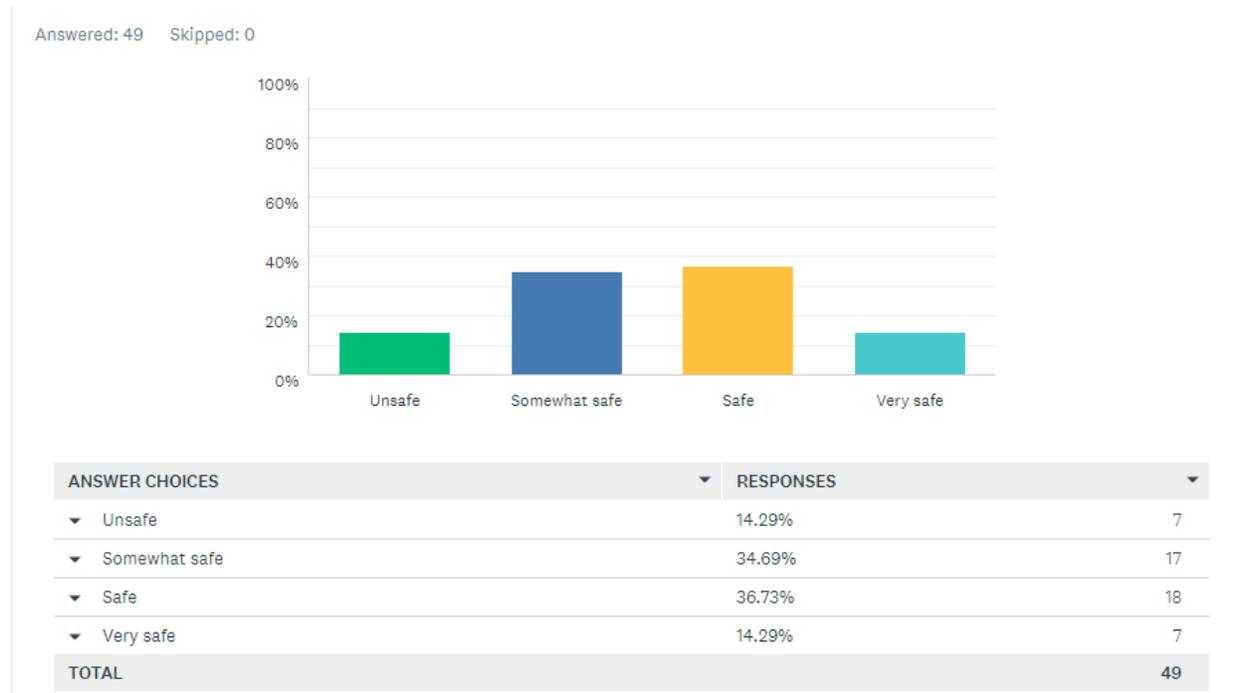


A five-question survey was sent on September 18, 2019 to 89 email recipients residing in Lakewood Bay. As of October 18, 2019, 49 have responded. The results and comments are below.

Q1 – What is your opinion of the safety conditions in Lakewood Bay?



Q1 Comments:

Weekends it gets crowded and high level of turbulence from activity.

Too many people towing at the same time. People driving within buoy markers.

I have owned on the bay for 23 years. The wake amount and types of wakes are not changing, we have always had heavy v-shaped hulls.

Few boats visit the bay and for the most part follow rules. Stricker enforcement of the mushing rules would help.

I would like to see the entire bay a no wake zone especially given the increased boat traffic due to downtown events.

It seems to me the number of boats is self-regulating. More than 2 or 3 towing or waterskiing is about the max. I live on the pinnacle of the bay, but I don't remember seeing more than that number towing. Of course, there would be other boats just cruising.

On warm, dry evenings we need almost continuous patrols on Lakewood Bay due to the bars and restaurants downtown. There are many loud, speeding, reckless boats nightly. Some going 40 mph in total darkness. Many boats drive inside the buoys. On more than one occasion boats have run into docks in the dark.

Too many boats pulling surfers or kids in tubes in the same area. All of this activity also creates large wake waves on our dock.

I am convinced that Jeff's emails on safety and rules never reach half of the boaters I see in Lakewood Bay. I see tubes pulled at unsafe speeds and maneuvers seemingly designed to throw passengers off. I see high speed dashes well after dark. I see wake in the no wake zones. I see "pushing" generating large wake. The wake enters my boat house and at the point of my slip, water is thrown up into the roof splashing everywhere.

