

## Introduction

**This survey has been developed by the towns of Washington, Warren, and Kent in collaboration with Terra Vigilis Environmental Services (TVES) to better understand lake use activity in our community. We are gathering information on how people use the lake, how people understand efforts to protect and manage the waters of Lake Waramaug, and finally to assess concerns for large wave enhancing vessels and devices currently being used on the lake.**

**You are receiving this survey because you are a resident of Washington, Warren, or Kent, all of which are communities who enjoy the benefits of having a clean water resource in your town.**

**The survey will likely take you about 5-10 minutes to complete. Your individual responses will be protected to preserve anonymity. The results of the survey will be analyzed and a final report will be prepared and made available to all town and lake residents in the first quarter of 2024.**

**The information being sought is specific to a mission of protecting our beautiful waters for all to enjoy. Please take the time to participate responsibly in this project. If your household wishes to submit more than one survey, please use a separate computer, tablet, or smartphone.**

**Thank You**

1. Please indicate which town you are a resident in:

- Kent
- Warren
- Washington

2. Please indicate if you live on Lake Waramaug or if you use public access:

- Lake Property Owner (or Deeded access)
- Public Access

3. Please describe the ways in which you and family/friends use Lake Waramaug. (Boating, Fishing, Swimming activities):

- Water skiing
- Jet skiing - Personal Water Craft (PWC)
- Wake Surfing
- Wake Boarding
- Kayaking
- Paddleboarding
- Pontoon Boat cruising
- Tubing
- Swimming/Wading
- Fishing
- Sailing
- Other (please specify)

4. How many hours per week do you use the lake?

- 0-2 hours/week
- 3-4 hours/week
- 5-6 hours/week
- 7-8 hours/week
- 9-10 hours/week
- 10 or more hours/week

5. Generally, do you use the lake more on weekdays or weekends?

- Weekdays
- Weekends
- Both about the same

6. Do you believe that your property values are affected by Lake quality (water clarity, algae blooms)? [even if you do not live on the lake]

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

7. Are you familiar with what a Wakeboard boat in Surf Mode Operation refers to?

\*\* (See Appendix at end of survey to read a definition of a wake board boat in surf mode)

- Yes
- No

8. Are you familiar with wave enhancing devices that can be used on various types of surface vessels (i.e. motorized watercraft)?

\*\* (See Appendix at end of survey to read a definition of a wave enhancement device)

- Yes
- No

9. Are you aware of recent studies establishing surface and subsurface wave impacts by wave enhancing vessels in surf mode?

- Yes
- No

10. Are you familiar with local and State regulations applicable to Lake Waramaug boating operations (e.g. speed limits, hours of operation, etc.)?

- Yes
- No

11. If guidelines were developed regarding the use of wave enhancing vessels or devices on Lake Waramaug, would you be more favorably disposed towards a voluntary compliance system versus a statutory enforcement ordinance?

- Voluntary Compliance
- Ordinance enforceable by law

12. Do you think any vessels currently in use on Lake Waramaug are causing safety or environmental impacts which will require attention? If so, please specify the type of vessels:

Personal Water Craft (PWC) or "Jetski"

Pontoon Boat

Wake board boat in surf mode

Fishing boat

Other (please specify)

13. If you have directly observed surface vessels on Lake Waramaug causing either safety or environmental impacts, please describe what you observed (including the vessel type)

14. Tell us the sort of boating you do on Lake Waramaug with an estimate of the hours per week of activity for each category of vessel you use.

Pontoon boat

Water ski boat

PWC

Wake boat - Surf Mode

Wake boat -  
wakeboarding

Kayaking

Canoeing

Sculling

Sailing

Fishing

Paddleboarding

Tubing

Other

15. Tell us about any other concerns or issues you currently have regarding either safety or environmental impacts on Lake Waramaug that affect you and/or your property:

16. If you boat on Lake Waramaug, specify (% time) who operates the vessel:

Boat owner

Family members  
including children

Friends

Other

17. Have you or your children completed a "safe boater" certification course sponsored by the State of Connecticut or US Coast Guard?

Yes

No

18. Is there anything else you wish to comment upon regarding water safety practices or environmental issues for Lake Waramaug?

Thank you for your time and thoughtfulness.

The goal is to have our consultants provide results and a final report this winter from the survey responses.

\*\* Appendix:

Definition Wake Board Boat in Surf Mode:

*A motorboat with ballast tank(s) filled with water to increase the weight and displacement of the hull and/or has one or more Wave Enhancing Devices enabled.*

Definition Wave Enhancing Device(s):

*Includes bladders, ballast tanks, wedges, hydrofoils, or other hydraulic or mechanical devices, or uneven loading of persons, gear or material to create and shape large waves.*

Typical features of operation:

- High bow angle
- Low speed (6-10 kts)
- Powerful engine (400-600 hp)
- Stern ballasting
- Large displacement wave effect