

**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
PENNSYLVANIA FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION**

**AGENDA FOR  
THE BOATING ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

**Monday, June 9, 2025  
9:00 a.m.  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania**

**Members**

Chair Rocco Ali  
Vice Chair Steven Ketterer  
Wm. Cary Allen  
Loren Lustig

**Members Ex Officio**

Timothy D. Schaeffer, Executive Director  
Mark Sweppenhiser, Director of Boating, Secretary to the Board  
Ryan Dysinger for Cindy Adams Dunn, Secretary for the  
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

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- III. Review and Approval of Minutes of February 3, 2025, BAB Meeting
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- V. Recognition (Lifesaving Awards)
- VI. Old Business
- VII. New Business - Proposed Rulemaking
  - A. Amendments to 58 Pa. Code § 111.43 (Mercer County)
- VIII. Discussion Items
  - A. Request for Slow, No-Wake Zone – Lake Wallenpaupack (Mark Sweppenhiser)
  - B. Request for Slow, No-Wake Zone – Pittsburgh (Mark Sweppenhiser)
  - C. Boating Safety Education Certificate Transition (Laurel Anders)
  - D. Legislative Update (Kailee Glock)
  - E. Abandoned and Derelict Vessels Research Project (Mark Sweppenhiser)
- IX. Other Business
  - A. Boating Committee Meeting
    - i. July 8, 2025, 2:30 p.m.
  - B. Quarterly Commission Meeting
    - i. July 28-29, 10:00 a.m.
- X. Adjourn

## NEW BUSINESS

### A. Amendments to 58 Pa. Code § 111.43 (Mercer County).

#### Commentary:

Lake Wilhelm is an 1,860-acre impoundment in New Vernon Township, Mercer County in northwestern Pennsylvania. It is bisected by Interstate 79. The 1,440-acre portion of Lake Wilhelm southeast of Interstate 79 is within Maurice K. Goddard State Park and is owned and managed by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR). DCNR permits the operation of boats powered by internal combustion motors and prohibits the use of motors in excess of 20 horsepower. As such, an amendment of 58 Pa. Code § 111.43 (Mercer County) is required to bring the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission's regulations into alignment with DCNR's posted restrictions for Lake Wilhelm.

The 240 acres of Lake Wilhelm northwest of Interstate 79 are owned and managed by the Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC) as part of State Game Lands 270. The PGC has regulations in place for State Game Lands lakes. Specifically, as stated in 58 Pa. Code § 135.41 (State Game Lands), these lakes are restricted to electric motors only and boats may not exceed slow, no-wake speed, unless otherwise posted by PGC. Therefore, there is no need for the language already found in 58 Pa. Code § 135.41 to be made part of Chapter 111.

The Interstate 79 causeway over Lake Wilhelm is a recognizable boundary between State Game Lands 270 and Maurice K. Goddard State Park which simplifies the division of regulations for boaters. Both DCNR and PGC staff are in favor of this amendment.

Staff propose the following changes to § 111.43:

§ 111.43. Mercer County.

\* \* \* \* \*

(b) *Lake Wilhelm—Maurice Goddard State Park.* **Southeast of Interstate 79 [T]the operation of boats powered by internal combustion motors is permitted. The use of motors in excess of 20 horsepower is prohibited. [except from a point approximately 200 yards north of the Interstate 79 causeway over Lake Wilhelm upstream to the Game Commission Propagation Area above the Sheakleyville Causeway (State Route 1018, Milledgeville Road).] Regulations on Lake Wilhelm northwest of Interstate 79 are as posted by the Pennsylvania Game Commission.**

#### Briefer:

Mark Sweppenhiser, Director for Bureau of Boating

Action: