



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

**2009 Wisconsin Act 31**  
[2009 Senate Bill 12]

**Operation of Motorboats at Slow-  
No-Wake Speed Within a Given  
Distance of the Shoreline of a Lake**

2009 Wisconsin Act 31 generally prohibits a person from operating a motorboat, other than a personal watercraft, at a speed in excess of slow-no-wake speed within 100 feet of the shoreline of any lake.

The Act specifies that in ordinances enacted under s. 30.77, Stats., a city, village, town, public inland lake protection and rehabilitation district, or a town sanitary district may provide an exemption from the 100 foot slow-no-wake requirement or may substitute a lesser number of feet.

The Act provides that the 100 foot slow-no-wake requirement does not affect any of the following:

- The authority of a city, village, town, public inland lake protection and rehabilitation district, or a town sanitary district to enact more restrictive ordinances under s. 30.77, Stats.;
- The authority of the Dane County board to enact more restrictive ordinances under s. 33.445, Stats.

The Act exempts pickup and drop areas that are marked with regulatory markers and that are open to operators of personal watercraft and to persons and motorboats engaged in water skiing or similar activity from the 100 foot slow-no-wake restriction.

**Effective Date:** 2009 Wisconsin Act 31 takes effect on February 1, 2010.

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July 17, 2009

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This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/>.