



FLATWATER LAKE

Supplemental Rules from the HOA

Updated May, 2022



What are zebra mussels and why should we care about them?



Zebra Mussels are an invasive, fingernail-sized mollusk that is native to fresh waters in Eurasia. Their name comes from the dark, zig-zagged stripes on each shell.

In the Midwest, they have destroyed boat engines, fouled beaches, and caused damage to boat ramps and docks. **Zebra Mussel** fecal material may also contribute to taste and odor problems in drinking water sources.

In large lakes that cannot be drained, it can cost as much as \$400,000 to treat a 265-acre lake with Zequinox Molluscicide every two years and it only has a 90% kill rate. Another treatment is Potash (Potassium-Rich Salt) in quantities so as not to kill off the aquatic life in the lake and is not a cure either.

Zebra Mussels were eradicated from Lake Zorinsky in 2010 by drawing down the lake and then it was refilled in 2011 and reopened in 2012. A long time to be without a lake at your home.

So if a **Zebra Mussel** is introduced by anyone's motorized or non-motorized watercraft, this could happen to Flatwater Lake—if the lake could even be drained since it is fed by spring water.

Zebra Mussels can survive out of the water for up to 30 days; can produce millions of eggs in a spawning season; can eat significant amounts of plankton, reducing biodiversity and competition; can hold on to one another with byssal threads; and can colonize soft surfaces like inflatable toys and SUP boards.

One of the most damaging impacts of Zebra Mussels is that they filter out algae needed for food by native species. Beyond that ecosystem impact, there are several other ways **Zebra Mussels** negatively affect the environment they invade: Cause cuts and scrapes for pets and people enjoying the lake.

How can the spread of zebra mussels be prevented?

It is imperative that everyone follows the rules of the lake's use with regard to all watercraft. Even SUP boards, kayaks, canoes, floats, etc., can harbor **Zebra Mussels**.

We also encourage good hygiene for your non-motorized watercraft and toys. It is impossible to police every non-motorized watercraft or toys, so it will be part of each HOA Members responsibility to make sure no non-motorized watercraft or toys are introduced into the lake without first being inspected by the lot or homeowner for **Zebra Mussels**.

Other Information about Zebra Mussel Prevention:

- ⇒ The **Zebra Mussels** don't like sand, because there's nothing they can attach to, so remove any branches, logs, concrete or asphalt pieces you find in the lake to reduce possible habitat.
- ⇒ Increasing fish which have been shown to feed on zebra muscles (200—2" Red Eared Sunfish or 5,000—10" Blue Catfish) is another possible preventive measure.



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GATE KEEPERS AND LAUNCHING MOTORIZED WATERCRAFT

Before boats are launched in the lake, a Gate Keeper will verify that your motorized watercraft has not been in another body of water as well as verifying the motorized watercraft is registered with the State and has a Flatwater Lake Sticker and your Lot Number. If the motorized watercraft has been in another body of water or if there is any doubt, the Gate Keeper will require the motorized watercraft be dry docked for 14 days with a locked tether or steam cleaned for a fee by Hernan before the watercraft will be allowed in the lake.

The gate will be kept locked at all times. If you need to launch your motorized watercraft, please go down the following list and call one of the following five Gate Keepers for an appointment to open the gate.

Mike Pettit: 402/212-9869
Dustin Lower: 402/672-6224
Gabe Wilcox: 402/699-3835
Chris Chaloupka: 402/677-3814
Dave Conner: 402/215-6692

Steam Clean—\$200: Hernan Vera—531/220-2830

When motorized watercraft are taken out of the lake for fuel, cleaning, repairs, storage, or any reason besides going to another body of water, a tether lock will be attached to the motorized watercraft and trailer preventing the motorized watercraft from being launched in another body of water. The motorized watercraft will also be tagged with the time/date and reason it is being removed. Those motorized watercraft will be allowed back in the lake without dry dock or steam clean since they could not have been launched in another body of water.

For motorized watercraft that are removed to be taken to other bodies of water, it will be tagged and before the motorized watercraft may be put back into the lake, it must be dry docked for 14 days with a locked tether or steam cleaned by Hernan. If it is determined a homeowner or lot owner violated the Zebra Mussel/Boat Ramp Rules, they will be **fined \$5,000** and lose lake privileges for 12 months which starts when they pay their fine.

NO Guest Motorized Watercraft:

Guest boats or other watercraft are NOT ALLOWED on the Flatwater Lake. There are no exceptions to this rule. Only motorized watercraft owned, stickered, and under the control of owners will be allowed in the Lake.

