

**BOATING and  
WATER USE  
REGULATIONS for  
The CITY OF CHELAN  
and CHELAN COUNTY**

**INCLUDING  
GAS LOCATIONS AND  
OVERNIGHT CAMPSITES  
AT LAKE CHELAN**

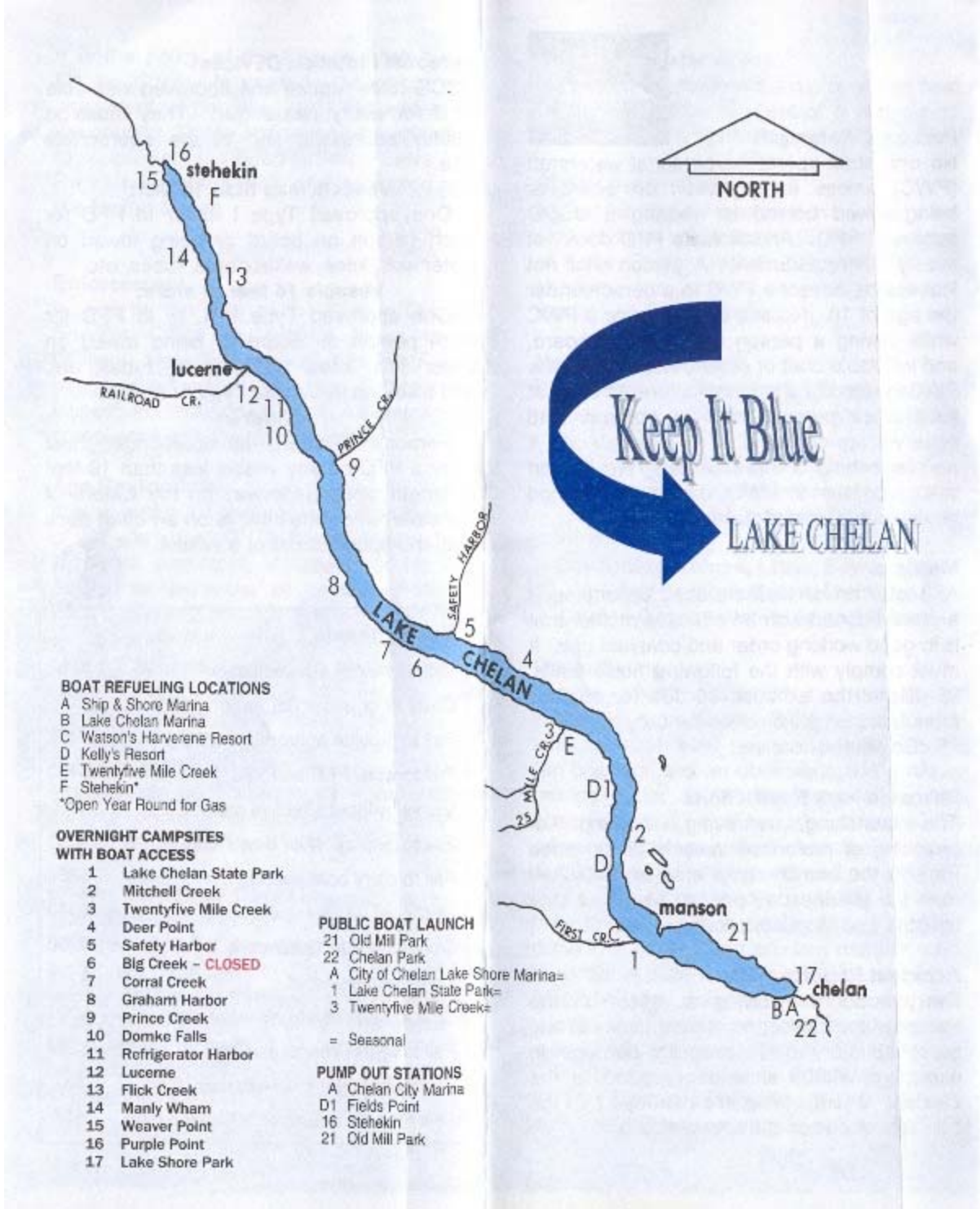


**EMERGENCY 911  
Chelan County Sheriff  
(509) 667-6851**



CHELAN COUNTY

02/2009



*It is the policy of the City of Chelan and Chelan County to promote the safety and enjoyment of persons using the waters of the county. These ordinances are intended to supplement the Boating Safety Laws and Regulations of the State of Washington and the United States.*



#### **Enforcement**

It shall be the duty of the Chelan County Sheriff's Office to enforce these laws. Officers have the authority to stop and board any vessel for the purpose of inspection, arrest, and determining compliance with these regulations.

