

RCWD SAFE WAKE MAPS

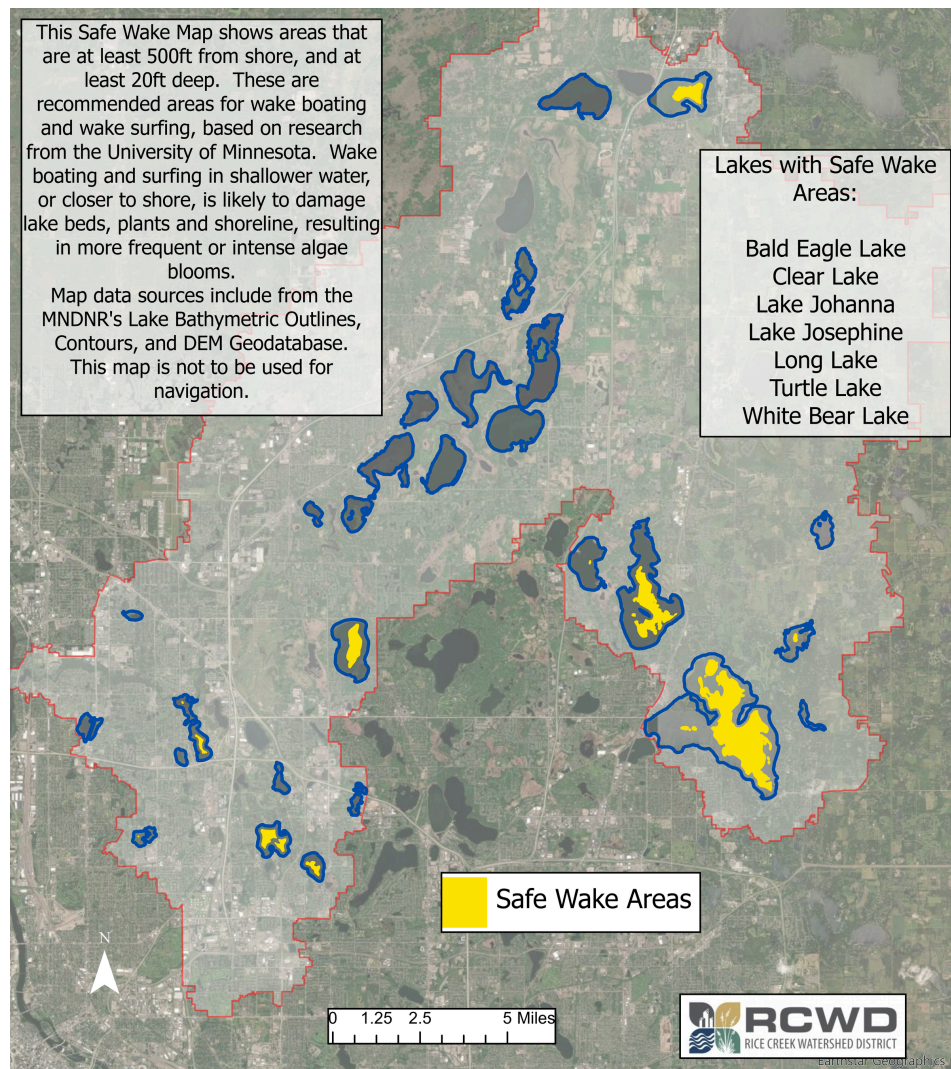


Lakes across Rice Creek Watershed District

Description:

Safe Wake Maps show areas that are at least 500ft from shore, and at least 20ft deep. These are recommended areas for wake boating and wake surfing, based on research from the University of Minnesota. Wake boating and surfing in shallower water and close to shores are likely to damage lake beds/bottom, plants and shoreline, resulting in more frequent or intense algae blooms.

Map data sources include: MNDNR's Lake Bathymetric Outlines, Contours, and DEM Geodatabase.



THIS MAP IS NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION.

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St. Anthony Falls Laboratory - University of Minnesota Wake Boat Study

The Rice Creek Watershed District is providing these Safe Wake maps to help lake users make informed decisions about wakesurfing.

