



WALLOON
LAKE
ASSOCIATION AND
CONSERVANCY

MOVE YOUR WAKE RESPECT THE LAKE



THE RESEARCH

In 2020, the University of Minnesota College of Science & Engineering researched the wave height, power and energy of wakes from wakesurf boats and ski boats at four different distances from the shoreline (225, 325, 425, and 625 feet). This research was designed/performed as an unbiased response to “citizen concerns,” including environmental impact, property damage, and safety. In line with this study, Endicott Fay also studied the impact of waves in relation to water depth.



THE FINDINGS

All boats tested in the Minnesota study produced the smallest wakes when operating under higher, “planing” speeds (20MPH) and produced the largest wakes when operating under slower, “non-planing” speeds (10MPH). When comparing typical operating conditions (wakesurf vs. ski), it was found that wakesurf boats produced wave heights that were 2-3 times larger and wave powers that were 6-12 times larger when closer to shore. The research performed by Endicott Fay found that wakesurfing in a depth of 10 feet or more minimized the wave impact.



THE RECOMMENDATION

These studies prompted the WLAC Safety Committee and Board of Trustees to put forth a new recommendation: while actively wakesurfing/boarding, please maintain a minimum distance of 425 feet from the shoreline AND a minimum depth of 15 feet. Although this is not an enforceable policy, we hope that Wallooners will choose areas on the water that are more appropriate for use out of respect for one another and the health of the lake. Please join us in pledging to **Move Your Wake, Respect the Lake!**