

MICHIGAN BOATING LAWS (Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, Act 59 PA 1995, as amended; MCLA 324 & 281)

Maximum Speed Limit is 55 MPH for all boats on White Lake

Muffler or Underwater Exhaust System Required: No motorboat shall be operated unless equipped with an effective muffler or underwater exhaust system.

Maximum Noise Levels of 90db and 75db: Motorboats shall not produce sound levels in excess of 90db(A) with a stationary sound level test measured as prescribed by SAE J2005 or a shoreline sound level measurement in excess of 75db(A) as described by SAE J1970.

(1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a person less than 12 years of age shall not operate a motorboat on the waters of this state unless all of the following conditions are met:

- He or she has been issued and is in possession of a boating safety certificate.
- He or she is under the direct supervision of a person on board the motorboat who is 16 years of age or older.
- The motorboat he or she operates is powered by a motor or motors totaling no more than 35 horsepower.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a person 12 through 15 years of age may operate a motorboat on the waters of this state only if that person complies with either of the following:

- He or she is accompanied by at least 1 person 16 years of age or older.
- He or she is in possession of a boating safety certificate issued after he or she has satisfactorily completed a department approved course in boating safety.

(3) A person operating a motorboat as described in this section shall present the boating safety certificate issued to him or her upon the demand of any peace officer.

(4) This section does not apply to the operation of a motorboat that is powered by a motor or motors totaling no more than 6 horsepower.

(5) Beginning July 1, 2012, a person who is born on or after July 1, 1996 shall not operate a motorboat on the waters of this state unless the person has been issued and is in possession of a boating safety certificate.

Reckless Operation of a Personal Water Craft (PWC):

- Weaving through congested vessel traffic;
- Jumping the wake of another vessel unreasonably or unnecessarily close to the other vessel or when visibility around the other vessel is obstructed;
- Waiting until the last possible moment before swerving to avoid a collision.

Safe Distances for Personal Water Craft (PWC):

Except when traveling at slow, no-wake speed perpendicular to the shoreline a person operating a personal water craft shall:

- Maintain a distance of 200 feet from the shoreline;
- Maintain a distance of 100 feet from any dock, raft, buoy, or occupied bathing beach;
- Not cross within 150 feet behind another vessel, other than another personal water craft, unless at slow, no-wake speed.
- Not be operated during a period that begins at sunset and ends at 8:00AM.

Age Requirements to Operate Personal Water Craft:

- Under age 12 prohibited from operating a PWC;
- Ages 12-14 may operate a PWC only if a boating safety certificate was obtained or ALL of the following conditions are satisfied:
 - Accompanied solely by a parent or legal guardian,
 - Both persons operating and accompanying are required to have boat safety certificates,
 - A lanyard-type ignition safety switch is attached to the accompanying parent or legal guardian,
 - The PWC is designed to carry at least 2 persons.
- Ages 14 or older if born after Dec. 31, 1978 are required to have a boating safety certificate.

Who must wear a PFD (life jacket)?

- Children less than 6 years of age must wear a Type I or Type II PFD when riding in the open deck area of a boat.
- Each person operating, riding on or being towed behind a personal watercraft (jet ski) must wear a Type I, Type II or Type III PFD (that is not an inflatable device).
- Each person less than 12 years of age riding or being towed, behind a personal watercraft (jet ski) must wear a Type I or Type II PFD.

What type of PFD do I need to carry on my boat in Michigan?

- Vessels less than 16 feet (including canoes and kayaks) must be equipped with one Type I, II, III or IV PFD for each person on board.



Special Nautical Chart Water Depth Note

(Chart 14935, 21st Ed, June 28, 1997): Soundings are in feet and Chart Datum is IGLD 1985 at 577.5 feet. Compare Monthly Mean Lake Levels for Lakes Michigan-Huron issued by the US Army Corps of Engineers to the Chart Datum and apply the difference to a chart depth to obtain an estimate of the current depth. For example, lake level projections by the USCOE for July-August 2003 show one inch above Chart Datum, meaning water depths during these months could be only one inch above the depths shown on the nautical chart.

This guide is based on current information available at the time of printing. Please visit <http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/> for more information on Boating Rules and Regulations.