Research conducted by the University of Minnesota's St. Anthony Falls Laboratory found that, under certain conditions, wakeboats can negatively impact lakebeds and shorelines. These impacts have the potential to fuel algae blooms, turning lake water from clear to green.

Specifically, the University of Minnesota study found:

- All powerboats produce water currents and turbulence that can disturb the lakebed.
- More powerful turbulence from wakeboats can directly resuspend sediments in the water. This can indirectly lead to release of nutrients like phosphorus from sediment that can stimulate excessive algae growth, which adversely impacts lakes.
- All powerboats, when leisurely cruising or planing, should operate in 10 feet of water or greater to minimize impacts caused by motions generated by a boat's hull.
- During surfing, to minimize negative impacts on the lake environment, wakeboats should operate in depths of 20 feet or greater, and at least 500 feet from shoreline.

By operating wake boats in deeper water (>20 feet) and away from shorelines (>500 feet), you can help protect your lake from harmful impacts caused by the wake boat.

More information from the U of M can be found at QR Code/Websites below:
<https://pub.umn.edu/safl/FAQ-Boat-Report-2025/>



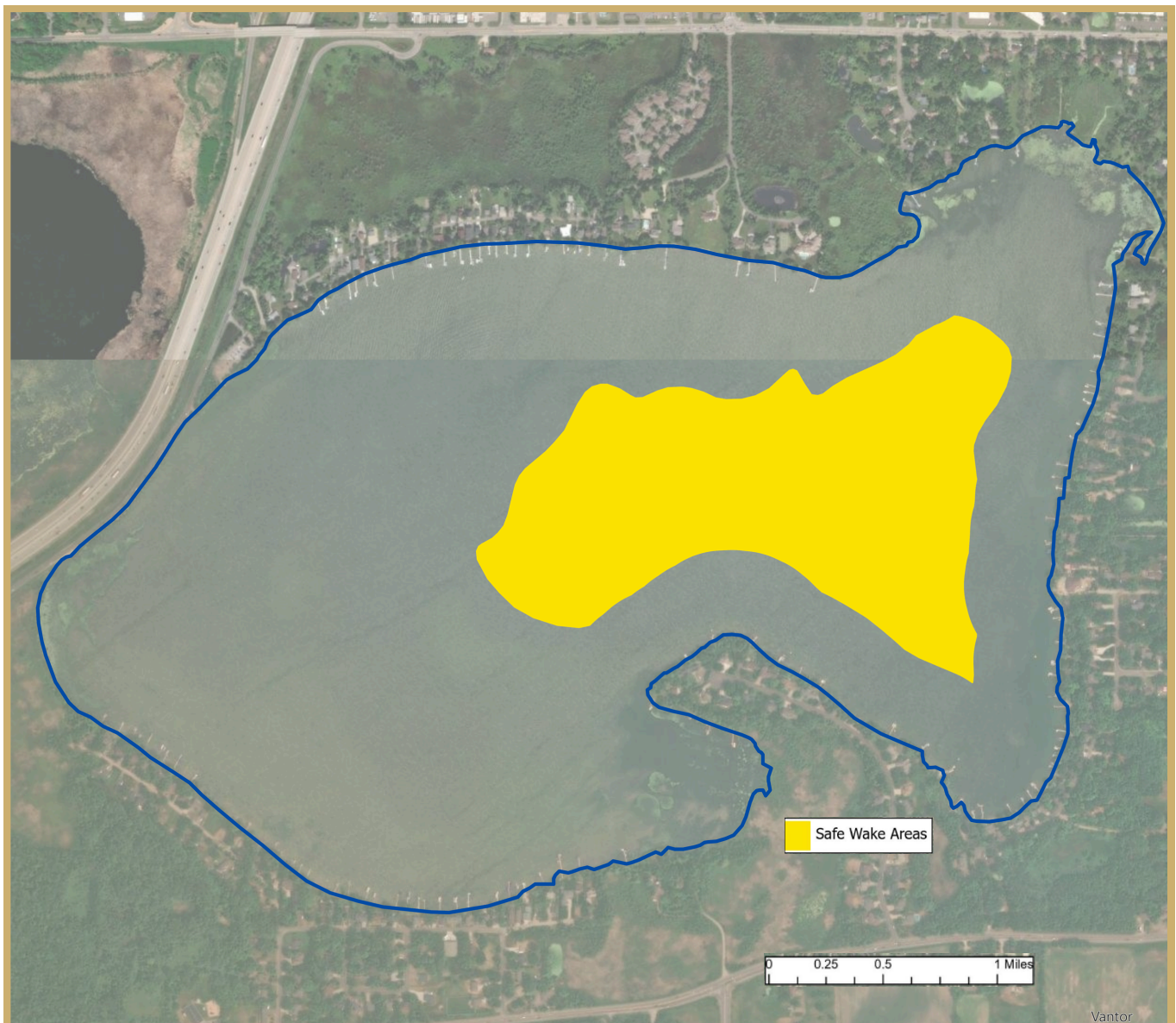
[U of M Boat Study Report](https://pub.umn.edu/safl/FAQ-Boat-Report-2025/)

