

Introduced: Mr. Roberts
1st Reading: June 19, 2006
Passed: July 10, 2006
Posted: July 11, 2006
Effective: July 20, 2006

ORDINANCE NUMBER 1274

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 12, "PARKS AND RECREATION," OF THE GREENBELT CITY CODE IN ORDER TO UPDATE SECTION 12-78, "RULES GOVERNING OPERATION," WITH REGARD TO USE BY CHILDREN OF ONE-PERSON BOATS AND USE OF PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES

WHEREAS, the City has established by ordinance boating regulations and rules governing the operation of boats and vessels on Greenbelt Lake in Buddy Attick Park; and

WHEREAS, City law currently requires children under the age of 12 to be accompanied by at least one adult in the same boat or vessel; and

WHEREAS, the City has been requested to revise its rules to allow a child under the age of 12 to paddle a boat designed for only one person under the supervision of an adult in a nearby boat or vessel; and

WHEREAS, the Park & Recreation Advisory Board and staff of the Recreation and Police Departments support making the requested change but also recommend raising the age below which young people are required to wear personal flotation devices while in boats or vessels on Greenbelt Lake. NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Greenbelt, Maryland, that Chapter 12 of the City Code be amended to read as follows:

Chapter 12

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ARTICLE IV. ATTICK LAKE PARK (GREENBELT LAKE)

DIVISION 1. GENERALLY

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DIVISION 2. BOATING REGULATIONS

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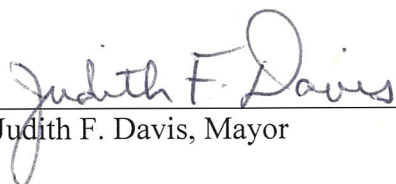
Sec. 12-78. Rules governing operation.

It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a boat or vessel, or for the owner to permit the operation of any boat or vessel on Greenbelt Lake without complying with the following regulations:

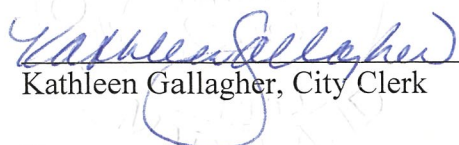
- (1) The number of persons occupying the boat shall not exceed the number of seats provided for passengers or the rated passenger capacity of the boat, if any.
- (2) Children under ~~eight (8)~~ 16 years of age and all persons who cannot swim shall wear a ~~life preserver vest~~ personal flotation device that has been approved by the U.S. Coast Guard. All other persons occupying the boat shall have in their possession and easily accessible a U.S. Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device.
- (3) The boat or vessel shall be operated at all times in a safe and proper manner. The reckless propelling of a boat without regard to the safety of the boat or vessel or other boats or vessels on the water, or the improper standing or seating within a boat so as to cause unnecessary risk of capsizing or falling overboard, is prohibited.
- (4) Children under ~~twelve (12)~~ years of age shall be accompanied by at least one ~~(1)~~ person over ~~eighteen (18)~~ years of age in any boat or vessel on the lake; except that for a boat or vessel designed to be occupied by only one person, any child under 12 years of age shall be supervised on a one-to-one basis by a person over 18 years of age in a nearby boat or vessel on the lake.
- (5) No boat shall be operated on Greenbelt Lake during the hours of darkness (one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise); except, that for special events the city manager may authorize the operation during specified hours of darkness boats or vessels authorized by this division, carrying a warning light and operated by a person over ~~eighteen (18)~~ years of age, as required by the director of public safety.

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PASSED by the Council of the City of Greenbelt, Maryland, at its regular meeting of July 10, 2006.


 Judith F. Davis, Mayor

ATTEST:


 Kathleen Gallagher, City Clerk

Key:

Underscoring indicates language added to existing law.

~~Overstriking~~ indicates language deleted from existing law.

Asterisks *** indicate intervening existing Code provisions that remain unchanged.