

Akwesasne Waterways Committee

Prepared by: Chief Vanessa Adams
Chief Julie Phillips-Jacobs, Chief April Adams Phillips,
Chief Carolyn Francis and
Chief Connie Lazore

Akwesasne Waterways Committee

Establishment

- ▶ The Akwesasne Waterways Committee was created to address waterways safety issues regarding no wake zones, trespassing of non-members and safety of swimmers, kayakers and all Akwesasronon enjoying our waters.

Enforcement of laws

- ▶ No Wake Zone
- ▶ Emergency Curfew Law
- ▶ Intoxicant By-Law
- ▶ Small Vessels Act
- ▶ Trespass - Indian Act

Laws

- ▶ Emergency Curfew Law

- ▶ MCR 2020/2021 #003

- ▶ 3. This law applies throughout the territory to all person in the territory, whether they are members or not, from it's enactment until such time as the MCA declares by resolution the Emergency has ceased.

- ▶ Intoxicant By-Law

- ▶ MCR 1987/1988 #421

- ▶ 3.1 everyone who is found in possession of intoxicants within the Mohawk Territory of Akwesasne is guilty of an offence punishable on summary conviction and is liable to a fine of not more than \$100.00 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months or both.

Laws

▶ No Wake Zone

- ▶ MCR 1999/2000 #154

- ▶ Any person who operates a vessel in violation of this Law is guilty of an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000.00 or to a community service order not exceeding 100 hours of work

▶ No Fishing Permits

- ▶ No permits are being issued during the State of Emergency, no fishing other than members of Akwesasne are permitted to fish in our waters.

Laws

- ▶ Small Vessels Act

- ▶ MCR 2002/2003 #177

- ▶ 36. Any person who fails to comply with or contravenes any provision of this Act is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000.00 or to imprisonment for term not exceeding three months or both.

- ▶ Trespass - Indian Act

- ▶ 30. A person who trespasses on a reserve is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding \$50.00 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one month or to both

Summer 2021

- ▶ Slow No Wake Zone Areas: Additional "no wake" signs, floating buoys, caution signs will also be installed for summer 2021
- ▶ A brochure has been mailed to community that will also be available at local area businesses and marinas.
- ▶ Additional signs will be added to local businesses and marinas.
- ▶ A video was created to advise community and non-community people of the need to respect the waters.

Akwesasne Waterways Pamphlet

NO WAKE ZONE

A wake is a disturbance of the water resulting from a boat or jet ski moving through the water at high speeds. When a watercraft creates a wake, it disrupts the water that can create large waves that can be harmful to nearby animals, people, marine life or wash up on shores or against waterfront properties.

This is why we have **no wake & slow speed zones**.

If your boat/watercraft's bow is elevated above the water, then you are going too fast. Slow down, sit back, relax and enjoy the scenery!



WATER SAFETY

Please be sure that you have the proper documents aboard your watercraft. Your boating license, proof of ownership, and a form of identification should be easily accessible.

Keep constant watch for others on the water. Our river is shared by large shipping vessels, canoes, and everything in between.

Be mindful of the **no wake zones** and smaller channels so that individuals who are **swimming, kayaking, floating, jet skiing, or fishing** can continue to do so without harm.



Persons under 16 years of age are prohibited from operating a pleasure craft that is above these specified horsepower limits:

- Persons under 12 years of age who are not directly supervised by a person 16 years of age or older may only operate a pleasure craft propelled by a motor of no more than 10 hp (7.5 kW).
- Persons at least 12 years of age (but under 16 years of age) who are not directly supervised by a person 16 years of age or older may only operate a pleasure craft propelled by a motor of no more than 40 hp (30 kW).

Only persons 16 years of age or older may operate a personal watercraft (PWC) without supervision.



AKWESASNE WATERWAYS

A GUIDE TO NAVIGATING AKWESASNE TERRITORIAL WATERS SAFELY & RESPECTFULLY



Mohawk Council of Akwesasne
www.akwesasne.ca
613-575-2250

Kaniatares translates to "the long river" and is also a name for the St. Lawrence River.

The Great St. Lawrence has played an important role in the history and development of Akwesasne.

It is an area that connects us all, especially during the warmer months. The St. Lawrence River is a fun place to go boating, swimming, fishing, and more!



The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA) is providing the following information to help ensure that the river is enjoyed safely and responsibly.