Safe Wake Areas

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BALD EAGLE LAKE

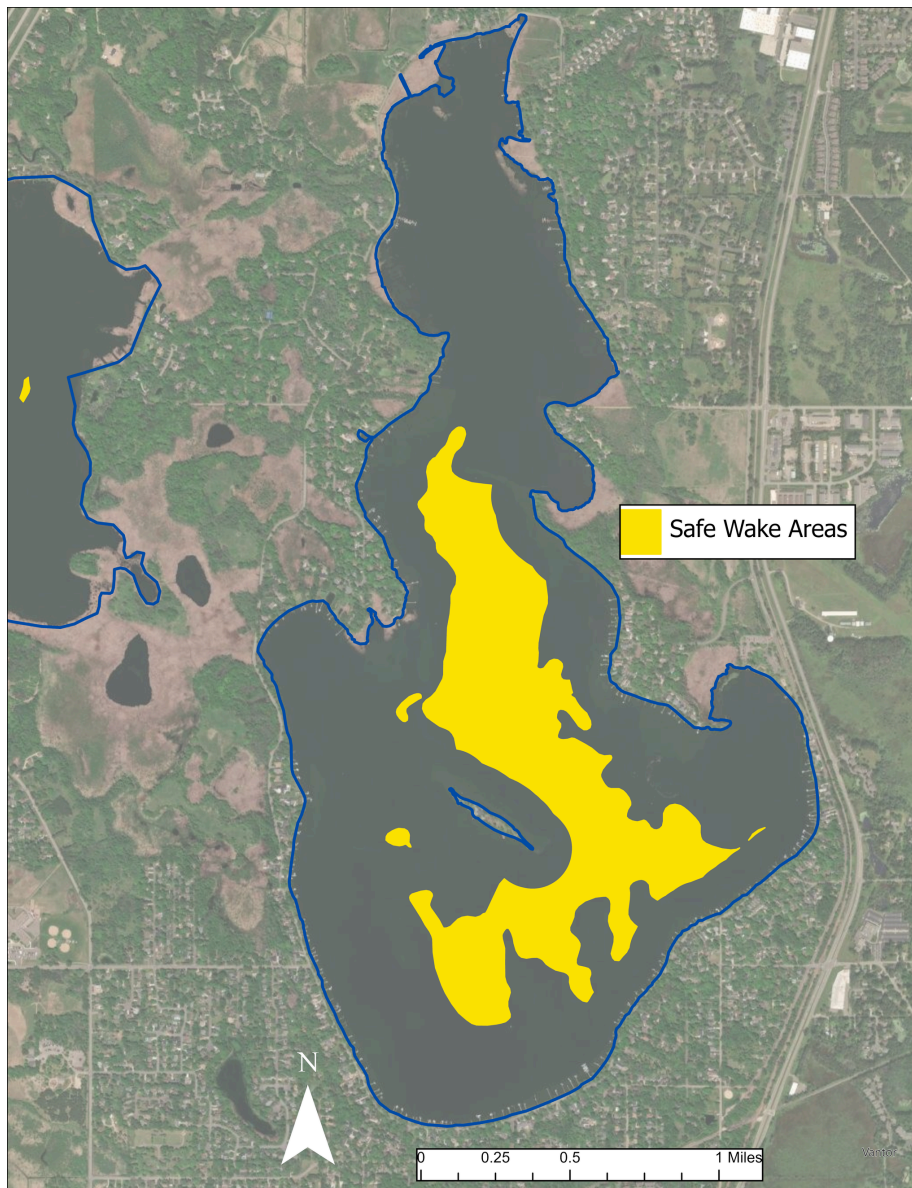


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WHITE BEAR LAKE

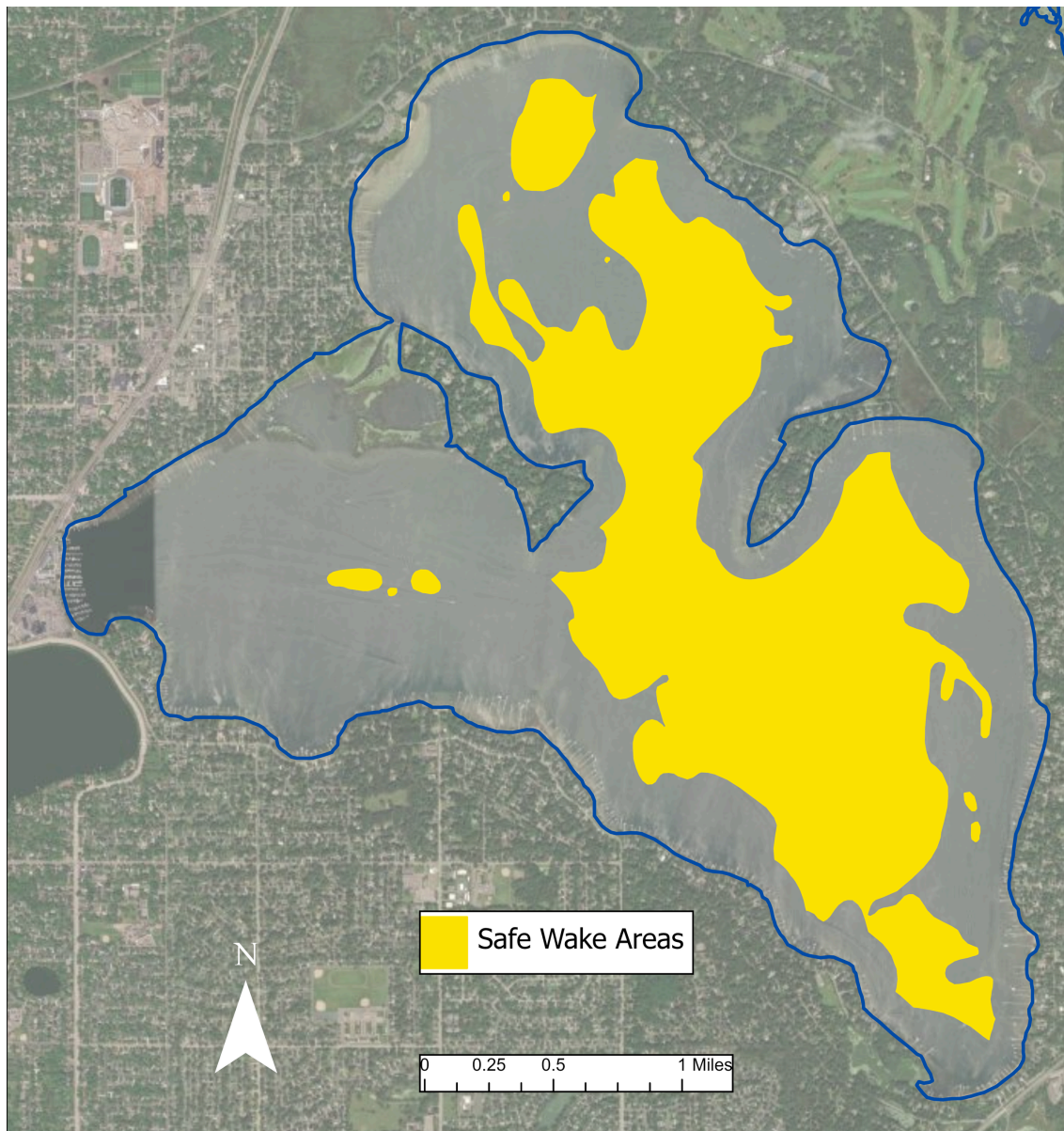