General Lake Rules:

- ⇒ Maximum speed is 40 MPH.
- ⇒ Access to the boat ramp must be scheduled in advance (24-hour notice) with one of the Gate Keepers.
- ⇒ All boats, watercraft, docks, lifts, and dock or lift parts must not have been in any other lakes within the previous 6 months. If these items have been in any other body of water within the above time frame, they must be certified "clean". Failure to abide by this rule may subject you to a \$5,000 fine and the loss of lake privileges for 12 months from the time the fine is paid.
- ⇒ All boating or watercraft operation will be in a counterclockwise direction as outlined on Exhibit "B" Boat Traffic Pattern Map attached hereto. Only with extreme caution and yielding the right of way to all skiers and other watercraft shall a boat operator cut across the lake. All hot dogging, abrupt turns, spins, jumping, etc., shall not be allowed. This rule applies to jet skis as well as boats pulling tubers. Double-ups (making a sharp turn and re-crossing one's wake to create a bigger wake) are not allowed in the skiing and wakeboarding channels.
- ⇒ In narrow areas of the lake, slow down and make sure your skier, towable, or wakeboarders stay directly behind the boat.
- ⇒ Wakesurfing is currently **NOT** allowed to help protect the shoreline and dock facilities.
- ⇒ **NO** parasailing or kite surfing is permitted.
- ⇒ Watercraft must not follow a person being towed at a distance closer than 300 feet. Motorized watercraft traveling faster than No Wake (5 MPH) shall not travel within one hundred feet of another watercraft.
- ⇒ All watercraft and persons pulled by boats must remain a minimum of 25 feet from the shoreline, boatlifts, and docks except when the watercraft is leaving or returning to shore. It is assumed good judgment will be used in



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these situations and that all Nebraska boating rules, regulations and statutes will be fully complied with by all residents and operators.

- ⇒ Towlines may not exceed 75 feet in length. No horseplay or wild rides are allowed.
- ⇒ Downed skiers/riders/tubers have the right-of-way **at all times**.
- ⇒ If on the lake at night, all watercraft must use appropriate lights.
- ⇒ If you have a downed skier or tuber, please put up an Orange Flag to notify other boaters.
- ⇒ Sailboats, canoes, rowboats, paddleboats, kayaks, any vessel not operating under mechanical power, any anchored vessel, and swimmers **always** have right of way over any vessel operating under mechanical power.
- ⇒ Buoys, platforms, diving floats, trampolines, etc., shall not be placed in the lake without prior written approval from the Design Review Board. Any said items placed without approval will be removed. No watercraft, skier or wakeboarder should ever go inside a buoy. Fines will be assessed if this activity is observed. Small "lily pads," "Maui mats," or other temporary floating devices near the shoreline are acceptable provided they do not interfere with traffic flow on the lake.
- ⇒ Use extreme caution when the lake is icy.
- ⇒ The boat ramp gate will remain locked at all times by the Gate Keepers.
- ⇒ Each lot owner is allowed the following watercraft / recreational vehicles at Flatwater Lake:
 - a. 2 – Boats
 - b. 2 – Jet Skies
 - c. 2 – UTV/ATVs
- ⇒ During peak usage times and dates, the HOA may limit owners to only one motorized watercraft on the water at the designated time.

Installing Docks:

- ⇒ Anyone intending to install a boat dock or lift must submit a plan to the Design Review Board (DRB) as early as possible. The risk of Zebra Mussel infestation is significantly associated with dealer boats and trailers that travel from water to water. Therefore, in an effort to protect our most valuable asset, no dealer boats or trailers will be allowed at Flatwater Lake.
- ⇒ Preferred vendors for docks and boat lifts are [On the Water](#) and [Zach's Boat Lift and Dock Service](#).
- ⇒ Dock must be new or will need to be inspected and certified as "clean" before installing it.

Motorized Watercraft:

- ⇒ All watercrafts must have a US Coast Guard approved life saving device (Type I, II, or III) for each person on board and at least one throwable flotation device (Type IV).
- ⇒ **Apply antifouling paints to the hull and the engine's cooling system.** In-line strainers can also be installed in the engines cooling system. Anti-fouling paints are routinely applied to watercraft hulls to prevent **Zebra Mussel** attachment, algae growth, and other marine organisms from attaching to the hulls of watercraft.
- ⇒ **A 2% chlorine bleach solution** is effective at killing **Zebra Mussels** when cleaning watercraft equipment or other gear away from the lake.
- ⇒ Boats should be cleaned with high-temperature (104°F), high-pressure washers if you suspect you had a **Zebra Mussel** on the boat hull, motor, or in the live well.
- ⇒ Do not transport water from live wells and bait buckets from one water body to another; empty them onto land when possible and dispose of leftover bait in the trash. Most often the bait fish are not native to that water, just like the **Zebra Mussels**.
- ⇒ No watercraft shall be equipped with sanitary facilities of any kind that is capable of directly discharging into the lake.
- ⇒ Jet Skis must be 2010 or newer unless approved by the FWL HOA.
- ⇒ Jet Skis and Boats with Inboard, Inboard-Outboard, and Outboard motors are allowed, subject to limitations as set forth in this Supplemental Rules document.



