CRYSTAL LAKE

Boating & Safety Regulations
2018 Edition

The City of Crystal Lake and the Village of Lakewood welcome you to the 2018 boating season on Crystal Lake. We hope you have a safe and enjoyable summer!

The City of Crystal Lake and the Village of Lakewood have jointly approved an ordinance governing the use of watercraft on the lake. The following is an overview of this ordinance.

1. Decals

All watercraft operated on Crystal Lake must display a "Lake Usage Decal." **The non-refundable** fees for this decal are as follows:

TYPE OF WATERCRAFT	COST
Human-Powered * (e.g., canoes, kayaks, rowboats)	**$20**
Non-Human Powered (e.g., motorboats, sailboats, sailboards, jet skis)	**$30**
Replaced Watercraft (with old decal)	**$1**

If a motor is added to a human-powered watercraft, the higher fee applies.

Decals must be placed on the **right side**, near the back of the watercraft and be clearly visible. Sailboards should display the decal on the back **right top** of the board. Decals must be purchased and displayed for the entire season, and are only available to residents of Crystal Lake, Village of Lakewood, or the Crystal Lake Park District.

2. Wake Zones

Portions of the lake are designated as a wake area. The wake area is that portion of the lake which lies within the confines of the buoys. Wake speed motor boating activities must take place within the wake zone.

3. Wake Times

The following are designated as Wake Times and shall be in effect from the Memorial Day weekend through the Labor Day weekend:

Sundays & Holidays *:	8 AM – 2 PM
Monday, Wednesday, Friday:	8 AM – 8 PM
Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday:	8 AM – 5 PM

***Holidays are Memorial Day Monday, Independence Day, and Labor Day.**

If there is to be a fireworks display, wake hours will also end at 10 a.m. on the day of fireworks so that the display can be set up.

Wake hours shall automatically be suspended when the water level of Crystal Lake is more than 9" higher than the level of the spillway.

Notice shall be posted at all private beaches and public entrances to the lake notifying users of the suspension of wake hours. Users will also be informed through the media and/or written notice.

4. Counterclockwise Travel

All motorboats operating above no wake speed shall travel in a general counterclockwise direction around the lake.

5. Speed Limit

No boat shall operate on Crystal Lake at speeds in excess of 40 MPH at any time.

6. Jet Skis

JET SKIS ARE SUBJECT TO THE SAME REGULATIONS AS POWER BOATS.

7. Swimming and Flotation Devices

It shall be unlawful to swim or use recreational flotation devices (such as air mattresses) outside of the designated NO WAKE zones unless accompanied by a manned boat or a boat at anchor.

8. Penalties

Any person, firm, or corporation violating any provision of these rules and regulations can be fined up to $500 for each offense.

ALL State and local regulations are applicable and enforced year-round, except for Wake/No Wake times listed in Section 3.

USERS OF THE LAKE ARE REMINDED TO RESPECT ALL SHORELINE PROPERTY, INCLUDING PRIVATE BEACHES, PIERS, AND BOATS.

In addition to the ordinance adopted by the City of Crystal Lake and the Village of Lakewood, boating on Crystal Lake is also regulated by the Illinois Boat Registration and Safety Act. You are responsible for reading the copy of the State boating laws that were given to you at the time you purchased your Crystal Lake Usage Decal. Boaters must comply with all state laws as well.

NEW ILLINOIS LAW STATES ALL BOATERS BORN AFTER JANUARY 1, 1998, OPERATING A BOAT WITH A 10-HP ENGINE OR GREATER, MUST OBTAIN A BOATING SAFETY CERTIFICATE APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF NATUAL RESOURCES.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

In case of **EMERGENCY** call:	911
For **NON-EMERGENCY** assistance, call:	
Lakewood Police Department	(815) 459-2151
Crystal Lake Police Department	(815) 356-3620