

Mandatory Boating Education Minimum age for operating a boat	
Horsepower of Motor	Restrictions of Use
0-25 hp	None
Greater than 25 hp	Persons 11 years of age or younger may NOT operate. Persons born on or after Jan. 1, 1982, may NOT operate unless they have obtained and have in possession a Boating Safety Education Certificate.
PWC*	Persons 11 years of age or younger may NOT operate. Persons 12 through 15 years of age may NOT operate with any passengers on board 15 years of age or younger or rent a PWC.
*Personal watercraft include Aquatrax, Jet-Ski, Sea-Doo, WaveRunner, and others.	ALL PWC operators must obtain and have in their possession a Boating Safety Education Certificate.

### How Can I Get A Boating Safety Education Certificate?

To obtain a Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission-approved Boating Safety Education Certificate, boaters must successfully complete a classroom or long-distance learning Commission-approved boating course (a fee may be charged). Pennsylvania residents must have a certificate issued by the Commission or by another state. To find a boating course near you, contact one of the following resources:

- PFBC web site: [www.fish.state.pa.us](http://www.fish.state.pa.us)
- PFBC Boating Course Hotline: 1-888-PAFISH-1 (1-888-723-4741)
- Long-distance learning course:
  - [www.boat-ed.com/pa/](http://www.boat-ed.com/pa/) to access the Boat Pennsylvania Internet course
  - 1-800-830-2268 to order the video/correspondence course



**Lake Wallenpaupack Office**  
P.O. Box 122  
Hawley, PA 18428-0122  
[www.pplpreserves.com](http://www.pplpreserves.com)

# General Information

## Lake Wallenpaupack

- 5,700 acres
- 13 miles long
- 52 miles of shoreline
- 60 feet maximum depth
- 2 miles at greatest width

• The lake was built in 1926 as a water supply reservoir for PPL's Wallenpaupack hydroelectric plant. The lake is also an excellent recreation facility, open to public use.

• Boat launching ramps are available at Caffrey, Ironwood Point, Ledgedale and Wilsonville recreation areas; the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) access area (see PFBC regulations); and private marinas.

Northeast Regional Office  
Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission  
P.O. Box 88  
Sweet Valley, PA 18656-0088  
Phone: 570-477-5717

PPL  
Lake Wallenpaupack Office  
P.O. Box 122  
Hawley, PA 18428-0122  
Phone: 1-877-PPL-LAKE (775-5253)  
[lakewallenpaupack@pplweb.com](mailto:lakewallenpaupack@pplweb.com)

**PPL Lake Wallenpaupack office hours by appointment only. Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.** (closed from noon to 12:30 p.m. for lunch)

# Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission Regulations

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) is charged with establishing and enforcing boating regulations within the commonwealth of Pennsylvania. This guide is not all-inclusive. Boaters may request a more complete summary by writing for a boating handbook to: Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, P.O. Box 67000, Harrisburg, PA 17106-7000. The boating handbook and other information about boating safety and education is available at the commission's Web site, [www.fish.state.pa.us](http://www.fish.state.pa.us).

## BOAT EQUIPMENT

### Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs)

All boats must have a U.S. Coast Guard-approved wearable PFD on board for each person. Boats 16 feet and over (except canoes and kayaks) must have one approved wearable device for each person, plus one throwable device. A throwable device (Type IV) cannot be used as a substitute for a wearable PFD (Type I, II, III or V). PFDs must be in good and serviceable condition, and the USCG approval must be legible (no rips or tears, with the buckles and straps in working order).

- On boats 20 feet or less in length and on all canoes and kayaks, children age 12 and younger must wear an approved PFD whenever the boat is under way. "Under way" means that a vessel is not at anchor or made fast to the shore or aground.
- Wearable PFDs must be "readily accessible," which means easily reached and ready to wear.
- Type IV PFDs (throwables) must be "immediately available," meaning within arm's reach of the operator or passenger while the boat is being operated.
- PFDs must be the appropriate size for the person intended (by weight and/or chest size).
- All water skiers and anyone being towed behind a boat, or anyone on board a personal watercraft or sailboard, must wear a PFD.

### Fire Extinguisher

Marine-type fire extinguishers must be carried on all motorboats with closed compartments, permanently installed fuel tanks, double bottoms not sealed to the hull or completely filled with flotation materials, closed living spaces, or closed storage compartments in which combustible or flammable materials are stored.

- They must be in good and serviceable condition and USCG approved.
- The number and size of extinguishers required depends on boat length and construction.
- Fire extinguishers must be maintained in a usable condition, fully charged, installed and maintained so that they are immediately available within arm's length of the operator or passenger of the boat.