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Motorized Watercraft—Continued...

- ⇒ Maximum boat length is 24 feet and shall be no taller than 12 feet above the waterline.
- ⇒ Pontoon boats are limited to 24 feet in length.
- ⇒ Airboats or jet boats are prohibited.
- ⇒ It is required that engines on boats and jet skis be four-stroke models. Stand-up jet skis are the exception to this rule.
- ⇒ No boat motors may be altered or modified from their original factory production standards to increase their performance or horsepower. Watercraft using Captain's Call or other non-muffled exhaust is not permitted.
- ⇒ Speed in the launching, shore, bay and dock areas is always No Wake (5 MPH). Speed on the lake between one-half (½) hour after sunrise and sunset is No Wake (5 MPH).

Non-Motorized Watercraft:

- ⇒ Wash your non-motorized watercraft and toys off with warm, soapy water and inspect items before introducing them into the lake.
- ⇒ Be especially vigilante with your guests water toys and non-motorized watercraft.

Motorized Watercraft Licensing and Stickers:

Please use the attached form to send the FWL HOA your contact/ mailing information and return it with your watercraft (Boats/Jet Skis) and UTV/ATV information along with your watercraft sticker fee(s) to the FWL HOA for processing.

Please mail with your form, your proof of all watercraft and UTV/ATV insurance as well as your one million dollar (\$1,000,000) Umbrella Liability insurance listing Flatwater Lake Homeowners Association, Inc. (and their officers and directors) and Hampton Development Services, Inc. (and their officers and directors) as additional insured on your policy in order to use the lake to cpserros@comcast.net. Once the development is turned over to the residents, Hampton Development Services will no longer need to be listed as additional insured.

- ⇒ **All Motorized Watercraft must purchase an FWL sticker for \$50 per watercraft and stick it either on the starboard or port side of their watercraft along with their Lot Number - 3" tall.**
- ⇒ **Proof of all required watercraft and UTV/ATV insurance and umbrella liability insurance will be required prior to obtaining the Flatwater Lake sticker.** You must submit your Umbrella Liability insurance certificate in the amount of one million dollars (\$1,000,000). Paragraph 27 of the Covenants also states, "Each Lot Owner is required to carry an umbrella liability policy, as outlined in the Association's Rules and Regulations, naming Flatwater Lake Homeowners Association, Inc.; the Declarant, Hampton Development Services, Inc.; and their respective officers and directors as additional insureds."
- ⇒ **Jet skis are discouraged during Holiday weekends or other periods of high lake traffic. Homeowners will be expected to use a commonsense approach to this restriction.**
- ⇒ You must have your Nebraska DMV Boat License ID on your watercraft per Nebraska boating regulations. Visit the Nebraska Boating Regulation website: <https://outdoornebraska.gov/boatingregulations/> and become familiar with all boating regulations.

