

Clean Water Initiative (CWI) Watersports Ethics Worksheet

Student Name:

Class:

Date:

Welcome to the Clean Water Initiative (CWI). "I believe the lake is our future" is your group motto and it's true! The future of this lake means a lot to this community and you're tired of all these boaters speeding through it destroying the shoreline and wreaking havoc on the environment. They're too loud, too fast, and too careless with the lake for your liking. Really, why do the fish even need to SHARE this lake?

But you're also smart enough to know that lakes and rivers should be available to everyone, and you realize that if you could create a list of watersports ethics you could possibly put these boaters on watch and make the lake a better place for everyone. So, the plan is that you'll be developing your own set of watersports ethics and even offering your unique perspective as environmentalists on what a meaningful set of guidelines would mean for you and the future of the water. These ethics will directly affect planet Earth, so who better to create them, am I right?

On a separate sheet of paper or on your computer, develop your own code of watersports ethics that address these issues you've identified as concerns:

- What boaters do that may harm the environment. (consider the various watersports, and the waves and noise they make... not to mention the potential littering that the added people on the lake contribute)
- Are there some boating activities that might be more harmful to your family and property value than others?
- Are there certain aspects of watersports that are more impactful the environment? How do we minimize those impacts?
- As environmentalists, what can boaters on your lake do to reduce the spread of AIS? (aquatic invasive species) Also do online research about AIS in fresh water bodies.

In class Sessions 3 and 4, all of the groups will present their ethical watersports plans then have a class debate on solutions to developing an overall set of angling ethics that best serves the combined interests of the various groups and the ecosystem.

Support your recommended watersports ethics using the following methods when developing your plan and debating in class:

- Begin your research by watching the classroom video again, and decoding some key points on the webpage; <http://intotheoutdoors.org/topics/wakeboardingsafety>
- Do online research about other challenges the environment faces when it comes to watersports to explore solutions.

Now go create an awesome set of ethical watersports guidelines to present.