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TURTLE LAKE

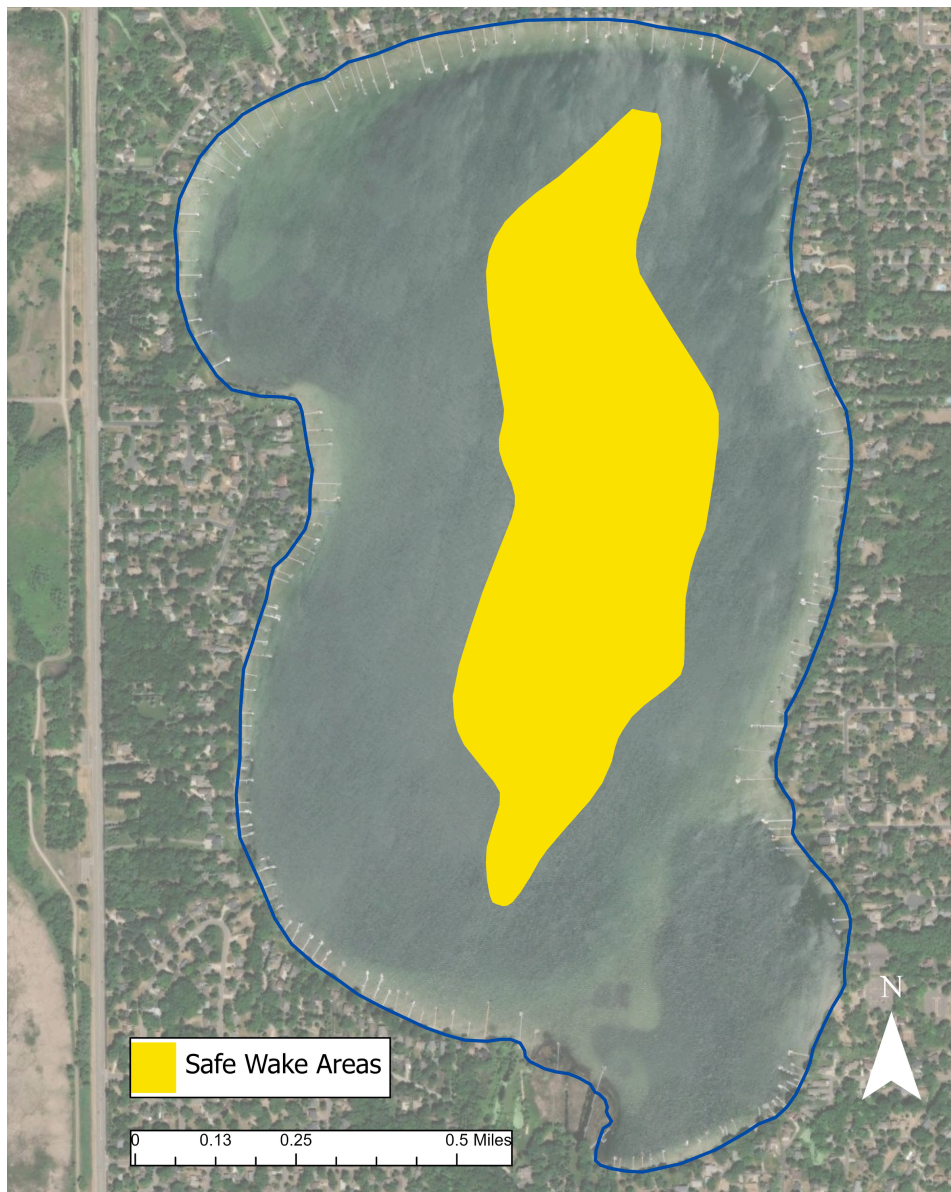