Lakewood Bay is generally safe. However, it experiences the highest concentration of boats, paddle boards and swimmers found on the lake. Primary causes are traffic to and from the docks and boats towing tubes and surfers. It gets worse every year due to the popularity of heavy and wide boats.

Boaters are not leaving 100' between the boat and non-powered crafts.

Most boaters are respectful with speed, wakes, and staying outside of the buoy lines. Daily, we see the lake rules broken. Boats cut inside the buoy lines, paddle boarders paddle down the center of the lake and people who don't have the proper stickers on their equipment use the lake. There are times, usually on weekends, that boaters come in to Lakewood Bay to tube, ski, wakeboard or surf because it is just too rough or crowded on the main lake. We think this is fine!! However, to protect property from all the multi-directional waves and make the experience enjoyable for all, it may not be a bad idea to limit the number of boats to 2 at a time. If a boater enters Lakewood Bay while two boats are tubing/surfing, then those boats should stay to the side and travel at "no wake" speeds. This would allow everyone to enjoy the lake.

We agree there were more incidents this summer, especially with large wakes from some boats, speeding under the bridge, and cruising inside the buoys.

The big wakes are a problem.

Too many boats running in the swim zone and too small towing. One boat towing takes up most of the bay making it difficult for other boats to get through. Also, one boat creating a large wake makes it painful for SUP paddlers. With the high-water lake level this season, our cabana get hit a lot by damaging wakes. Note: the lake patrol boat can kick up one of the bigger wakes we see.

Safety concerns vary from day to day. Typical issues are: 1. Multiple boats towing surfers, waterskiers, wakeboarders and tubers in a confined space. 2. Paddleboarders and swimmers outside of buoy line, 3. Boat speed far in excess of the speed limit at night, 4. Larger wakes, 5. Boats traveling inside buoy line or in the wrong direction around the bay.

Wakes and drivers not adhering to rules, especially boat proximity. Mushing is a problem, indicating to me that we have a bunch of operators who really don't know what they are doing.

Motorboats going too fast, doing figures 8's to make tubing "fun", going inside the buoys, cutting the buoy line to get to the easement, creating wakes long after the sun has set, blaring music. Wake are destroying our cabana foundation.

For the mostpart

As a swimmer in the Bay, and grandchildren who swim, I have become concerned with the boaters that STILL go by outside the wake just looking at houses. I had to yell at a boat that was house gazing because they were headed toward two paddlers.

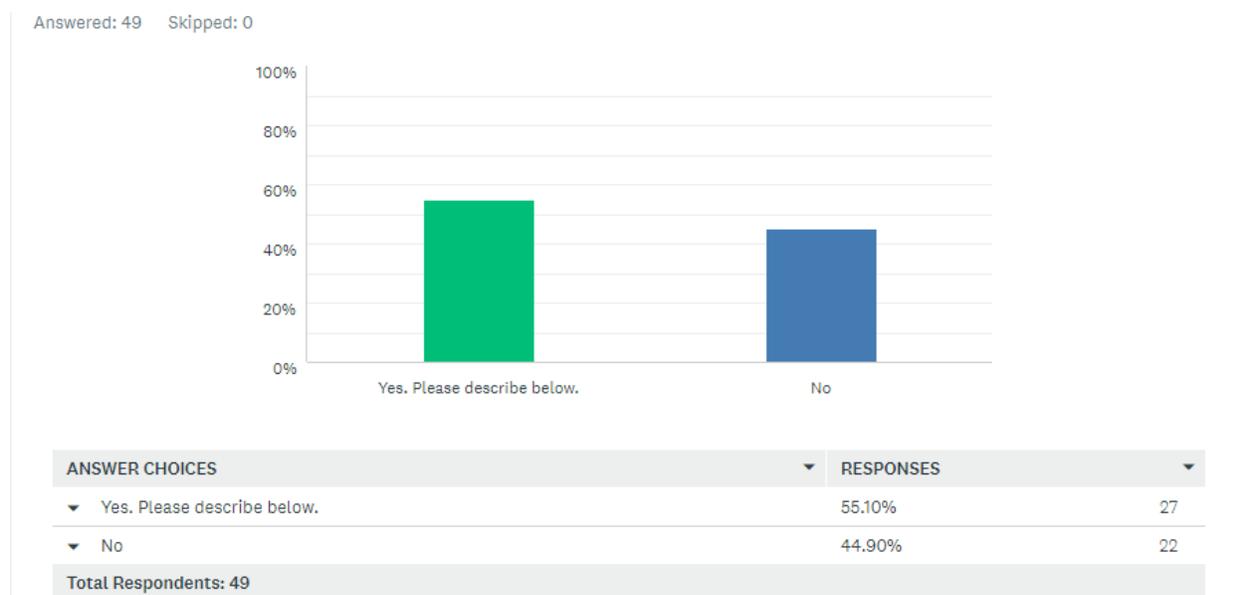
Too small for big wakes and tubing plus low speeds. Need to be cruising with no wake or on plane.