LOCAL HEALTH MEASURES IN PLACE

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, MCA enacted the Akwesasne Emergency Curfew Law as a health & safety measure for the community.

As a result, non-essential travel is restricted from **11 p.m. - 5 a.m.**

This curfew has an effect on the operating hours of local businesses, like marinas.



The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne encourages people to wear masks in public spaces, especially indoors & when you can't maintain at least 2 metres/6 feet of distance between others.



BORDER RESTRICTIONS

Akwesasne (and its waters) is situated on both a provincial and international border, covering area in **Ontario, Québec and New York.**

As of July 21, 2020, the restriction on all discretionary travel at the Canada-U.S. border that was initially implemented on March 21, 2020, was extended until August 21, 2020.

Note: This date can be subject to change. Please visit www.chsa-nstc.gc.ca or www.dhs.gov to receive updates.

Examples of discretionary/optional travel include **tourism, recreation, & entertainment.** This restriction extends to recreational boaters & watercraft owners.

AKWESASNE LAWS

Entering Akwesasne water means being respectful of Akwesasne laws.

- Small Vessels Act - MCR #2002/03 - 177
- Intoxicants Law - MCR #1987/88 - 421
- Curfew Law - MCR #2020/21 - 03
- No Wake Zone - MCR #1999/2000 - 154
- No Trespass - Indian Act Fishing

NOTE: Fishing on the territory of Akwesasne has been restricted to community members only. Existing permits are suspended & hunting/fishing permits have been put on hold.

These laws can be viewed at:
www.akwesasne.ca/history-resources/by-laws/

As previously mentioned, the Akwesasne Emergency Curfew Law was put forth for the protection of the community. Here are the remaining measures that accompany the local curfew:

- Activities at all other times are limited to essential activities.
- When engaged in essential activities in public, best efforts must be made to maintain a physical distance of 6 feet from any other individual.
- Social gatherings are to be avoided.
- Residents who are returning to Akwesasne from any location outside the 50-mile radius, who are displaying COVID-19 symptoms, must self-isolate for at least 14 days.
- Residents who are returning to Akwesasne from any location outside the 50-mile radius, who have no COVID-19 symptoms, must self-quarantine for at least 14 days and monitor for symptoms.
- For monitoring and tracking purposes, residents returning to Akwesasne from outside the 50-mile radius must inform the MCA Department of Health of their circumstances, as to whether they are isolating or quarantining.



SOCIAL DISTANCING WHEN BOATING

Please do your part to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Recreational boaters are urged to think ahead about the actions that they can take to protect their health and safety and prevent the spread of COVID-19 to others.



No beaching/anchoring your boat right next to someone else.



No rafting up multiple boats together.



Keep your distance when at a fuel dock & wash your hands after.

REMINDERS

Only go boating with members of your immediate household.

Wear a mask or face covering if you're in a public area or will be going indoors (like at a launch or marina).

Keep to area you're familiar with.

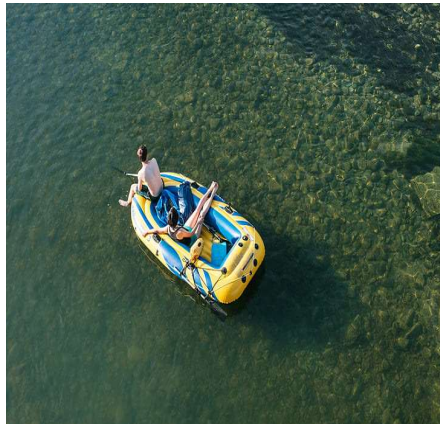
Wash your hands often & keep hand sanitizer aboard your boat.

Be mindful of local pandemic guidelines & regulations. For example, Akwesasne has a community curfew that affects the operating hours of local businesses, like marinas.



Let's keep everyone safe

Youth & new operators enjoying their time on the water please practice and encourage safety, and think of other boaters, floaters, swimmers and kayakers while on the water Niawen:kowa



Covid-19

- ▶ Please keep in mind that some signs, printed materials have been ordered, printed, or delayed due to the Covid-19 Pandemic and some dates, times and recommendations may have been subject to changes.
- ▶ Our message remains consistent
- ▶ Please continue to follow all Public Health Recommendations to keep Akwesasne Safe on land and on the waters

Niawen:kowa Chief Vanessa, Chief Julie, Chief Connie, Chief April and Chief Carolyn & Waheson Lazore