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JOSEPHINE LAKE

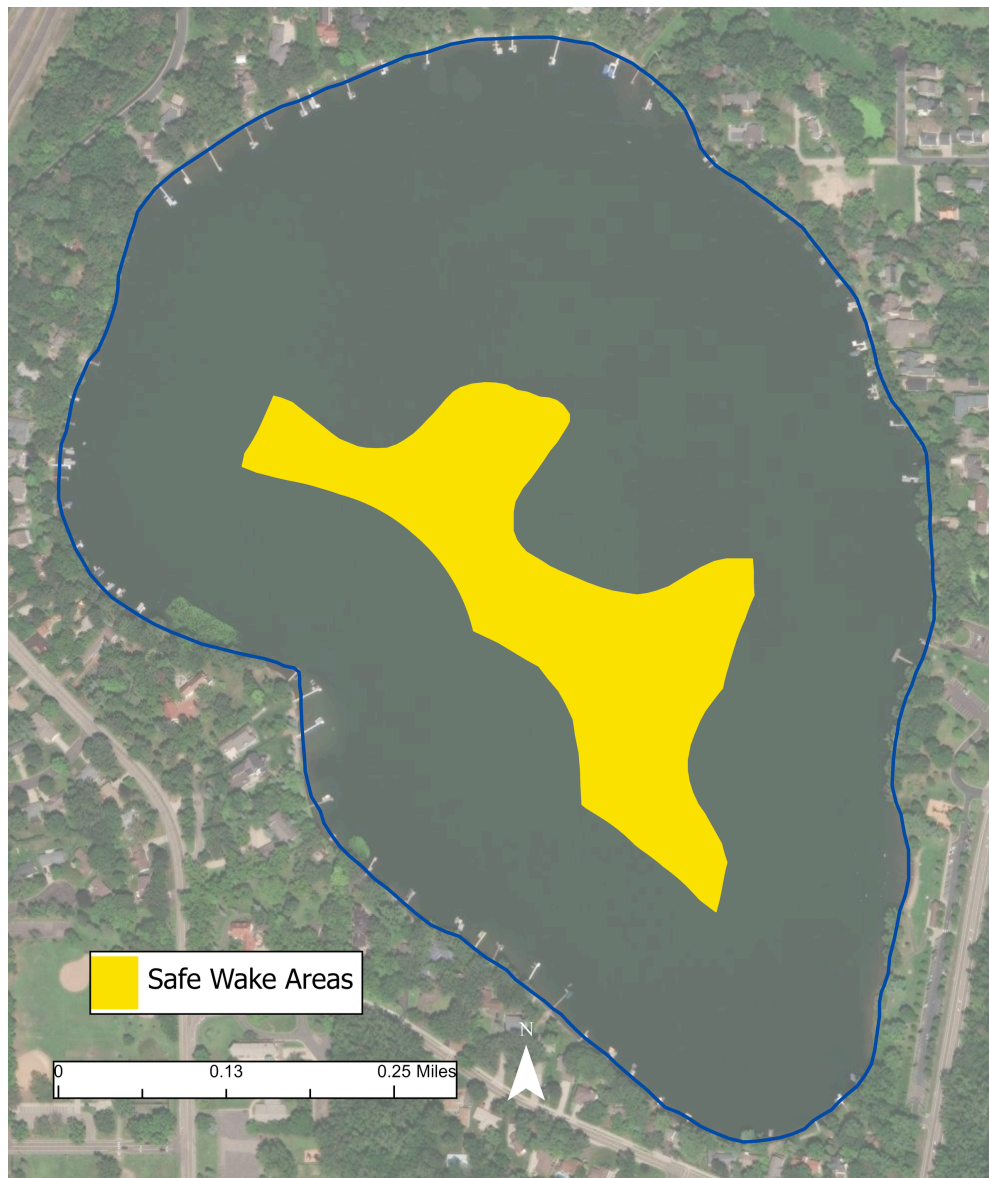


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