I would rate from Unsafe to Somewhat Safe, ie 2 on a 5 pt scale, clearly issues are growing with wake size and too many people trying to use the Bay.

Too many boat drivers who are obviously totally ignorant of the basic safety guidelines; wondering if the little light blue-colored booklet still exists...?

There is always room for improvement. However, conditions are generally "safe".

Q2 – Have you experienced safety related incidents involving boats, swimmers, paddlers, or towed sports in Lakewood Bay?



Q2 Comments:

Seldom. But, it is usually SUPs or non-motorized craft outside the buoys. Sometimes a tower is reckless when there are too many craft on the bay.

We see the rules violated every day.

Boats coming to and from Lakewood bay easement do not egress directly out of buoys. Swimmers from Lakewood Bay easement do not stay within easement...they took the boundary ropes down. Some near misses with boats going fast to pick up skiers.

Paddlers out in middle of bay, my guess they are from Hotel. Same for scullers, but they are typically early am.

High speed at night continues to be a serious problem.

We have seen boats cruising inside the buoys even though swimmers were present. These incidents have decreased over the past few years due to increased patrols but still remains a problem.

3 wakeboarders boats during the busiest time. It's impossible to keep a safe distance. Paddleboarders crossing the lake. Simmers crossing the lake. Boats speeding at night.

Still some boats (not many) goes inside red buoys. Speeding at night an every night occurrence. Often 3-4 boats towing or pulling something at the same time.

From our dock we have seen boats with no roper tender, too many boats towing people at the same time. And, boats going to fast through Lakewood Bay at sunset.

Driving inside the buoys and high wakes. It is too small an area to have more than one or two boats pulling tubers or skiers at a time. There are boaters who are going much too fast in this confined area, risking harm to those towing.

Almost daily. I watch boaters ignore the buoy lines and/or travel in a clockwise direction against traffic; paddle boarders ignoring the buoy lines; boaters confused about the canal entry/exit right-of-way; and gigantic wakes that threaten the very structure of my historic home on Cabana lane.

See above.

It is not uncommon to see several boats pulling people on tubes all at the same time. Drivers spend more time looking at the tubes than looking ahead. Additionally, people who fall off tubes sit in open water waiting to be picked up while other boats go by at high speed. Furthermore, drivers of wide and heavy boats don't appear to show any concern for the wakes they cause to paddle boarders or Lakefront property owners.

At times there are several boats pulling. No way they can maintain separation not watch for swimmers and paddlers.

We see individuals breaking the rules daily. Following the guidelines set up by Lake Corp would alleviate all those issues. Kayakers and paddle boarders travel outside the buoys. Boaters cut inside the buoy lines. At night, boaters speed and can't see the buoys so they are closer to shore. It might be helpful to make those buoys reflective so they can be seen at night.

We have witnessed boats speeding under the bridge, creating large wakes while our grandkids were paddling or swimming, cruising inside the buoys.

Numerous times boats have passed on the wrong side of buoys in front of our Cabana. The Evergreen easement no longer has swim boundaries and boats/swimmers have no separation. We have seen tows with no observer.

No, but we watch incidents related to our question 1 response from our deck.

Boats are not observing the no wake rules, some are Lakewood Bay residents.

Boats following to closely to someone under tow.

Have been swimming in the swim zone while motor boats violate the rules. Have seen children towed by a boat with only a captain (no watcher). It has been loved to see the boom in SUP boarders, though the beginners are often capsized by these wakes.

Some tubers have not had life jackets.

Boaters are boaters and sometimes, they speed too much, and pass too close. For the most part, seems most follow the rules.

Beside the above incident, there have been numerous times that a boat from our Bay drives like a crazy man...even when the Bay is busy with other boaters.

