NO WAKE! Violators will be fined!

NO WAKE within 100 feet of shore, including islands
NO WAKE within 100 feet of swimmers
NO WAKE in marked areas

Restrictions on Boats Pulling Skiers, Tubes or Other Devices

You may not tow water skiers, tubes or similar devices:
1. Anywhere on the Lower St. Croix between sunset and sunrise the following day,
2. In any of the slow speed or slow - no wake zones, except that in the 100 - foot shore zone a boat may launch or land a skier, tube or other device by the most direct route to open water,
3. From May 15th through September 15th, inclusive, after noon on Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays in the area from the Arcola Sandbar (approximately river mile 31.0) to the end of the nine-foot navigation channel, north of Stillwater (approximately at river mile 24.5).

Note: Marker buoys alert boaters to all of the restricted speed zones shown on the map on the reverse side, including the southern end of the restricted waterskiing zone.

Zebra Mussel Alert: Zebra mussels, a non-native invasive mussel, have spread to the Mississippi River, a few inland waters in the state as well as the lower 25 miles of the St. Croix River. This invasive can spread by attaching to boating equipment, to aquatic vegetation that may be tangled in boating gear, or by water moved from an infested water. Due to the possible spread of zebra mussels into the upper reaches of the St. Croix, the National Park Service has restricted most boat traffic originating downstream from passing the check-point at river mile 28.5 just south of the Arcola High Bridge (Canadian National Railroad). Boaters may wish to check the Park Service’s St. Croix website www.nps.gov/sacn/boating.htm for more up-to-date information.

Enforcement Agencies on the St. Croix River
Non-emergency numbers listed below - in an emergency always call “911” on your cell phone or use Channel 16 on your marine radio.

In Minnesota
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Central Region Enforcement
St. Paul, MN
(651) 772-7905
www.dnr.state.mn.us
Chisago County Sheriff
Center City, MN
(651) 257-4100
Washington County Sheriff
Stillwater, MN
(651) 439-9381

In Wisconsin
Pierce County Sheriff
Ellsworth, WI
(715) 273-5051
Polk County Sheriff
Balsam Lake, WI
(715) 485-8300
St. Croix County Sheriff
Hudson, WI
(715) 386-4701
National Park Service
St. Croix National Scenic Riverway
St. Croix Falls, WI 54024
(715) 483-3284
www.nps.gov/sacn

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources may be contacted through any of the Wisconsin county sheriffs’ offices listed above, or www.dnr.state.wi.us

Water Surface Use Regulations

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This information is available in an alternative format upon request.

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Regulations and Where They Apply

The St. Croix River is a special area, and boaters using the river have special responsibilities. The water surface use regulations that are in effect on the St. Croix have been adopted by the Minnesota DNR, the Wisconsin DNR, and the National Park Service in order to make the river experience more enjoyable for more people. Please obey all the rules. VIOLATORS WILL BE PROSECUTED! Please read all the rules before venturing out on the river.

The regulations create one slow speed zone where motorboats must be restricted to operating “at a leisurely speed, less than planing speed, whereby the wake or wash created by the motorboat is minimal.” This slow speed zone extends from the dam at Taylors Falls south to the Arcola Sandbar at the mouth of the Apple River, about 1.5 miles north of the Arcola High Bridge (Canadian National Railroad). The sandbar is marked with two buoys.

The regulations also create eight Slow - no wake zones where motorboat operation is restricted to “the slowest possible speed necessary to maintain steerage.” The Slow - no wake zones usually are marked with buoys and/or signs at the following locations:

1 High Bridge Bend approximately at mile 28.6, four-tenths of a mile south of the Arcola High Bridge (Canadian National Railroad).

2 West Channel Narrows at mile 27, about 1.25 miles upstream of the Boomsite Wayside near the Minnesota shore, where the navigable channel is less than 200 feet wide.

3 Andersen Bay at Bayport on the Minnesota side, approximately at mile 20 (from the Bayport Public Beach north).

4 Hudson Narrows where the channel runs near the Minnesota shore, from the north side of the railroad bridge to the south end of the south-most island. Shore to shore from the dike bridge, south to the southern most part of the I-94 bridge. This zone extends from approximately mile 17.3 to 16.1.

5 Afton-Catfish Bar from shore to shore in the area located approximately at mile 11.4 to 11.8 as measured in the navigational channel, and established by regulatory buoys.

6 Kinnickinnic River Delta Narrows six (6) miles upstream from Prescott, adjacent to Kinnickinnic State Park, mile 6.6 to 6.05.

7 Kinnickinnic Bay east of the Kinnickinnic Sandbar and north of Donut Island, adjacent to Kinnickinnic State Park at approximately mile 6.05.

8 Prescott Narrows from the north side of the Highway 10 bridge (approximately mile 0.3) to the confluence of the St. Croix and the Mississippi.

In addition to these eight Slow - no wake zones, boaters should be aware that there is a Slow - no wake rule in effect along the entire Lower St. Croix National Scenic Riverway under the following conditions:

- Within 100 feet of all shore, including islands, and within 100 feet of swimmers.
- Where the channel is less than 200 feet wide.
- Whenever the water level reaches 683 feet, mean sea level, as measured at the Stillwater gauge.

Emergency And Non-Emergency

Emergency dial 911 on your cell phone or send a distress call on Channel 16 of your marine radio. Give your position and nature of the emergency. Stay on line or stand by radio.

Non-Emergency if an officer or deputy is able to assist, they may only be able to tow you to the closest safe mooring or marina where you can call for or obtain mechanical assistance.

NOTE: The use of personal watercraft (Jet Skis, Wave Runners, etc.) is prohibited by the National Park Service north of the MN DNR Boomsite Access - at appx. River Mile 24.8.

When water levels rise to 683 feet at Stillwater, a “slow - no wake” restriction goes into effect on the entire Lower St. Croix from Taylors Falls to Prescott. Signs at public accesses and marinas will notify the public if this restriction is imposed.