

**Meeker County
Ordinance No. 2025-01**

ORDINANCE IMPOSING SLOW-NO WAKE WATERCRAFT RESTRICTIONS ON DESIGNATED LAKES

THE MEEKER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HEREBY ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

Subd. 1 Statutory Authorization and Intent

This Ordinance is enacted under the general powers delegated to the Counties by the State of Minnesota, pursuant to Minn. Stat. 375.51, 86B.205, and 459.20, and Minnesota Rules 6110.3000 through 6110.3800 as now in effect and as hereafter amended.

It is the intent and purpose of this Ordinance:

- A. To promote the full use and enjoyment by all of the people, now and in the future, and to promote safety for all persons and property in connection with the use of waters of Meeker county;
- B. To conserve the quality of the natural environment;
- C. To harmonize and integrate the varying uses of said waters; and
- D. To promote the general health, safety, and welfare of the general public.

Subd. 2 Definitions

Terms used in this Ordinance related to boating are defined in Minn. Stat. 86B.005.

Subd. 3 Declaration and Designated Lakes

- A. The County Board of Commissioners declares a high-water emergency on the Designated Lakes as defined by Subd. 3(B) and imposes a Slow-No Wake restriction pursuant to Minnesota Rule 6110.3700, Subpart 9.
- B. Designated Lakes. This Ordinance shall control and regulate the use of waters of the following lakes located in Meeker County along with the following triggers:

Lake	Area of Lake	Water Level at Which Slow-No Wake Restrictions Apply
Big Swan Lake	300 ft. from shore	At or above the Ordinary High-Water Level of 1003.2 ft
Lake Arvilla	300 ft. from shore	At or above the Ordinary High-Water Level of 1011.8 ft
Lake Erie	300 ft. from shore	At or above the Ordinary High-Water Level of 1099 ft
Lake Minnie Belle	300 ft. from shore	At or above the Ordinary High-Water Level of 1142 ft
Lake Manuella	300 ft. from shore	At or above the Ordinary High-Water Level of 1070.3 ft

Star Lake	300 ft. from shore	At or above the Ordinary High-Water Level of 1164.9 ft
Belle Lake ¹	300 ft. from shore	At or above the Ordinary High-Water Level of 1077.8 ft
Collinwood Lake ²	300 ft. from shore	At or above the Ordinary High-Water Level of 1032.9 ft
Lake Francis ²	300 ft. from shore	At or above the Ordinary High-Water Level of 1048.6 ft
Lake Koronis ³	300 ft. from shore	At or above the Ordinary High-Water Level of 1123.3 ft

¹Restriction only applies if a companion ordinance is adopted by McLeod County

²Restriction only applies if a companion ordinance is adopted by Wright County

³Restriction only applies if a companion ordinance is adopted by Stearns County

Subd. 4 Watercraft Speed Restrictions

During the period this Ordinance is in effect, including any extensions herein, it shall be unlawful for a person to operate a watercraft at greater than a slow-no wake speed (5 miles per hours), 24 hours per day within the Slow-No Wake restriction area specified on any Designated Lake.

Subd. 5 Removal of Speed Restrictions

The Slow-No Wake Restrictions shall be promptly removed from any Designated Lake, pursuant to this Ordinance, once the water body has been 0.1 feet below the elevation that triggers the Slow-No Wake restriction for three (3) consecutive days.

Subd. 6 Enforcement

The primary responsibility for enforcement of this Ordinance shall rest with the Meeker County Sheriff's Office and their designee. Other licensed peace officers, including conservation officers of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, are also authorized to enforce the provisions of this Ordinance.

Subd. 7 Penalty

A person guilty of violating any provision of this Ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor as defined in Minn. Stat. 609.02 Subd. 3, as it may be amended from time to time.

Subd. 8 Exceptions

All authorized Resource Management, Emergency and Enforcement Personnel, while acting in the performance of their assigned duties, are exempt from the foregoing restrictions.

Subd. 9 Notification

It shall be the responsibility of Meeker County to provide for adequate notification to the public, which shall include notification on its website and news releases. Meeker County is also responsible for

placement of a sign at each Designated Lake public watercraft access, outlining essential elements of this Ordinance.

Subd. 10 Effective Date

This Ordinance shall be effective upon passage by the Meeker County Board of Commissioners

ADOPTED by the Meeker County Board of Commissioners on this 5th day of August, 2025.



Paul Johnson,
Meeker County Board Chair

Attest: 

Andrew Letson,
County Board Clerk

