLE 13. LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
CHAPTER 82. BOATING REGULATIONS
SUBCHAPTER 3. OPERATIONAL REGULATIONS

N.J.A.C. § 13:82-3.1

§ 13:82-3.1 Waterskiing

(a) "Waterskiing" means anything with a rider being towed by a power vessel by means of a tow rope, tow line, or training boom, except another vessel being towed.

(b) All power vessels (including vessel, towline and skier) conducting waterskiing operations shall, while underway, keep at least 200 feet distant from any wharf, marina, dock, pier, bridge structure, abutment, or persons in the water, and 100 feet from other vessels, any shore, approved aid to navigation or mooring except specifically provided otherwise in these regulations.

(c) All power vessels conducting waterskiing operations shall have a crew of at least two persons, one of whom shall be a competent observer, and shall have adequate space on the vessel for the waterskiing participant.

(d) Tow lines shall be not less than 35 feet nor more than 75 feet in length, except as specifically provided otherwise in these regulations.

(e) Waterskiing is permitted only between sunrise and sunset, except as specifically provided otherwise in these regulations.

(f) Waterskiers shall wear a United States Coast Guard approved Type I, II, III or Type V Hybrid personal flotation device, except that a barefoot wetsuit may be worn during sanctioned competitions or shows and while training for such events, as long as there is a United States Coast Guard approved wearable personal flotation device on board the vessel for each skier.

(g) All ski boats shall display a signal pennant, which shall be orange in color and triangular in shape and not less than 12 inches on any dimension.

1. Said pennant shall be displayed at least four feet above the highest structure on the boat during each of the following activities:

- i. While pulling or retrieving a skier;
- ii. While a skier is in the water; or
- iii. While a tow line is in the water.

2. A person shall not display the pennant at any time other than while conducting any of the activities described in this subsection.

(h) The Commission shall, upon application, waive any one or more of the above requirements for events of public entertainment on any wholly-owned private lake, provided that it finds the event to be consistent with the interests of boating safety.

HISTORY:

Amended by R.1998 d.198, effective April 20, 1998.

See: 30 New Jersey Register 26(a), 30 New Jersey Register 1422(b).

Amended by R.1999 d.127, effective April 19, 1999.

See: 31 New Jersey Register 113(a), 31 New Jersey Register 1069(a).

Amended by R.2004 d.318, effective August 16, 2004 (operative October 1, 2004).

See: 36 New Jersey Register 1174(a), 36 New Jersey Register 3886(a).

Chapter Note

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N.J.A.C. § 13:82-3.11

§ 13:82-3.11 Lake Hopatcong, Sussex and Morris County

(a) From May 15 through September 15 of each calendar year, no person shall waterski on Saturdays, Sundays or holidays between the hours of 11:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. in the following areas:

1. Byram Cove;
2. Between Raccoon Island and Prospect Point;
3. Between Prospect Point and Halsey Island;
4. Woodport Cove;
5. Between Halsey Island and Raccoon Island; and
6. Henderson Cove.

(b) No vessel shall pull more than two skiers at any one time on Saturdays, Sundays or holidays from May 15 through September 15 of any year except when participating in an exhibition or race sanctioned by the State Police or the Division of Parks and Forestry.

(c) The towing vessel shall not be loaded beyond the manufacturer's recommended capacity. For purposes of this subsection, the skier, or skiers, shall be included when determining the number of passengers in the vessel.

(d) While towing a skier, the operator of the vessel shall maintain a distance from any shore, structure, buoy, person in the water, vessel or other object, of not less than the length of the tow line plus 100 feet.

(e) The ski boat operator shall, when a skier has fallen, or has otherwise become disconnected from the tow line, reduce speed and return to the skier in a safe and reasonable manner.

(f) The dropping of skis for the purpose of barefoot or slalom skiing is prohibited, unless the ski is immediately retrieved by a following vessel.

(g) No vessel shall be operated upon Lake Hopatcong between the hours of sunset and sunrise at a speed in excess of 10 miles per hour.

(h) No vessel shall be operated upon Lake Hopatcong on Saturdays, Sundays or legal holidays between May 15 and September 15 at a speed in excess of 30 miles per hour.

(i) No vessel shall be operated at a speed in excess of five miles per hour within 100 feet of shore, any wharf, pier, bridge, dock structure, buoy or person in the water or designated bathing area which is marked by buoys.

(j) No vessel shall be operated at such a speed that shall cause 100 percent of the hull to come out of the water. Operation of the vessel in such a manner shall constitute, without further proof, careless operation. An exception to this

requirement will be allowed for operation during authorized races sanctioned by the State Police or the Division of Parks and Forestry, or with a race test permit issued by the State Police.

(k) When the water level reaches the Extreme High Water Level (Elevation 924.20 feet) or when the gauge at the dam in Hopatcong State Park reads 9.5, a "Slow Speed--No Wake" condition shall exist.

HISTORY:

Amended by R.1999 d.127, effective April 19, 1999.

See: 31 New Jersey Register 113(a), 31 New Jersey Register 1069(a).

Amended by R.2001 d.62, effective February 20, 2001.

See: 32 New Jersey Register 2976(b), 33 New Jersey Register 683(a).

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