### Sound-Producing Device

Motorboats under 40 feet in length must carry some means of making an efficient sound signal audible for 1/2 mile. It can be hand, mouth or power generated (whistle or horn). An athletic coach's whistle is acceptable. It must be readily accessible to the operator of the boat or passengers. Boats 40 feet and greater

must carry a whistle and a bell audible for 1/2 mile.

### Carburetor Backfire Flame Control

Gasoline engines, except outboards, must have an approved (USCG, SAE, or UL) backfire flame control on the carburetor to prevent ignition of gasoline vapors in case the engine backfires. It should be maintained regularly and can be cleaned with hot, soapy water or a commercial cleaner.

### Marine Sanitation Devices (MSD)

Boats must hold wastes on board in the MSD until they get to a pump-out station. Littering and dumping anything in Pennsylvania waters is illegal. Pump-out stations are available at locations marked on map on opposite side.

## FISHING

- A Pennsylvania fishing license is required for anyone who is 16 years of age and older. It is illegal to fish without a fishing license.
- Pennsylvania fishing licenses are required to be displayed on an outer garment while fishing.

## BOAT OPERATION

### Operational Requirements

It is illegal:

- to cause a boat to become airborne or to leave the water completely while crossing another boat's wake when within 100 feet of the boat creating the wake.
- to weave through congested traffic.
- to operate faster than slow-no-wake when within 100 feet to the rear or 50 feet to the side of another boat that is under way, unless in a narrow channel.
- to operate within 100 feet of anyone towed behind another boat.

### Passenger Safety

Whenever your boat is going faster than slow-no-wake (idle speed), all passengers must be in a position where they cannot accidentally fall out of the boat. This means unless there is a railing that is high enough to keep them from falling off, they may not ride on:

- bow decks
- gunwales (sitting on the side of the boat)
- transom (sitting on the back of the boat)
- motor cover (unless designed as a seat)

If the tops of the passenger's hips are above a railing or the side of the boat, the passenger is sitting in the wrong place. Standing - It is unlawful to operate a motorboat less than 20 feet in length at greater than slow-no-wake while a person is standing on or in the boat. It is not a violation if the boat is designed for the operator or passenger, or both, to stand while under way at that speed (such as center console motorboats). It is illegal to operate a pontoon boat at greater than slow-no-wake while a person is riding outside the passenger carrying area.

### Speed

Reduce speed to slow-no-wake (idle speed) when you are within:

- 100 feet of the shoreline, docks, swimmers, down skiers, or moored, anchored or drifting boats.
- any area marked with slow-no-wake buoys, including, but not limited to:
  - Wallenpaupack Creek to 1,000 feet downstream of the Ledgedale Bridge.
  - between Cairns Island and the Pike County shore.
  - from the dam 600 feet upstream.

### Maximum Speed Limits

- 45 mph from sunrise to sunset (day) on Saturday, Sunday and holidays from the Saturday before Memorial Day to Labor Day.
- 25 mph from sunset to sunrise (night) all year.
- No restriction during other periods; however, all operators must maintain a safe speed and be in control of their boat.

### Boating Under the Influence

It is illegal to operate a watercraft while under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance.

### Lighting of Boats

- Between sunset and sunrise and during periods of reduced visibility, boats must display the proper navigation lighting. Boaters may refer to the Pennsylvania Boating Handbook or other reference to know the proper lighting for their type vessel. Recommendation: Carry spare bulbs and fuses.
- Personal watercraft are not to be operated from sunset to sunrise, whether lighted or not.
- Use of spotlights at night is limited to docking and mooring. It is illegal to operate with a spotlight or shine it on another boat. It is also illegal to use a spotlight in any manner that

impairs visibility or the distinctive character of inland navigation lights, or interferes with the keeping of a proper lookout.

### No Boat Area

Other than marked swimming areas, there is only one area on the lake that boats are not allowed. It is near the dam and PFBC access, and is marked by buoys.

### Buoys

Smart boaters are familiar with the shapes and colors of buoys (see map). Buoys mark channels, danger and restricted areas, and special control zones. The only buoys that boaters may tie off to are mooring buoys (white with a blue stripe). Recommendation: Do not rely entirely on buoys - they can move out of position. Keep a good map/chart on board.

