Minnesota Personal Watercraft Laws

You Must...

■ Wear a USCG approved life jacket.
■ Travel at slow-no wake speed (5 mph or less) within 150 feet of: non-motorized boats, shore (unless launching or landing skiers directly to or from open water), docks, swim rafts, swimmers or any moored or anchored boat.
■ Operate only from 9:30 a.m. to 1 hour before sunset.
■ Use the cutoff lanyard properly.
■ Obey operator age/permit laws for those younger than 18 years old.

You May Not...

■ Chase or harass wildlife.
■ Jump the wake of another boat within 150 feet of the craft.
■ Operate a personal watercraft in a manner that endangers life, limb or property.

Protect Your Sport

■ Respect your neighbors...don’t operate for long periods in the same area or near occupied boats or shore.

This is only a summary of the laws as of January 2014 and is required to be visible to the operator on all personal watercraft in Minnesota. For more information contact:

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Boat and Water Safety Section
500 Lafayette Rd., Saint Paul, MN 55155-4039
651-259-5400, 1-888-646-6367, TTY 651-296-5484, 1-800-657-3929
mndnr.gov/boatingsafety