

557.20 PERMIT FOR SPECIAL WATER EVENTS.

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OH

Sheffield Lake

Codified Ordinances of Sheffield Lake, OH

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CHAPTER 557 Watercraft

557.15 WATER SKIING CONFINED TO SKI ZONES.

(a) Except on the waters of Lake Erie, the Ohio River, and immediately connected harbors and anchorage facilities, any person who rides or attempts to ride upon one or more water skis, surfboard, or similar device, or who engages or attempts to engage in barefoot skiing, and any person who operates a vessel towing a person riding or attempting to ride on one or more water skis, surfboard, or similar device, or engaging or attempting to engage in barefoot skiing, shall confine that activity to the water area within a designated ski zone on all bodies of water on which a ski zone has been established.

(b) On all bodies of water designated as "open zone", that is, having a combined speed and ski zone, the activities described in division (a) of this section shall be confined to the open zone.

(c) No person shall operate or permit to be operated any vessel on the waters of this

Municipality in violation of this section.

(d) Whoever violates any of the provisions of this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.
(Ord. 79-07. Passed 11-13-07.)

557.16 OBSERVER REQUIRED WHEN TOWING SKIER.

(a) Any person who operates a vessel towing any person riding or attempting to ride upon one or more water skis or upon a surfboard or similar device, or engaging or attempting to engage in barefoot skiing, on the waters in this Municipality shall have present in the vessel a person or persons other than the operator, 10 years of age or older, who shall at all times observe the progress of the person being towed. The operator of the towing vessel shall at all times observe the traffic pattern toward which the vessel is approaching.

(b) No person shall operate or permit to be operated any vessel on the waters of the Municipality in violation of this section.

(c) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.
(Ord. 79-07. Passed 11-13-07.)

557.17 WATER SKIING AFTER DARK PROHIBITED.

(a) No person shall ride or attempt to ride upon water skis, surfboard, or similar device, or engage or attempt to engage in barefoot skiing, or use or operate any vessel to tow any person thereon on the waters in this Municipality during that period of the day between sunset and sunrise, except upon special permit issued by the State department, conservancy district, or political subdivision having jurisdiction and control of such water.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.
(Ord. 79-07. Passed 11-13-07.)

557.18 PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICE REQUIRED FOR TOWED PERSON.

(a) No person shall ride or attempt to ride on one or more water skis, surfboard, inflatable device, or similar device being towed by a vessel without wearing an adequate and effective Coast Guard approved type one, two, or three personal flotation device or type five personal flotation device specifically designed for water skiing, in good and serviceable condition and of appropriate size, except upon special permit issued by the State department, conservancy district, or political subdivision having jurisdiction and control of the water.

(b) No person shall engage or attempt to engage in barefoot skiing without wearing an adequate and effective Coast Guard approved type one, two, or three personal flotation device or type five personal flotation device specifically designed for water skiing, in good and serviceable condition and of appropriate size, or a wet suit specifically designed for barefoot skiing.

(c) No operator of a vessel shall tow any person who fails to comply with division (a) or (b) of this section.

(d) Whoever violates any of the provisions of this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.
(Ord. 79-07. Passed 11-13-07.)

557.19 SKI JUMPS PROHIBITED.

(a) No person shall install or maintain any structure or inclined platform known as a water ski jump on the waters in this Municipality. No person shall use any such platform or structure for the purpose of water ski jumping, except upon special permit issued by the State department, conservancy district, or political subdivision having jurisdiction and control over such water.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.
(Ord. 79-07. Passed 11-13-07.)

557.20 PERMIT FOR SPECIAL WATER EVENTS.

(a) No person or organization shall conduct any race, regatta, or other special event upon the

waters in this Municipality without first obtaining written permission, upon application not less than 30 days prior to the time of the proposed race, regatta, or event, of the Federal agency, State department, conservancy district, or political subdivision having jurisdiction and control over such waters. Any State department, conservancy district, or political subdivision may suspend its respective rules during a race, regatta, or special event. Nothing in this section shall be construed to mean that the operator of a vessel competing in a specially authorized race, regatta, or special event shall not attempt to attain high speeds on a marked racing course.

(b) On any waters in this Municipality over which no Federal agency, State department, conservancy district, or political subdivision has jurisdiction and control, no person or organization shall conduct any race, regatta, or other special event without first obtaining written permission, upon application not less than 30 days prior to the time of the proposed race, regatta, or event, of the Chief of the Division of Watercraft. The Chief of the Division of Watercraft may, if he or she determines that the public safety will be adequately protected, grant written permission for holding such race, regatta, or special event. This section does not apply to privately owned lakes or ponds nor to canoes or rowboats.

(c) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.

(Ord. 79-07. Passed 11-13-07.)

557.21 SALE OF SINGLE CELLED INFLATABLE VESSELS PROHIBITED.

(a) No person shall use or offer for use on the waters in this Municipality any inflatable vessel made of canvas, rubber, synthetic rubber, or vinyl plastic unless the inflatable vessel is of multiple air cell or compartment construction and is capable of remaining afloat if one air cell or compartment is punctured or collapsed.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.

(Ord. 79-07. Passed 11-13-07.)

