

## Enhanced wake regulations

The concern of wake boat use on Bad Medicine Lake was brought forward at the annual Township meeting in March.

During this meeting, multiple residents from Bad Medicine Lake shared personal experiences of their encounters with wake boats on the lake. Much of what was shared included property damage, concern for the water quality of the lake, and the inability for non-wake boat people to recreate safely on the waters of the lake. A motion was made by the residents present at the township meeting requesting the township to explore the possibility of regulations for wake boat use on the lake.

As a result of this motion, the township board, during the April Board meeting, directed the planning commission committee the task of exploring the process and to organize a survey to look into regulating wake boats on Bad Medicine Lake and the other lakes within Forest Township.

The planning commission committee met May 5 and reviewed the following information:

MNCola position statement:

Map: Bad Medicine Lake suggested Wakesurfing Area:

Minnesota statutes that authorize local governments to proceed with regulation establishment:

<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/86B.201>

DNR process for regulations:

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/regulations/boatwater/surfaceusezoning.html>

MNCola website with results and videos from research completed on the impact of wake boats with enhanced waves on the lakes where they are used: <https://mncola.org/wake-surfing/>

It was determined that the first step for the committee is to develop a survey and distribute to property owners in Forest Township to get a more accurate picture of the impact of wake boats on Bad Medicine Lake.