



Policy and Procedures for Applying for a No-wake Zone

Policy Considerations for No-wake Zones

1. No-wake zones are a type of regulation which affects the behavior of the boating population within a specific area. The decision to approve a no-wake zone could impact other portions of a particular lake.

No-wake zones are established to mitigate hazards to boating safety. Hazards to boating safety may include known navigational hazards; narrow shallow waters; areas of obstructed vision; structures in the area such as dams, spillways, flood control structures, trestles and power lines, and fueling docks; designated recreational or swimming areas; congested areas with high traffic; a history of accidents, and public vessel access areas. A request for a no-wake zone will primarily be considered for approval for safety or environmental concerns that cannot reasonably be resolved through other means. Note that these factors are only intended as a guideline. In some circumstances, certain factors may be more important than others, and other factors not listed here may be considered. Each application will be considered in light of its unique situation on a case-by-case basis.

No-wake zones will not be established solely for the purpose of mitigating erosion, noise, or property damage.

2. The Lake Wylie Marine Commission's (LWMC) role in establishing no-wake zones shall consist of (a) accepting applications and application fees, (b) reviewing and analyzing the application and the proposed no-wake zone area, (c) consulting with applicable law enforcement, (d) recommending approval of the application or disapproving the application. The Lake Wylie Marine Commission will forward an application that is recommended for approval to the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission or the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources for review and consideration; those agencies have the final approval authority.
3. The LWMC may serve as an applicant for a no-wake zone.
4. No-wake zone requests will not be considered until the results of a law enforcement investigation and a recommendation have been provided to the LWMC. The law enforcement recommendation is provided to the LWMC as information only. The LWMC is not bound to follow the recommendations of law enforcement and may accept recommendations or gather information from other sources.
5. Applicant(s) (or authorized designee) for a no-wake zone are required to attend a LWMC meeting to explain the request.



6. Each consideration of a no-wake zone application will be published in the LWMC's meeting agenda. The meeting will serve as an opportunity for those in favor or opposed to the proposed no-wake zone to address the LWMC.
7. If a request for a no-wake zone is denied, the LWMC may establish a time period before an area can be reconsidered.
8. In NC waters, the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission will determine the final approval and placement of buoys; the LWMC will arrange for their purchase and installation. In SC waters, the SC Department of Natural Resources will determine the final approval and placement of buoys and arrange for their purchase and installation.
9. An inventory of official no-wake zones and buoys will be conducted annually by the LWMC.

Procedure for Applying for a No Wake Zone

1. Any citizen or group of citizens may apply for a no-wake zone by completing a No-Wake Zone Application, which is available online <https://www.lakewyliemarinecommission.com/no-wake-zones/>. A No-Wake Zone request is not complete unless it is accompanied by the required application fee and supporting documentation. Incomplete forms shall not be accepted by the LWMC.
2. A completed hardcopy application, any supporting documentation including a map, and \$150 fee in the form of a check must be received no fewer than 10 business days prior to a regularly scheduled meeting of the LWMC to be considered at that meeting. A map must be included showing the proposed No-Wake zone area and where buoys may be placed.
3. The completed hardcopy application, supporting documentation, and \$150 check should be mailed to: Lake Wylie Marine Commission, c/o Denise Strosser, 10735 David Taylor Drive, Suite 250, Charlotte, NC 28262. A digital copy of the application and supporting documentation, and any other evidence should also be emailed to EParker@centralina.org.
4. Applicants should be as specific as possible in their application in identifying the affected portion of Lake Wylie and recommending where the markers should be placed. This recommendation is provided to the LWMC as information only, and the LWMC is not bound to follow it.
5. Applicants (or authorized designee) will be required to appear before the LWMC to explain his or her request.



6. No-wake zone requests will not be considered by the LWMC until a law enforcement investigation has been completed and a law enforcement recommendation has been submitted to the LWMC. The LWMC will request this investigation. If possible, the investigation shall take place before the next regular meeting of the LWMC. The law enforcement recommendation is provided to the LWMC as information only.
7. Recommendations or additional information from other sources may be requested or received by the LWMC.
8. Approved applications will be forwarded to the NC Wildlife Resources Commission or the SC Department of Natural Resources for review and consideration.
9. If a request is denied, (a) the LWMC shall refund the applicant's application fee; and (b) the LWMC may establish a time period before an area can be reconsidered.
10. The LWMC assumes no liability relating to (a) the approval/denial of any no-wake zone application or (b) the purchase or installation of any buoys.