557.22 SITTING, STANDING, WALKING ON MOVING VESSELS RESTRICTED.

(a) No occupant of any vessel underway on the waters in this Municipality shall sit, stand, or walk upon any portion of the vessel not specifically designed for that movement, except when immediately necessary for the safe and reasonable navigation or operation of the vessel. No operator of a vessel underway on the waters in this Municipality shall allow any occupant of the vessel to sit, stand, or walk on any portion of the vessel underway not specifically designed for that use, except when immediately necessary for the safe and reasonable navigation or operation of the vessel.

(b) No person shall operate or permit to be operated any vessel on the waters in this Municipality in violation of this section.

(c) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.

(Ord. 79-07. Passed 11-13-07.)

557.23 ENGINE WARM-UP REQUIRED.

(a) The pilot or engineer of any powercraft for hire to carry passengers shall not permit passengers to come aboard before the engine of such powercraft has been permitted to run for a minimum of two minutes.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.

(Ord. 79-07. Passed 11-13-07.)

557.24 PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES FOR CHILDREN UNDER TEN.

(a) No person shall operate or permit to be operated any vessel under 18 feet in length while there is present in the vessel any person under 10 years of age, not wearing a Coast Guard approved type one, two, or three personal flotation device in good and serviceable condition of

appropriate size securely attached to the person under 10 years of age.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.

(Ord. 79-07. Passed 11-13-07.)

557.25 OPERATION WITHOUT PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES PROHIBITED.

(a) No person shall operate or permit to be operated any vessel, other than a commercial vessel or other vessel exempted by rules adopted under Ohio R.C. 1547.52, on the waters in this Municipality:

(1) That is 16 feet or greater in length without carrying aboard one type one, two, or three personal flotation device for each person aboard and one type four personal flotation device;

(2) That is less than 16 feet in length, including canoes and kayaks of any length, without carrying aboard one type one, two, or three personal flotation device for each person aboard.

(b) A type five personal flotation device may be carried in lieu of a type one, two, or three personal flotation device required under division (a) of this section.

(c) No person shall operate or permit to be operated any commercial vessel on the waters in this Municipality:

(1) That is less than 40 feet in length and is not carrying persons for hire without carrying aboard at least one type one, two, or three personal flotation device for each person aboard;

(2) That is carrying persons for hire or is 40 feet in length or longer and is not carrying persons for hire without carrying aboard at least one type one personal flotation device for each person aboard;

(3) That is 26 feet in length or longer without carrying aboard at least one type four ring life buoy in addition to the applicable requirements of divisions (c)(1) and (2) of this section.

(d) Each personal flotation device carried aboard a vessel, including a commercial vessel, pursuant to this section shall be Coast Guard approved and in good and serviceable condition, of appropriate size for the wearer, and readily accessible to each person aboard the vessel at all times.

(e) As used in this section, "commercial vessel" means any vessel used in the carriage of any person or property for a valuable consideration whether flowing directly or indirectly from the owner, partner, or agent or any other person interested in the vessel. "Commercial vessel" does not include any vessel that is manufactured or used primarily for noncommercial use or that is leased, rented, or chartered to another for noncommercial use.

(f) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.

(Ord. 79-07. Passed 11-13-07.)

557.26 DISTRESS SIGNAL OR FLAG REQUIRED.

(a) No person shall operate on the waters of Lake Erie or the immediately connecting bays, harbors, and anchorage areas at any time a vessel that is 16 or more feet in length or any vessel carrying six or fewer passengers for hire without carrying Coast Guard approved visual distress signals for both day and night use.

(b) No person shall operate upon the waters of Lake Erie or the immediately connecting bays, harbors, and anchorage areas during the period from sunset to sunrise according to local time any of the following without carrying Coast Guard approved visual distress signals for night use:

(1) A vessel less than 16 feet in length;

(2) A vessel competing in an organized marine parade, race, regatta, or similar event;

(3) A manually propelled vessel;

(4) A sailboat less than 26 feet in length with completely open construction and without propulsion machinery.

(c) No person shall operate a vessel on the waters in this State other than Lake Erie or the immediately connecting bays, harbors, and anchorage areas unless the vessel carries either a distress flag at least two feet square and international orange in color or a Coast Guard approved daytime distress signal.

(d) No person shall display any distress signal unless a vessel or a person is in distress and in need of help.

(e) Divisions (a) and (c) of this section do not apply to any of the following:

(1) Vessels competing in an organized marine parade, race, regatta, or similar event;

(2) Manually propelled vessels;

(3) Sailboats less than 26 feet in length with completely open construction and without propulsion machinery.

(f) The distress signals required by this section shall be in good and serviceable condition, readily accessible, and of the type and quantities required by regulations adopted under 46 U.S.C. 4302, as amended.

(g) No person shall operate or permit to be operated any vessel on the waters in this Municipality in violation of this section.

(h) Whoever violates any of the provisions of this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. (Ord. 79-07. Passed 11-13-07.)

557.27 ANCHOR REQUIREMENTS.

(a) All watercraft, except sailboats less than 16 feet long having a cockpit depth of less than 12 inches and except canoes, shall carry an anchor and line of sufficient weight and length to anchor the watercraft securely. The Chief of the Division of Watercraft, by rule, may exempt other types of watercraft from this section after determining that carrying such an anchor and line would constitute a hazard.

(b) No person shall operate or permit to be operated any watercraft on the waters of this Municipality in violation of this section.

(c) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. (Ord. 79-07. Passed 11-13-07.)

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