

To: Town of Eagle Chairman and Supervisors
From: Sergeant Dennis R. Nork
Date: September 30, 2008
Re: Speed Limit on Lake

I write this proposal knowing that there will be some resistance on a speed limit or any other new laws being requested. This is not a "make everyone happy" request, but it is needed. I last asked the board and the lake association in 2003 before the new DNR launch was open to look into a 45 MPG top speed. It failed. Now, in 2008 I am asking for a top speed of 50 MPH. I would like it all times but a lesser restriction would be 50 MPH on Saturday, Sunday, and Holidays.

I believe the goal of the town board, lake board, and lake patrol is the same, to ensure a safe environment for everyone on the lake. To let boats rip around the lake at high speeds is good for them but not for all the small boats out there. We have probably doubled or more the amount of canoes and kayaks crossing our lake. I have seen groups of 8-10 heading to Lulu Lake and be on a collision course with ski boats coming out of the ski channel. I clocked a boat doing 75 MPH speeding around the lake and through the ski channel. It is only a matter of time before there is a serious accident because of speed. We have seen bigger boats and bigger motors on Eagle Spring Lake.

Asking a 50 MPH speed limit would accommodate barefoot skiers and anyone else that needs to go that fast.

Most lakes much bigger than Eagle Spring Lake have limits.

Lake Nagawicka – 917 acres

45 MPH on weekends – June, July, August 25 MPH

Pewaukee Lake – 2493 acres

50 MPH top speed, BUT 40 MPH between 12:00 PM – Sunset on Saturday, Sunday, and Holidays

Phantom Lake – 540 acres total

40 MPH

Eagle Spring Lake – Unlimited

Upon talking to the DNR, Wardens Doug Ziehen and John Plenke endorse this proposal fully. Anything to slow down traffic and make the lake safer for all users. A survey of boat speeds on weekend revealed most boats won't do over 50 mph. Pulling a tuber averaged 20 MPH, a PWC averaged 35-50 MPH and some speed boats cruising around averaged 40-45 MPH.

I respectfully request the tow board look into this and have something in place for the 2009 boat season.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sergeant Dennis R. Nork
Town of Eagle Lake Patrol