### Water-Skiing Activities (includes aqua plane, disc, tubes and other similar devices towed behind a boat)

- There must be an observer in addition to the operator. The observer must be capable of knowing when a skier is in trouble, know and understand water-skiing hand signals, and be capable of helping the skier into the boat (i.e., no dog, infant or toddler observers).
- PWCs, regardless of their capacity, can tow only one skier at any given time.
- Water-skiing is prohibited from sunset to sunrise.
- Refer to the boating handbook for maximum towline lengths for the type of skiing activity you are doing.
- Water-skiing is prohibited on Saturday, Sunday and holidays at the western end of the lake between a line about 200 yards east of Cairns Island (marked by buoys) and the Ledgedale recreation area (see map).
- Kite skiing and parasailing are prohibited on Saturday, Sunday and holidays. During the week, it is permitted from the Kipp Island/Wallenpaupack Lake Estates ramp to the slow-no-wake area near the dam.

### Noise Pollution

Every motorboat is required to have a muffler or muffler system in good working order. Cutouts (muffler bypasses) are illegal in Pennsylvania. Boats registered in another state with cutouts may not operate in Pennsylvania. Boats without a muffler or muffling system must be backfitted before being operated.

## BOAT REGISTRATION

- All motorboats must be registered (this includes boats with electric motors).
- The registration card must be on board whenever the boat is in operation. (Recommendation: Keep it in a ziplock bag or other waterproof storage - don't laminate.)
- Boats must be registered in the state of principal use, not where the owner lives.
- To use the PFBC access near the dam, powered boats (electric, gasoline or diesel) must be currently registered. Unpowered boats must be registered or possess a current PFBC or DCNR (Pa. Department of Conservation and Natural Resources) launch permit.

## BOAT ACCIDENTS

- An operator of any vessel involved in a boating accident must stop, render assistance and offer identification. If the accident results in a death or disappearance, a Waterways Conservation Officer (WCO) must be notified immediately, and a Boating Accident Report must be submitted within 48 hours.
- If the accident results in injury that requires treatment beyond first aid, a Boating Accident Report must be submitted within 48 hours.
- If the accident results in property damage exceeding \$2,000 to boats or other property, a Boating Accident Report must be submitted within 10 days.
- Boating Accident Reports are available on the PA Fish and Boat Commission Web site at [www.fish.state.pa.us](http://www.fish.state.pa.us).

## BOAT NOISE EDUCATION:

Sharing your loud boat or stereo with other lake residents or vacationers is not always appreciated. Good boaters keep their NOISE to themselves.



# Local Regulations

## OBTAINING PERMITS FOR EVENTS

PPL provides the opportunity for members of the public to undertake certain community or organizational events on the lake or PPL property with the express written approval of PPL in the form of a PPL issued Day Use Activity Permit. Individuals or organizations wishing to conduct a group or organizational event on PPL lands or waters at Lake Wallenpaupack must complete and sign an application for a Day Use Activity Permit and submit it to PPL's Lake Wallenpaupack office at least 90 days prior to the proposed event. PPL will review the request and notify the individual or organization of the insurance and indemnification requirements that must be provided before PPL will grant the Day Use Activity Permit. The application for this permit, further information on procedures to acquire a Day Use Activity Permit, types of activities permitted, and the insurance and indemnification requirements can be acquired by contacting the PPL Lake Wallenpaupack Office.

## ISLANDS

The four islands are owned by PPL and are open to public use only during daylight hours. Camping, pets, alcoholic beverages, open fires, private discharge of fireworks and trash/refuse dumping are prohibited. Toilet facilities are available at Eppy, Kipp and Cairns islands.

