



Be a Buoy Buddy

So what is a Buoy Buddy? A Buoy Buddy is a responsible boater who knows and understands the importance of the No-Wake Buoys and the reason for which they are placed. They operate their boats at a No-Wake speed while approaching and passing through areas identified as No-Wake. They understand that No-Wake Buoys are typically placed in navigable waters with shoreline-to-shoreline widths less than 200 feet wide to minimize the adverse effects of wave damage due to boat wakes. They know and understand that their wakes can cause shoreline erosion and damage to moored boats. They understand that they are responsible for any damage caused by their wakes and can be held financially liable for any such damage.

Buoy Buddies are serious boaters and expect other boaters to know the rules of safe boating and act responsibly and safely when operating their boats in marked and unmarked areas.

“Buoy Buddies Don’t Make Waves”

No-Wake Buoy Program – The No-Wake Buoy Program was created in 1982 and has been a mainstay of LOLA’s commitment to the quality of boating on Lake Orion since. Maintenance of the program is ongoing and involves more than the eye sees. Buoy anchors, anchor chains and associated hardware also require maintenance.

- In 2011 a grass roots development emerged providing anonymous donations for seven new buoys
- In 2012 a buoy adoption program was created by Jack Schodowski. Jack’s efforts provided the funding to replace the remaining thirteen buoys
- In 2016 all of the buoy decals were replaced. Boating traffic can result in cosmetic and physical damage to the buoys especially when they are run over by careless boaters. Solar powered marker lights were also added to the buoys to aid boaters in seeing the buoys at night. This has helped
- In 2019 six buoys were replaced due to boat damage. Six anchors were also replaced with a new style weight designed for easier and safer handling. All of the anchor chains and fasteners were replaced with stainless steel components to reduce seasonal maintenance costs associated with galvanized components. In addition, all the solar powered batteries were replaced with higher capacity batteries to extend illumination time during the night
- In 2023 three of the seventeen buoys were replaced with new buoys. The remaining fourteen were stripped of the old decals and replaced with new sets of decals.

If you want to help fund the No-Wake Buoy Program you can donate to LOLA via the website: www.lolainfo.org or by mailing a donation to LOLA PO Box 446 Lake Orion, MI 48361.

Any donation will be appreciated and collectively it will make a difference

Thank You for Your Support!