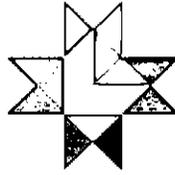




100485



LINCOLN

EXECUTIVE ORDER

MAYOR LEIRION GAYLOR BAIRD

NO. 100485

TRACKING # 25100113

10/16/2025 P&R/aq/DKP

I hereby execute and approve on behalf of the City of Lincoln, Parks and Recreation Department Rules and Regulations regarding water and ice sports on City owned lakes to provide for permitted and prohibited uses pursuant to Lincoln Municipal Code sections 12.32 and 12.08.280.

The City Clerk is hereby directed to return one signed original of the Executive Order and original of the Contract to Maggie Stuckey-Ross at Lincoln Parks and Recreation Department.

Dated this 22 day of October, 2025.

Leirion Gaylor Baird, Mayor

Approved as to Form & Legality: Approved:

c. A. City Attorney

Maggie Stuckey-Ross
Parks & Recreation Director

CITY OF LINCOLN PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
Rules and Regulations Regarding Water and Ice Sports on Lakes

Approved by Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: September 11, 2025.

I. PURPOSE

The City of Lincoln has several lakes in its parks for the public's enjoyment, some that are stocked with fish by Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. These lakes are utilized by members of the public during every season of the year, including in the winter, when ice is thick enough for walking or standing on its surface.

Lincoln Municipal Code section 12.08.280 governs waterways in City parks. Lincoln Municipal Code Chapter 12.28 governs fishing in City parks. Lincoln Municipal Code Chapter 12.32 governs boating in City parks.

These rules and regulations are adopted to provide for permitted and prohibited uses involving water and ice sports. These rules and regulations help safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of individuals in the City's community. Individuals who participate in water and ice sports on lakes in City parks do so at their own risk.

II. DEFINITIONS (including definitions from Lincoln Municipal Code)

Boat shall mean a watercraft approved by the U.S. Coast Guard and propelled by an electric motor or wind.

Board shall mean a board used for propulsion on the water's surface, including paddleboards, windsurfing boards, and sailboards.

Fishing or fish (verb form) shall mean the act of catching, or trying to catch, fish.

Human powered watercraft shall mean watercraft propelled by human power through hand-operated oars, paddles, or poles, through the feet with pedals, crankset or treadle, or directly from the hands or feet, including canoes and kayaks.

Ice boat shall mean a boat that travels with blades or runners on the surface of the ice.

Ice fish shall mean the act of catching or attempting to catch fish while being upon the ice-covered portion of a lake.

Lake shall mean and include every lake or body of water located within any park that is owned and/or controlled by the City. Creeks are not specifically addressed by this policy.

Motor vehicle shall mean and include any vehicle propelled by power other than muscular power.

Snowmobile shall mean a self-propelled motor vehicle designed to travel on snow or ice on a natural terrain steered by wheels, skis, or runners and propelled by a belt-driven track with or without steel cleats.

Utility type vehicle and **all-terrain vehicle** are defined by state law, as amended.

III. FISHING

Fishing is permitted in Holmes Lake, Bowling Lake, and Oak Lake only. Bowfishing and spearfishing in all lakes are prohibited. It is unlawful for any person to fish on a lake without having a license to do so, as required by the laws of the State of Nebraska.

IV. BOATS AND BOATING

Boats/boating are permitted in Holmes Lake, Bowling Lake, and Oak Lake only. U.S. Coast Guard approved life jackets shall be utilized as required by state law and/or applicable rules and regulations.

Hydroplane boats, watercraft operating with gasoline-powered motors, and ice boats are prohibited on all lakes.

V. WATER SPORTS UTILIZING HUMAN-POWERED WATERCRAFT OR BOARDS

Waters sports utilizing human-powered watercraft or boards are permitted on Holmes Lake, Bowling Lake, and Oak Lake only, provided occupants wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved life jacket.

VI. WATER SKIING AND JET SKIING

Water skiing and jet skiing in lakes are prohibited.

VII. SWIMMING

Swimming in lakes is prohibited, except in connection with special permit events at Holmes Lake Park. Granting such permits is in the sole discretion of the Director

of Parks and Recreation. The health and safety of event participants will be prioritized in considering such permit requests.

VIII. WADING

Wading in lakes is prohibited, except in connection with fishing in areas of lakes that are less than waist-deep.

IX. SCUBA DIVING

Scuba diving in lakes is prohibited.

X. ICE FISHING

Ice fishing in lakes is prohibited, except at areas specifically designated by the Director of Parks and Recreation and posted for ice fishing. Such designated locations are Holmes Lake, Bowling Lake, and Oak Lake. Individuals who engage in ice fishing on lakes are responsible for inspecting frozen lake surfaces for sufficient ice thickness and undertake the activity at their sole risk.

Individuals partaking in ice fishing shall possess a current valid fishing license and shall further comply with all applicable state law and rules and regulations promulgated by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. Portable ice shelters are permitted and must be occupied while placed on a lake and then must be removed at the end of the day. Ice fishing shall only be permitted during regular park hours as provided in Lincoln Municipal Code.

XI. OPERATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES ON ICE

Operation of motor vehicles, including but not limited to cars, trucks, all-terrain vehicles, snowmobiles, and utility-type vehicles, on the ice of any lakes is prohibited.

XII. ICE SKATING AND ICE BOATING

Ice skating and ice boating on lakes are prohibited.

XIII. COMPLIANCE WITH RULES AND REGULATIONS

Members of the public must abide by these rules and regulations, as well as any other federal, state and local laws, rules, and regulations governing water and ice sports. Lincoln Parks and Recreation Department reserves the reasonable right to enforce these Rules and Regulations. The Director of Parks and Recreation may exercise discretion and provide for written exceptions of these Rules and Regulations for certain special permit events and other exceptional circumstances.