## PPL prohibits sleeping on boats on Lake Wallenpaupack

## PPL RECREATION AREAS

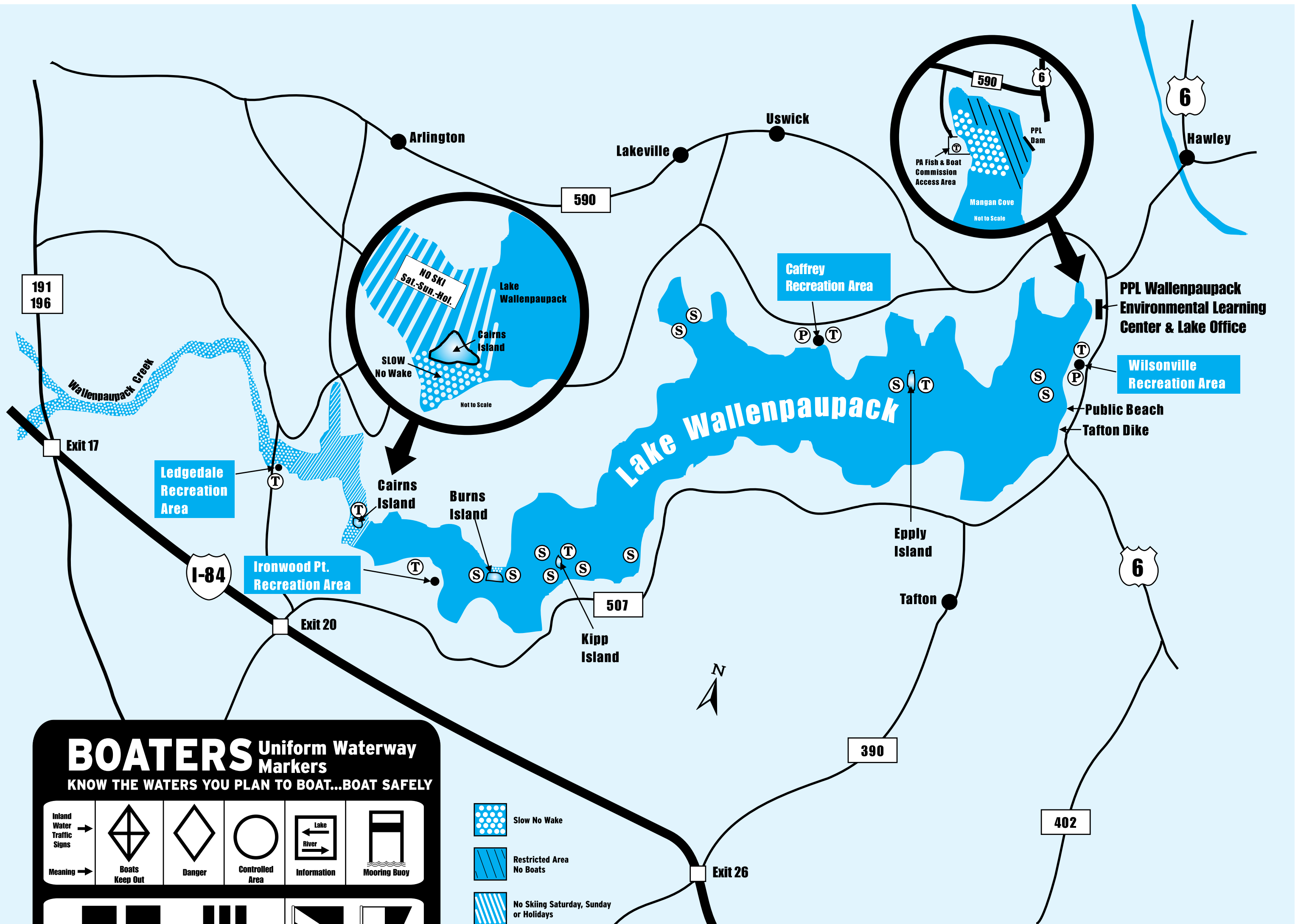
- Swimming is not allowed at PPL's recreation areas - Caffrey, Wilsonville, Ironwood Point, Ledgedale and Five Mile Point. There is a public bathing beach adjacent to the Wilsonville recreation area.
- Boat sewage pumping facilities are available for a fee at Caffrey & Wilsonville.
- Docks are not to be used for sunbathing or fishing.
- Children are not allowed to play on boat docks.
- No pets are allowed at PPL's recreation areas.

## MOTORIZED VEHICLES ON ICE

PPL prohibits any motorized vehicle, including but not limited to, automobiles, trucks, ATVs, and snowmobiles, on the ice.

## KEEPING BOATS ON THE LAKE

- Only adjacent front-lot property owners are eligible for dock and mooring buoy permits. All applications must be submitted through the PPL Lake Office.
- The area extending 100 feet from the shoreline is considered a special anchorage area. Vessels anchored or moored in this area are exempt from showing an all-round white light (anchor light) as long as they are directly lighted by a shore light. The shore light must be screened so that the operator of an approaching vessel is not blinded. Unattended overnight anchorage of boats, except at PPL approved docks or moorings, is prohibited.



## BOATERS Uniform Waterway Markers

KNOW THE WATERS YOU PLAN TO BOAT...BOAT SAFELY

Inland Water Traffic Signs					
Meaning	Boats Keep Out	Danger	Controlled Area	Information	Mooring Buoy

 Channel Lies between red or green buoys	 Mid-Channel Pass close on either side	 Divers Down Flag	 Alpha Flag
Divers Down Flags			

- Slow No Wake
- Restricted Area No Boats
- No Skiing Saturday, Sunday or Holidays
- Toilet Facilities
- Boat Sewage Pumping
- Shoal

See Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission regulations on kite skiing in this brochure. Reduce speed to a slow, no wake speed within 100 feet of shore, docks, swimmers and anchored, drifting or moored boats.

Scale: 1" = Approximately 1 Mile