

CHAPTER 108

AN ACT concerning the operation of personal watercraft and amending P.L.1993, c.299.

BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

1. Section 2 of P.L.1993, c.299 (C.12:7-63) is amended to read as follows:

C.12:7-63 Restrictions on operation of personal watercraft.

2. A person shall not operate a personal watercraft:

a. On the waters of this State between sunset and sunrise, or during any time of restricted visibility as determined by an agent or officer of the Marine Law Enforcement Bureau, Division of State Police;

b. Within the confines of the Point Pleasant Canal in the County of Ocean, or the Cape May Canal in the County of Cape May;

c. Above minimum headway speed within 100 feet of:

(1) Buoys or signs that mark the boundaries of a swimming area;

(2) The shoreline;

(3) Any person in the water; or

(4) Residential dwelling units; or

d. In such a manner as to make the vessel completely leave the water or otherwise become airborne within 100 feet of another vessel.

2. Section 8 of P.L.1993, c.299 (C.12:7-69) is amended to read as follows:

C.12:7-69 Violations; fines, penalties.

8. A person who violates any provision of P.L.1993, c.299 (C.12:7-62 et seq.) shall be subject to the fines and penalties enumerated pursuant to section 8 of P.L.1952, c.157 (C.12:7-51). The Division of State Police in the Department of Law and Public Safety, and any officer of a county or municipal police department are authorized to enforce the provisions of P.L.1993, c.299 (C.12:7-62 et seq.) in a proceeding before a court of competent jurisdiction concerning the operation of personal watercraft, however, the Division of State Police shall maintain primary jurisdiction over the investigation of accidents and crimes involving the operation of personal watercraft.

3. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved August 6, 2009.