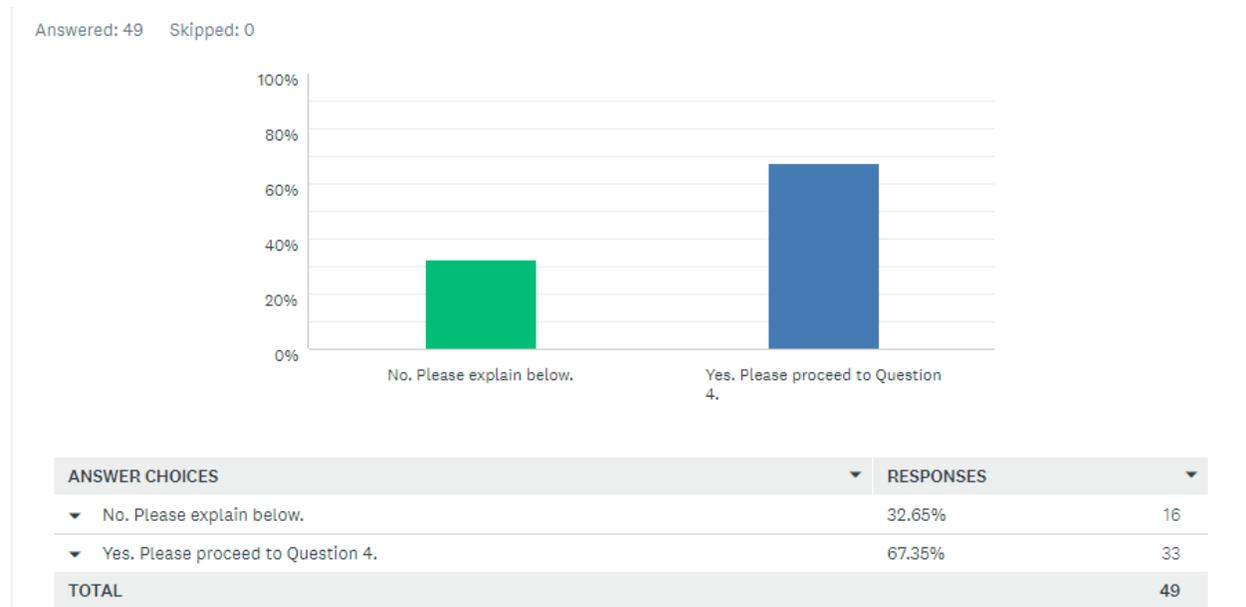
Big wakes from cruising boats impact kayaks and paddle boards. Be on plane or idle!

Boating inside the buoys, boats traveling in the wrong direction, excessive speed for the small area of the Bay, VERY large wakes crashing over the sea wall.

People driving boats in the swimming area, or boats not going in the counter-clockwise direction.

Boats way too close to buoy line when there are swimmers, paddle boarders. Got knocked off my paddle board by a huge wake.

Q3 – Do you support any rule changes in Lakewood Bay intended to address safety issues?



Q3 Comments:

I'm not sure what they would be. I would prefer few towers and slower.

Just enforce the rules we have.

I would have to see what is being proposed before I would vote.

No rule changes needed on Lakewood Bay. Stricter enforcement of rules is necessary on the main lake.

No wake zone in Lakewood Bay. No towing in Lakewood Bay.

I don't have a safety issue to address.

Once you go down this Orwellian path there will be no turning back. Reacting to the unreasonable vocal opinions of a couple of people who have the lake corp number on speed dial is not the best way.

We have enough rules. Need more enforcement to remind boaters all over the lake of them.

We haven't experienced or seen any more safety or wake issues on Lakewood Bay than on the rest of the lake. If some people perceive that there is a problem, I suggest messages on boating courtesy and safety in the Lake Corp's or the Lake Manager's newsletters.

I don't see how this can be regulated without having Lake Corp staff there at all times. I liked to have rules stay the same.

The rules we have are good but need to be enforced through patrols and education.

Generally, I see people respecting the buoys boundaries and behaving in a safe manner. Boat traffic does get extreme on Friday and Saturday evenings when people are going to diner so if there were any restrictions those would be the times to consider. Lakewood Bay residents enjoy being able to use the lake in front of their property as they see fit with their kids so too many restrictions or those not focused on safety would not be welcomed.

Towing boats are hugging the buoys and throwing huge waves over our seawall. Unsafe to swim when that happens. Mushing is an education issue. It's not intentional unless surfing. More info in the newsletter may help. We have rules in place. Enforcement is an issue. My safety issues above are rule breakers. Consider investing more dollars in patrolling in June and July to teach and monitor safe boating practices.

I'd be very happy with Lakewood bay as a no wake zone. Or bring the buoys in for a narrow speedway between the bridge and head Lee docks.

The types of issues described I think you deal with on a case by case basis.

We have enough rules, enforcement is the key. The main lake is where safety rules need to be more strictly enforced.

