

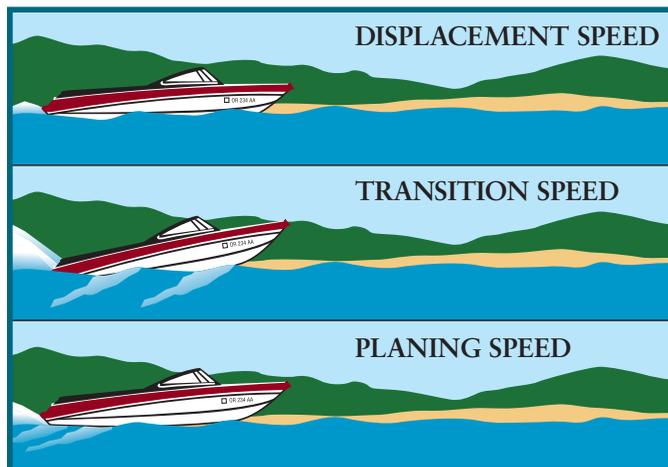
WHAT'S THE LAW?

Operators of boats must observe Slow-No Wake, Maximum 5 MPH speed limit within 200 feet of a boat ramp, marina or moorage with a capacity for six or more vessels; a floating home moorage with six or more structures; or people working at water level.

* **Exemptions:** Commercial vessels or if more speed is needed for safe passage in river navigation.

How Speed Affects Wake

- 1) **Displacement Speed:** The boat operates with the bow down in the water. This is the slowest speed, and it creates the least wake.
- 2) **Transition Speed:** As you increase power, the bow rises and causes the stern to plow through the water. This speed creates the largest wake.
- 3) **Planing Speed:** The bow drops back down, and only a small portion of the hull contacts the water. This speed creates less wake than transition speed but more than displacement speed.



WATCHING YOUR WAKE

Oregon State Marine Board
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PO Box 14760
Salem, Oregon 97309
www.boatoregon.com



WATCHING YOUR WAKE

Fast Fact

You are legally responsible for your wake and the damage or personal injury it causes, no matter how large or small the wake.



My Wake Isn't That Big. How Much Damage Can it Really Do?

Recreation

- Can be a danger to inexperienced swimmers or wading anglers
- Can rock, swamp or capsize boats; passengers can even be thrown off balance or overboard
- Can erode sediment from the shoreline, creating cloudy water

Property

- Can thrust docked boats against a moorage
- Can wash floating trees against docks or boats
- Can erode shoreline property

Wildlife

- Can cause churned sediment to settle to the bottom of the waterway and smother aquatic vegetation
- Can disturb bird nesting along the shore



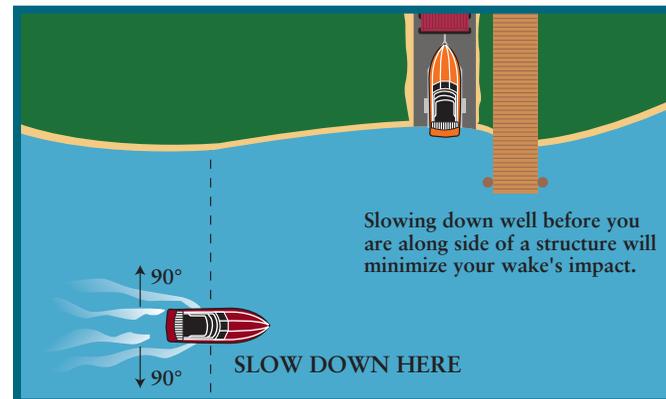
WAKE SIZES AND EFFECTS

- 5-inch wake ▶ limited damage
- 10-inch wake ▶ 5x more damage potential
- 25-inch wake ▶ 30x more damage potential

HOW DO I COMPLY?

Limit Your Wake

- Be aware of your wake, especially when changing speeds.
- Slow down enough to eliminate wake when needed.
- Trim tabs help keep your boat level and limit time in transition speed.
- Boat in deeper waters, away from shore/other boats.
- Arrange passengers; a heavy stern creates a big wake.
- Slow down ahead of time to avoid a following wake.



Wakeboard Boats And Cruisers

Boats that create wakes in excess of 18 inches under normal operation create hazardous conditions that can lead to new restrictions. To prevent unnecessary restrictions, such as extended “no wake” zones, please **play away** from developed shorelines, other boaters, steep banks of soft sediment or areas used by wildlife. Only use wake-enhancing devices in larger waterbodies. When producing 24” wakes or larger, please stay 500 feet or more from the shoreline. Respect private property – and other boaters, too.

Protect Against Other Wakes

- Warn passengers ahead of time.
- Slow down but don't stop. You need headway to be able to maneuver through the wake.
- Keep older passengers aft.
- Cross at a slight angle to prevent the bow from being thrown high into the air.
- While overtaking a boat, cross its wake quickly.
- Try not to take a wake on your beam. Turn the bow into the wake at an angle and then resume course.