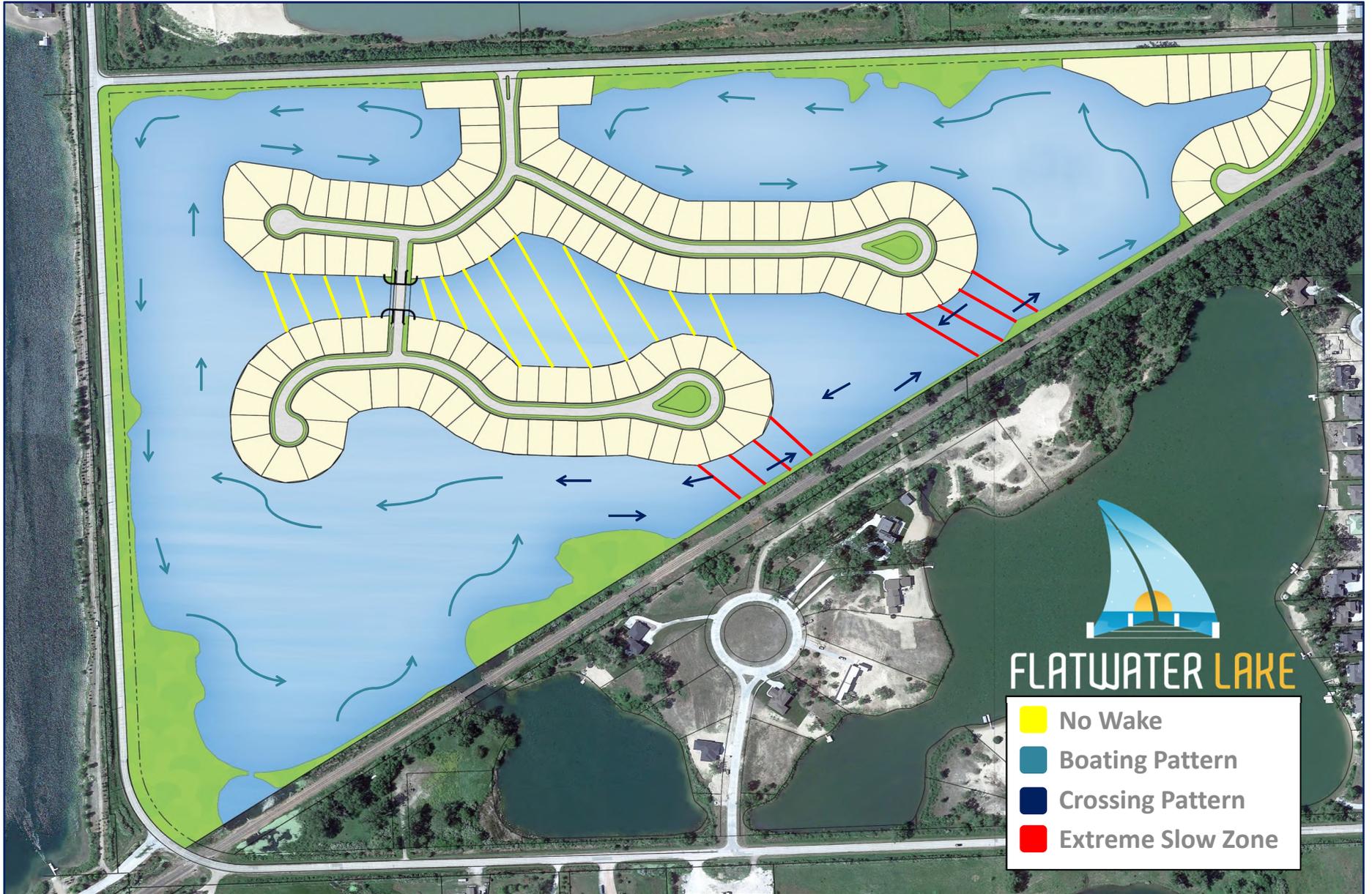
Punitive System for Violations of Lake Rules:

1st Offense: Warning

2nd Offense: \$100 Fine

3rd Offense in one season: Suspension of Watercraft Privileges for the rest of the season.
Reinstatement by written application made to the Board.

Exhibit B - Flatwater Lake Boat Direction Map





FLATWATER LAKE

HOA INFORMATION FORM

4089 S 84th St, STE 302

Omaha, NE 68127-1701

402/802-0682

E-mail: cpserrros@comcast.net

Lot: _____

Home Address: _____

Please fill out this form and return with your \$50 payment per FWL Sticker for your motorized watercrafts. All Boats, Jet Skis, and UTV/ATVs must be registered with the HOA and all motorized watercraft must have a sticker to use the lake.

Please include your certificate of insurance for your motorized Watercraft and Umbrella or Limited Liability policy for a minimum of \$1,000,000 naming the Flatwater Lake Homeowners Association, Inc.; the Declarant, Hampton Development Services, Inc.; and their officers and directors as additional insureds and include with this form.

Preferred Mailing Address:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

You must display your Lot Number as well as an FWL Sticker on each motorized watercraft. HOA Rules and Regulations are on the FlatwaterLake.org or HamptonLots.com websites. A Flatwater Lake sticker will be issued for your motorized watercrafts.

Motorized Watercraft: Display FWL sticker on Port or Starboard Side with your 3" tall Lot Number on the same side.

Boat 1:

Type: _____

Make: _____

Model: _____

Year: _____

Length: _____ Feet

Boat 2:

Type: _____

Make: _____

Model: _____

Year: _____

Length: _____ Feet

Jet Ski 1:

Type: _____

Make: _____

Model: _____

Year: _____

Jet Ski 2:

Type: _____

Make: _____

Model: _____

Year: _____

UTV/ATVs: Display your 3" tall Lot Number on the back of the UTV/ATV.

UTV/ATV 1:

Type: _____

Make: _____

Model: _____

Year: _____

UTV/ATV 2:

Type: _____

Make: _____

Model: _____

Year: _____

Approved		HOA to Fill In:
Yes	No	Boat and Jet Ski Check List
		1. Insurance Certificate Submitted
		2. Boat 1
		3. Boat 2
		4. Jet Ski 1
		5. Jet Ski 2
		6. Stickers mailed to Homeowner - Qty _____

Please make your payment to Flatwater Lake Homeowners Association, Inc. and mail to the above address.