We would strongly DISAGREE with taking away boaters rights to tube, ski, wakeboard or surf in Lakewood Bay. We have made suggestions in previous answers.

Don't see a problem.

Ideally, we would eliminate all towing in the bay. If not, limit towing to 1 boat. If we cannot make the bay largely a no wake area, then there needs to be no wake periods. One town can "ruin" the water for many SUP paddlers, especially beginners.

It'll probably never pass, but we would strongly recommend the bay become a non wake zone before someone gets badly hurt.

To avoid the big waves that come over our dock, I would support not permitting wakeboarding and surfing on Lakewood Bay. Also, "mushing" is a major culprit of big waves.

I feel the Lake Corp has a good handle on the boating for the most part. However, I am kayaking more than boating. So I do not go out on the lake when it is busy. Too many boats and too small for the numbers at times.

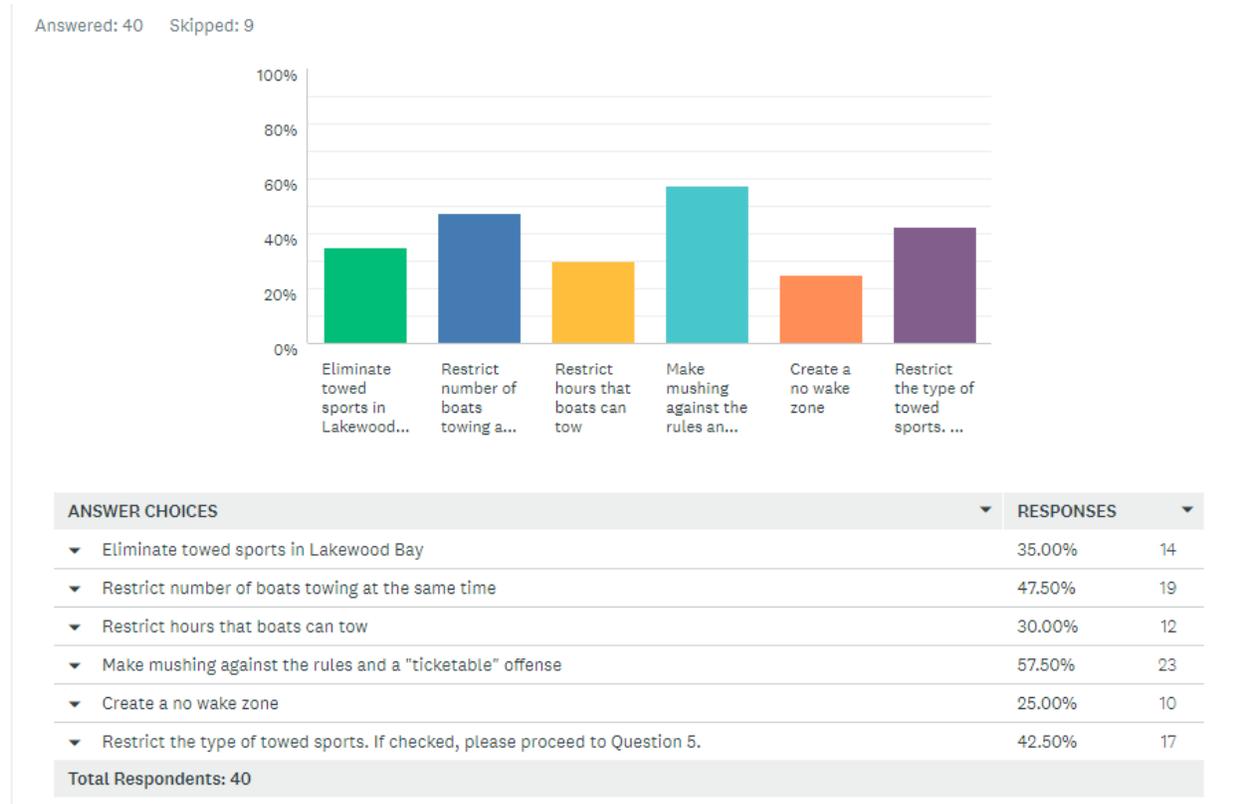
If there is more than one boat with a surfer or a V-drive boat on the Bay at a time it is too much wake coming up to our docks.

I'm in favor of anything that makes it safer for people in the water.

We should always strive to enhance safety and to review and "improve" safety rules.

Make the entire bay a no way zone like the other bays.

Q4 – I would support the following rule changes: (9 respondents skipped, most likely from the 16 No responses from Q3)



Q5 – I would support the restriction of the following towed sports: (19 respondents skipped this question)

