

HELPFUL BOATING TIPS

ANCHORING

To anchor properly you must determine the water depth. Typically, the water around the swim buoy can be up to 25-30 feet deep. The anchor line needs to be at least a 3:1 ratio. This means that if the water is 25 feet, you'll need a 75-foot line to hold your boat securely. Pointing the front of your boat and anchor into the wind also helps create less drag on the anchor.

SWIM BUOY DISTANCE

It's recommended that all boats anchored stay within 100 feet of the swim buoy. If boats float away from the buoy because they haven't anchored correctly, it makes adjacent areas of the lake dangerous to navigate. Please try to remain within 100 feet of the swim buoy.

TUBING

When pulling a tube, the maximum is 2 people. Unfortunately, there are times when 3-4 people are in one or two tubes and this is an extremely dangerous situation. So please try to avoid it. Additionally, as Lake Zurich is rather small, donuts (large circles) are very hazardous and can create safety issues. This is especially problematic for on-coming craft since they can't predict your path. Please avoid this maneuver.

POWER TURNS

When picking up a downed skier/tuber/wakeboarder/etc., please ease up on the throttle and return to your skier at a no-wake speed. Making a high-powered large circle to return to the person in the water can create safety issues for other craft, as well as the individual in the water.

SKI/Wakeboard Areas

Skiers/wakeboarders are encouraged to utilize the areas closest to the buoys, traveling in a counterclockwise direction. This is the safest area to support high speed boating traffic with individuals on the water, making rapid changes in direction. Consequently, to maximize lake utilization and user safety, it is recommended that other stationary or slowly moving craft avoid this area, if possible, during peak times of day when traffic is heavy.

WAKEBOARD BOATS

These boats are increasingly popular, and our lake is no different. Wakeboarders and surfers seek deep water to produce a wake, which makes the shallow water along the buoys undesirable. This can result in unpredictable boating traffic patterns and result in significant safety issues. Please be conscious of the lake population and during busy days, stay along the outer edges of the lake and only move in a counterclockwise direction. It may not be ideal, but it will help avoid unnecessary risk.

STAND UP PADDLE BOARDS-KAYAKS-CANOES

Smaller non-powered boards/boats can be very difficult for powerboats to see, especially on days with heavy marine traffic. Please use the area in between the no wake buoys and the shoreline to avoid safety challenges. This area also provides for a better experience for non-power craft.

as wakes tend to be smaller and traffic is allowed in any direction. As a note, life jackets are required by state law and brightly colored clothing is always a good idea.

We all share an incredible, but limited, resource – Lake Zurich. In order to maximize everyone's safety and enjoyment, we ask that you follow these tips and suggestions. We are a community and, working together, we can keep the lake safe, clean, and a treasure for future generations. Have a wonderful boating season. :)