

City of Framingham



The City Council of Framingham



ORDER NO. 2024-081-001

REQUEST OF THE RULES, ORDINANCES & ETHICS SUBCOMMITTEE

UPON THE REQUEST OF THE RULES, ORDINANCES & ETHICS SUBCOMMITTEE, THE CITY OF FRAMINGHAM, THROUGH THE FRAMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL, IT IS SO ORDERED:

That the City Council votes amend Chapter 215, Boats and Personal Watercraft Sections 215-1 and 215-2 the Administrative Ordinances of the Framingham Code, as follows:

Chapter 215

BOATS AND PERSONAL WATERCRAFT

§ 215-1. Use of motorboats.

§ 215-2. Personal watercraft.

[HISTORY: Adopted by the City Council of the City of Framingham 1-5-2021 by Ord. No. 2021-006 as Art. V, Sec. 12, of the General Ordinances. Amendments noted where applicable.]

As used in this section, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

PERSONAL WATERCRAFT — A small vessel which uses an inboard motor powering a water jet pump as its primary source of motive power and which is designed to be operated by persons sitting, standing, or kneeling on the vessel. The term includes but is not limited to a "Jet Ski®," "wet bike," or "surf jet," so-called.

MOTORBOAT — Any vessel propelled by gasoline powered machinery whether or not such machinery is the principal source of propulsion, but not a vessel which has a valid marine document issued by the Bureau of Customs of the United States government or any federal agency successor thereto.

§ 215-1. Use of motorboats.

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- A. All motorboats ~~shall must,~~ (except when prevented by a narrow channel or when approaching or leaving the shore or other boats or passing under bridges or rounding sharp bends) keep 150 feet distant from anchored or moored boats, piers, rafts, floats, a line of floats outlining swimming areas, skin divers' flags, or the shore. **[Amended 4-30-2024 by Ord. No. 2024-025]**
- B. In all such cases, the speed of such motorboats shall be reduced to headway speed so as to provide full visibility and control; and prevent their wash from being thrown into, or causing excessive rocking to, other boats, barges, aquaplanes, and other devices being towed by power. The operator of the towing boat shall be responsible for compliance therewith.
- C. The use of motorboats propelled by internal combustion is prohibited on bodies of water under 75 acres, lying wholly within the City of Framingham, except when used by law enforcement or public safety personnel in the course of their duties or training.
- D. Any violation of this section shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$100 for each offense.

§ 215-2. Personal watercraft.

- A. The use of ~~personal watercraft powered craft generally described as a "Jet Ski®," "surf jet," "wet bike" or otherwise described as a "personal watercraft"~~ is prohibited except when used by law enforcement or public safety personnel in the course of their duties or training.
- B. Any violation of this section shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$100 for each offense.
- C. ~~As used in this section, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:~~
 - ~~PERSONAL WATERCRAFT — A small vessel which uses an inboard motor powering a water jet pump as its primary source of motive power and which is designed to be operated by persons sitting, standing, or kneeling on the vessel. The term includes but is not limited to a "Jet Ski®," "wet bike," or "surf jet," so-called.~~

FIRST READING

City of Framingham



The City Council of Framingham



YEAS: Bryant, Cannon, King, Leombruno, Long, Mallach, Ottaviani, Steiner, Ward, White Harvey
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Alexander. All other members were present in person or via teleconferencing
PASSED IN COUNCIL: February 4, 2025

SECOND READING

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Cannon, King, Leombruno, Long, Mallach, Ottaviani, Steiner, Ward, White Harvey
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: All members were present in person
PASSED IN COUNCIL: February 25, 2025

A TRUE RECORD, ATTEST:

2/27/2025
Date Approved

Lisa A. Ferguson
Lisa A. Ferguson, City Clerk
Emily L. Butler, Assistant City Clerk

2/27/25
Date Approved
Charlie Sisitsky
Charlie Sisitsky, Mayor