

WESTLAKE LAKE
MANAGEMENT
ASSOCIATION



BOATING SAFETY HANDBOOK

GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1 This Handbook supports the Westlake Lake Management Association (WLMA) Rules and Regulations (Rules), emphasizing boating safety. The Rules document is separately provided. Recognize you as the boater are primarily responsible for safe boating; WLMA has limited on-the-lake personnel resources.
- 2 All Lake Users participating in boating activities on Westlake Lake agree to follow and abide by the Rules.

Boat owners are responsible for the safe operation of their boats and must ensure any boat operator is aware of boating safety rules.
- 3 WLMA encourages all boaters to read the ABC's of California Boating. Visit www.dbw.parks.ca.gov. For safety, and as appropriate for Westlake Lake's small boats/slow speeds environment, WLMA privately adopts the "Federal Inland Rules."
- 4 In 2018, the State of California began a mandatory boating safety education law, focused on motorized vessels on "California Waterways". All boaters are encouraged to take an approved boating safety course. State program information is on the web: www.boat-ed.com.

BOATING SAFETY

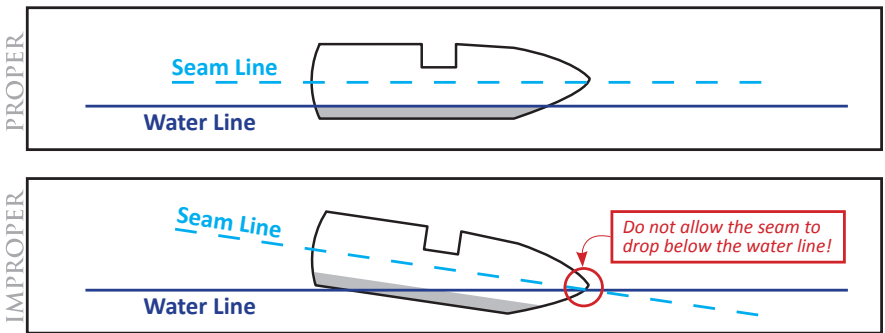
- 5 **Emergencies**
In case of an accident/medical situation, fire, or personal threat, first call 911. WLMA's personnel can assist with persons, boats, and docks, but are not trained medical personnel nor security guards. WLMA office (818) 889-5377.
- 6 **Boating Hours and Speed Limits**
General Hours: One (1) hour before sunrise to 11 pm, except in an emergency or returning to "home" dock.
Fishing Hours: One (1) hour before sunrise to one (1) hour after sunset, except low profile boats (other than bass boats equipped with fixed running lights).
Low Profile Boats: (sailboats, fishing boats, kayaks) - sunrise to sunset.
Rowing Shells: Sunrise to 10 am.
Speed Limits: 5 mph except in lake fingers 3 mph.

7 **Safe Boater Behavior**

Look over your boat for obvious safety issues before boating. Courtesy and respect for others is of paramount importance for boater safety; WLMA employees are there for your safety; follow their instructions. Review and follow safety tips in this Handbook, and learn other safe practices. It is unsafe and prohibited to: 1) launch or throw objects including water or water balloons, 2) shine bright lights or make loud noises except in an emergency, or 3) discard litter.

8 **Boat Safety & Capacity**

Operators must know boat capacity and be cautious to not overload nor imbalance boat. Single-hull (Bay Cruiser) boat capacities are shown on the boat manufacturer ID plate, and Double-hull (Party Boat) boat capacities are presented below.



U. S. Coast Guard Formula for safe loading (capacity)

Boat Length X Boat Width ÷ 15 = Number of People

Boat Capacities

16' Bay Cruiser – 7 people

18' Bay Cruiser – 9 people

16' Party Boat – 9 people

18' Party Boat - 10 people

9 **Boat Equipment and Personal Safety**

For safety, it is State required that children 12 years old and under wear a Coast Guard approved Personal Flotation Device (PFD) of the proper size when aboard a boat in operation. A life jacket (PFD) shall be available for each person on board and WLMA recommends non-swimmer adults wear a PDF. Boat equipment is listed below:

Recommended Equipment

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| 1) Flash Light | 5) Anchor |
| 2) First Aid Kit | 6) Dock Lines |
| 3) Paddle | 7) Fenders |
| 4) Cell Phone | 8) B1 Fire Extinguisher |

State Required Equipment

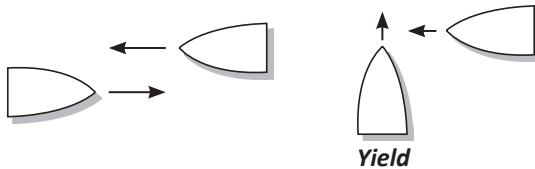
- 1) Efficient Sound Signal (whistle, bell, horn, or other)
- 2) Type I, II, III, or V Personal Flotation Device (PFD) for each person
- 3) Type IV Throwable PFD / Ring Buoy - 1 on boats 16' and over

- 10 WLMA does not conduct boat equipment checks - recommended or required equipment - which is the boaters responsibility, but WLMA does interact to address safety issues with boaters.

Where persons (children/adults) are not wearing life jackets in situations of clear need, e.g., 1) young child outside cockpit, or without adult near, etc., or 2) anyone appearing to act recklessly, unable to care for oneself, etc., WLMA may ask if life jackets are available.

11 **Maneuvering Boats**

Boat Operators must observe the right-of-way of other boats and yield (give way) when in doubt. Boats approaching from your Starboard (right side) have the right-of-way. When a boat approaches you head on, you pass Port to Port (left side to left side). Non-motorized powered boats have the right-of-way over motor powered boats.



- 12 WLMA suggests these safety tips for safe boating:
- a. WLMA does not enforce a "direction of travel" on the lake, however, when traveling around the lake, it is recommended you stay on the right side of channel [keep Starboard (right) side of boat closest to land], especially when there is heavy boating traffic, and when maneuvering in lake fingers.
 - b. Avoid approaching blind corners close to shore, regardless of travel direction.
 - c. Leave water maneuvering room for oncoming boats to pass, so that in passing Port to Port [left side to left side] neither boat is forced to go close to shore or into docks.
 - d. Avoid making U-turns when other boats close by would be forced to maneuver.

13 **Boat Lights**

When operating before sunrise, after sunset, or at times of restricted visibility, boats shall display proper navigation running lights: a red Port [left side] light, a green Starboard [right side] light, and an unobstructed, visible 360°, white light in the Stern [rear of boat]. Docking lights are to be used only for docking.



WESTLAKE LAKE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

32353 Triunfo Canyon Road, Westlake Village, CA 91361

WestlakeLakeMgmt@gmail.com | (818) 889-5377