LONG LAKE

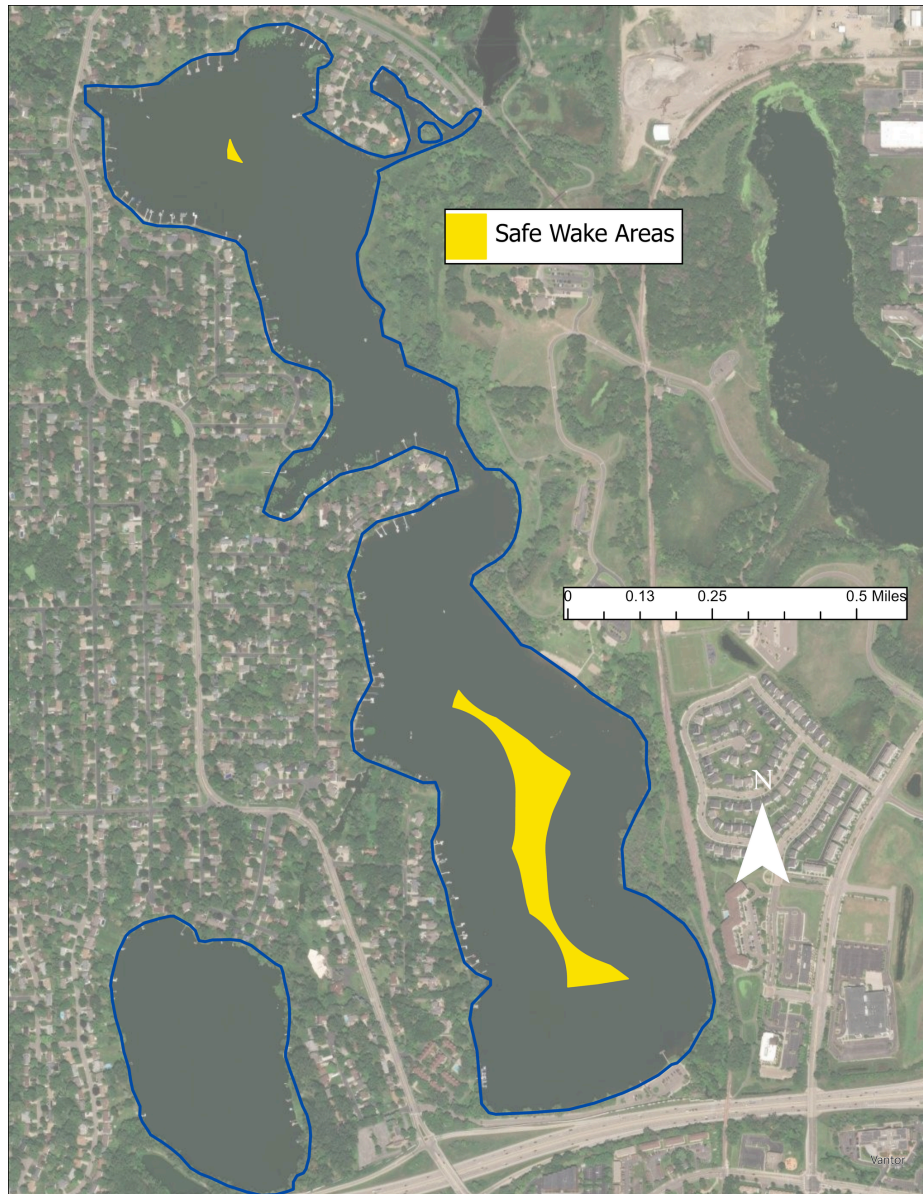


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