Launch Ramps and Access Sites

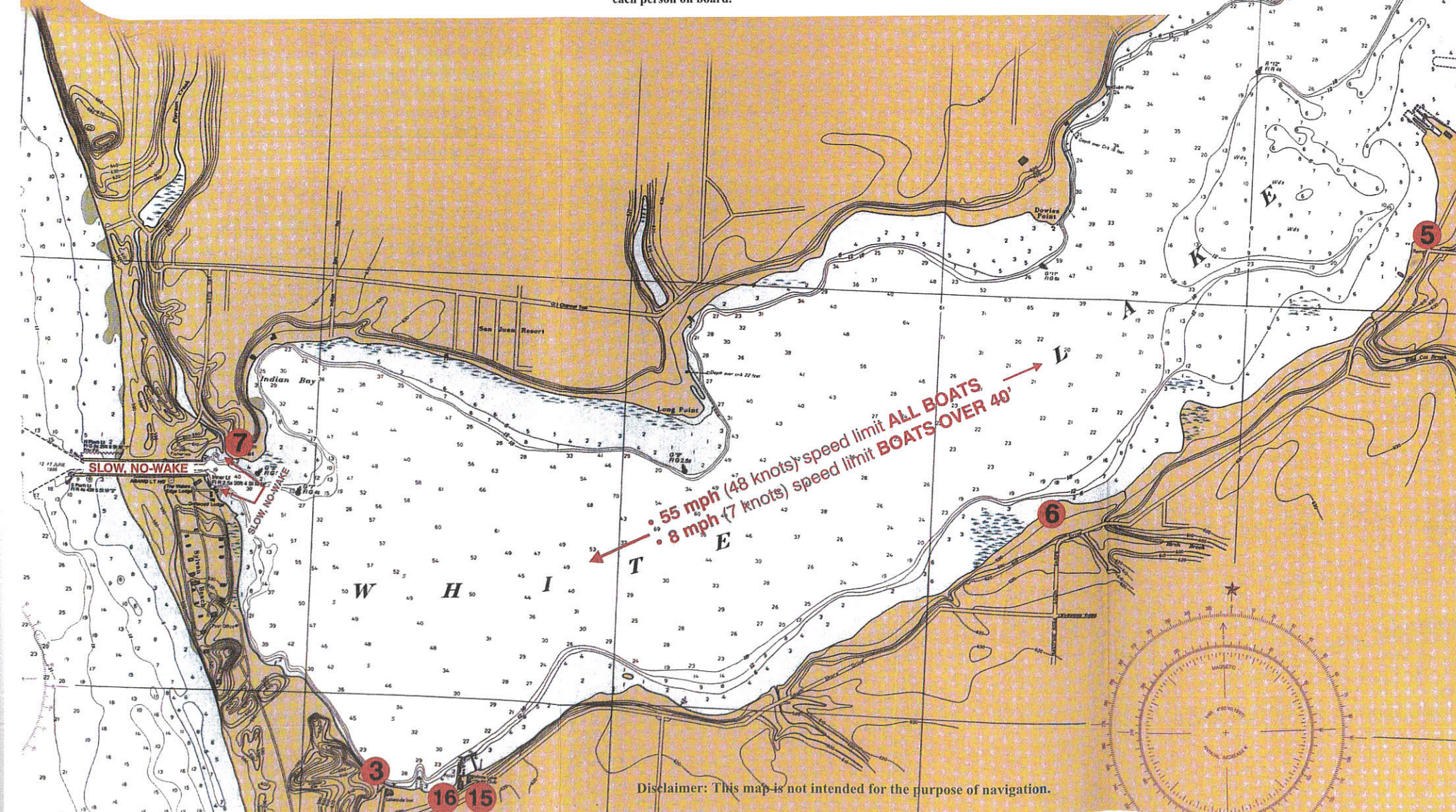
- Montague Launch Ramp:** Launch Ramp Road, Montague; fish cleaning station, rest rooms, 6 launch ramps,
- Armstrong's Ramp:** Users fee
- Scenic Drive Access ***
- Svenson Park**
- White Lake Drive Access (Rustic)***
- Nestrom Road Access**
- Lau Road Access (Rustic)***

*These ramps may be limited in use during low water cycles.

Marinas

- Armstrong's:** 200 Lake St., Whitehall 894-6753
Slips: 25; services: B, D, SN, limited to smaller boats.
- Crosswinds Marina:** 302 Lake St., Whitehall (894-4549)
Slips: 101; services: C, D, DF, G, P, PO, Y, R.
- Ellenwood Landing Marina:** 4525 Dowling, Montague (893-9663)
Slips: 189; services: SN, D, P, PO, Y.
- White Lake Moorings:** 220 Lake St., Whitehall (893-5253)
Slips: 88; services: D, P, R, SN, Y.
- Whitehall Municipal Marina:** 100 N. Lake St., Whitehall (894-9689)
Slips: 50; services: D, DF, G, P, PO, SN.
- Whitehall Landing Marina:** 410 Lake St., Whitehall (894-5622)
Slips: 180; services: D, P, PO, R, Y.
- Montague Marina:** 4770 Goodrich St., Montague (893-4737)
Slips: 66; services: D, P, SN.
- White Lake Yacht Club:** 6748 S. Shore Drive, Whitehall (894-4516)
Slips: 29; services: D (members and guests)
- South Shore Marine:** 6806 S. Shore Drive, Whitehall (893-3935)
Slips: 16; services: D, G, R, SN.

Service Codes: B- bait and tackle; C- charters; D- docking; DF- Diesel fuel; G- gas; P- parking; PO- pump out; R- repairs; SN- seasonal; Y- year around.



Disclaimer: This map is not intended for the purpose of navigation.