

WONDER LAKE MPOA IN-LAKE EQUIPMENT AND VEHICLE REGULATIONS

2026 EDITION

Property owners with deeded lake rights by access to the lake through subdivision parks, or shoreline residents are allowed to use the waters and lake bottom of Wonder Lake provided the following regulations are followed. These regulations were established to aid in the installation, use, and removal of seasonal equipment and to protect against infringement of users' rights.

All Commercial Marine Operators must furnish a Certificate of Insurance to the MPOA each year, which identifies the MPOA as a named co-insured. The minimum amount of liability insurance required is one (1) million dollars AND (1) million dollars in workers compensation insurance. It is the property owner's responsibility to verify the Commercial Operator they are using to locate in-lake equipment has the insurance and also arrange for lake access for the Operator through their subdivision. If shoreline improvement work is to be done, permits may be required.

Should the MPOA determine that in-water equipment impairs navigation, creates a hazard, or in any way infringes upon the rights or interests of MPOA members and lake users, the property owner will be required to make necessary modification to the equipment as determined by the MPOA.

Lake users are subject to all applicable rules and regulations of the MPOA, the US Coast Guard, IEPA, IDNR, and Village of Wonder Lake.

INSTALLATION AND REMOVAL OF IN-WATER EQUIPMENT

In-water equipment includes docks, boatlifts, swim platforms, etc. Equipment may be placed in or on the waters of Wonder Lake as soon after "ice-out" as deemed advisable by each owner of the equipment. Removal of all in-water equipment shall be accomplished prior to first ice. All in-lake equipment is installed at the sole risk and responsibility of its owner. **In-water equipment must be marked by reflective devices and Docks must display owner's address.**

REGULATIONS FOR DOCKS, LIFTS, SWIM PLATFORMS, RAILWAYS OR ANY OTHER FORM OF IN-WATER EQUIPMENT

1. In-water equipment **including** all of the above shall not project more than 40 feet into the lake from the nearest shoreline.
2. Docks shall be no greater than 10 feet wide.
3. For L-shaped or T-shaped docks, the length of that portion parallel to the shoreline shall not exceed 50% of the landowner's shoreline footage.
4. All in-water equipment shall be aligned so as not to cross the projection of property lines. Docks shall not come within 10 feet of the perpendicular projection of the property lines.
5. All in-water equipment including bumpers shall be securely anchored to prevent detachment.
6. Use good judgement when installing docks so that they're not under water during high water events.

SWIM BUOYS

Subdivisions may place swim buoys to identify areas that have been designated by the subdivision as swimming areas. These buoys should not obstruct general lake usage. No swim buoys can be placed by individual shoreline landowners.

MPOA BUOYS

There are Six types of MPOA buoys:

- NO WAKE
- NO BOATS
- SHALLOW AREA
- ANCHOR AREA
- HAZARD – DAM
- HAZARD – Ski Team Jump

ONLY buoys approved by the MPOA may be placed in the Lake. **No other marker or anchor buoys may be placed. Unauthorized or hazardous buoys will be removed under the supervision of the Wonder Lake Police Department.**

Please do not move or damage buoys placed for your safety. Please report damaged buoys and buoys that have moved from their correct position to the MPOA office. Email: wlimpoa@wlimpoa.org or call **815-653-1000**

NO BOATS

MPOA NO BOATS Buoys are placed at each end of the channels between the islands of White Oaks Bay (Yacht Club Island) and Shore Hills (Wicklaine Island) Subdivisions.

NO boat areas are patrolled by the Wonder Lake Police Department – Marine Patrol to ensure safe boating.

NO-WAKE AREAS

MPOA No-Wake Buoys designate the following No-Wake areas:

- White Oaks Bay (commonly known as Party Bay)
- Channel between the islands and shoal of O'Brien Shoals
- The shore of Deep Springs Woods and Deep Springs Woods Country Club
- South end of the lake

No-Wake areas are patrolled by the Wonder Lake Police Department – Marine Patrol to ensure safe boating.

SHALLOW AREAS

Shallow areas are marked where there is either a known underwater hazard or water is less than 3.5 feet in depth. However, boaters are solely responsible for exercising extreme caution and reducing speeds when boating in or near shallow areas of the lake, or when the normal lake level is low due to dam maintenance, dry weather, etc. Boaters should also be vigilant for any floating or partially submerged debris that could pose a safety hazard and notify the MPOA office.

ANCHOR AREAS

- ◆ White Oaks Bay (commonly known as Party Bay)

HAZARD – DAM

Danger - Dam warning buoys are present at the Wonder Lake Dam spillway at the northeast end of the lake. Lake users should always stay a minimum of fifty (50) feet from the dam spillway.

HAZARD – Ski Team Jump

Hazard buoys are placed over the anchors for the Wonder Lake Water Ski Show Team jump anchor locations to aid in locating and anchoring the jump in front of the practice site and in front of Wonder Center Beach.

FISH STRUCTURES

Only MPOA approved Fish Structures may be placed in Wonder Lake. A map showing all MPOA approved fish structure locations is available at the MPOA office. Only the W.L. Sportsman’s Club will be allowed to place and maintain fish structures meeting the approved criteria for fish structure placement.

DUCK BLINDS

Only MPOA approved duck blinds may be placed in or on Wonder Lake. A map showing all MPOA approved duck blind locations and the list of duck blind owners is available at the MPOA office. All hunting must be done from a MPOA approved duck blind.

Duck blinds may be readied no more than 14 days prior to the start of the duck season. The Wonder Lake Sportsman’s Club Duck Blind Committee shall inspect and approve blinds the weekend prior to the start of duck season. Removal of in-water duck blinds must be completed by the weekend following the close of duck season. Failure to adhere to these conditions will result in the loss of the blind permit to the duck blind owner.

If any blind on the lake is deemed unkempt or unsightly (blinds are to be kept free of debris and loose or broken boards in the non-hunting season) by the MPOA, the owner of the blind shall be given 14-day notice in writing by the Sportsman’s Club to correct the situation or remove the blind.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Boat horsepower should not exceed the manufacturer’s recommendations for each watercraft. The WLPD shall monitor for compliance with noise regulations. The use of tires as dock bumpers is strongly discouraged since they frequently become a breeding site for mosquitoes.

ICE FISHING SHANTIES

Ice shanties must always display the name and address of the owner and **must be removed from the lake daily.**

Information on current lake conditions, including
No-Wake Status or Lake Closure following heavy rains, swimming beach status, can be found at:
www.wlmpoa.org

Lake Users should sign up to receive “**Important Lake Update**” email notices
from the MPOA regarding lake use issues.

Sign up at wlmpoa.org, follow the WLMPOA on Facebook, or send an e-mail to: wlmpoa@wlmpoa.org

MASTER PROPERTY OWNERS’ ASSOCIATION INFORMATION

The Master Property Owners Association (MPOA) is a volunteer organization charged with the safety and management of Wonder Lake. The MPOA Board of Directors is made up of volunteers elected from each member subdivision. Please contact your Subdivision Director for more information. All calls and emails will be returned during business hours. **(See google or the website for current business hours)**

MASTER PROPERTY OWNERS’ ASSOCIATION, INC.

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