#### **Age Restrictions**

It is unlawful for any person under the age of 16 to operate a motor-driven boat (personal watercraft included), or for any person to authorize or knowingly permit such a minor to operate a motor-driven boat except when the minor is at least 14 years old and accompanied by an adult, or when the minor is 12 years old and the boat has an engine of 15 horsepower or less.

#### **Identification**

Motor-driven boat operators are required to carry a photo ID when on the waters of Chelan County.

#### **Boater Education Cards**

WA State has enacted a law that requires boaters born after January 1, 1955 to obtain a Boater Education Card. The 2009 requirement is for those 25 and younger to carry the card when boating. The phase-in will continue through 2014. ALL BOATERS born after January 1, 1955 will be required to have their card by January 1, 2015.

#### **Restricted Water Areas**

No person shall operate a motor-driven boat or sailboat within 100 feet of a water area designated as a swimming area.

#### **Speed Restrictions**

No vessel shall be operated in excess of the slow minimal wake speed (5 mph) in areas of Lake Chelan within 100 yards of the shoreline or where so designated by marked no-wake buoys.

#### **Negligent Operation**

It is unlawful to operate a vessel in such a manner as to endanger persons or property.

**It is unlawful to operate a vessel under the influence of Intoxicating Liquor or Drugs.**



**Depositing Refuse, Litter, Sewage, or any Foreign Material into Chelan County Waters is prohibited.**



#### **Water Skiing**

A motor-driven boat used to tow a person on skis, tube, aquaplane, or other similar device shall have at least two competent persons (an operator and an observer), and a red or orange "skier down" flag on board. The observer shall continuously observe the person(s) being towed and immediately display the flag when the towed person(s) is in the water preparatory to skiing or when they fall in the water. Water skiing must be done in a careful and prudent manner, at a reasonable distance from other persons and property and only between sunrise and sunset. Any person engaged in water skiing must wear an adequate US Coast Guard (USCG) approved personal flotation device (PFD). Manually inflating PFD's are not authorized for waterskiing or wakeboarding.



### Personal Watercraft

No one shall operate a personal watercraft (PWC) unless each person on board or being towed behind is wearing a USCG approved PFD. An inflatable PFD does not satisfy this requirement. A person shall not lease, hire, or rent a PWC to a person under the age of 18. No one shall operate a PWC while towing a person on skis, kneeboard, and inflatable craft or other device unless the PWC is rated by the manufacturer to carry at least three persons and an operator and observer are on board. You may tow only 1 person behind a three seater. No person shall operate a PWC during the period between sunset and sunrise.

### Mufflers

All motor driven vessels shall be equipped and maintained with an effective muffler that is in good working order and constant use. It must comply with the following noise limits: 90 dBa at the exhaust (88 dBa for engines manufactured on or after January 1, 1994); 75 dBa at the shoreline.

### Lakeside Park Restrictions

The launching, retrieving, docking, or beaching of motorized vessels at Lakeside Park in the launch ramp area is prohibited from the Wednesday prior to Memorial Day until the 2nd Monday following Labor Day.

### Accident Reports

Every accident involving a vessel on the waters of the city/county which results in any personal injury or in property damage in excess of **\$2000** shall be reported to the Chelan County Sheriff's Office by the operator or owner of the vessel.

### Personal Flotation Devices

USCG rules require one approved wearable PFD for every passenger. They must be readily accessible and of the appropriate size.

#### Vessels less than 16 feet:

One approved Type I, II, or III PFD for each person on board or being towed on water skis, kites, wakeboards, tubes, etc.

#### Vessels 16 feet or more:

One approved Type I, II, or III PFD for each person on board or being towed on water skis, kites, wakeboards, tubes, etc. and also one throwable Type IV device.

#### Children

Persons 12 years old or younger must wear a PFD on any vessel less than 19 feet in length when underway on the waters of the state, when the child is on an open deck or in the open cockpit of a vessel.



### Bail Schedule

Violate vessel age restriction	\$267
Child 12 or under not wearing PFD	\$87
Fail to provide appropriate PFD's	\$87
Fail to wear PFD on PWC	\$138
Vessel without effective muffler	\$87
Fail to display "skier down" flag	\$87
Fail to carry boat registration	\$257
Negligent vessel operation	\$343
Operating PWC after dark	\$250
Overloading vessel	\$240
Boat speed (violate no-wake zone)	\$267
Fail to report vessel accident	\$267
Vessel operator failure to carry ID	\$87
Failure to carry Boater Education card	\$87