



SUMMARY

TOWN OF SOUTHERN SHORES PERSONAL WATERCRAFT (PWC) REGULATIONS

- ◆ PWC regulations apply to the waters of Southern Shores and its areas of extraterritorial jurisdiction. (Ginguite Creek; Currituck Sound; Southern Shores Canals and lagoons; Atlantic Ocean)
- ◆ Must be 16 or older to operate a PWC
- ◆ Each operator must obtain a yearly permit from the Town of Southern Shores Police Department:
 1. Appear in person at the Southern Shores Police Dept. weekdays, 8:30 AM - 5PM, excluding holidays.
 2. Sign a statement that you understand the Rules of the Road, State PWC Statute, and the Town PWC Ordinance.
 3. Present proof of current PWC registration (exhibit the registration number on each side of the bow).
 4. Show proof of insurance (minimum \$100,000 each person and each occurrence and \$50,000 property damage).
 5. Show proof of having attended a US Coast Guard or NASBLA approved course on safe boating in person or via the internet.
- ◆ Operating Rules:
 1. NO operating between sunset and sunrise.
 2. Except for purposes of ingress and egress to and from the point of launch and waters where PWC operations are conducted, and then at no wake speed sufficient to maintain steerage way but not more than 5mph, NO PWC may be operated:
 - a. In the Atlantic Ocean within 200 yards of the shoreline and within 100 yards of a fishing pier.
 - b. On any waters within the Town canal and lagoon system.
 - c. In Ginguite Bay and Creek.
 - d. In Currituck Sound within 400 yards of the shoreline of Southern Shores.
 - e. In channels leading from SSCA north marina to Currituck Sound and from Martin's Point marina to the above channel, PWC may proceed at speeds up to those of any other motorized vessel also transiting the channels.
 3. NO harassment of wildlife by any activities such as repeated circling or other repetitive maneuvers in close proximity to nesting areas.
- ◆ State Law (G.S.75A-13.3) provides additional requirements including but not limited to:
 1. Each person must wear a Personal Floatation Device (PFD).
 2. No towing unless observer on board or PWC is equipped with rear view mirrors.
 3. Observe passenger limits per manufacturer.
 4. Lanyard cutoff must be attached to the person, clothing or PFD.
 5. Do not jump another vessel's wake within 100 feet; operate at or below no wake speed within 100 feet of an anchored or moored vessel, dock, pier, swim float, marked swimming area, swimmers, surfers, anglers or manually operated propelled vessels.
 6. Reckless operation is prohibited. "Rules of the Road" apply.
- ◆ For complete details on the Town Ordinance see full text posted at SSCA North Marina, Southern Shores Town Hall or the Town website [Ordinance](#).