

Facts, not opinions, inform our actions and priorities

In 2013 Safe Quiet Lakes fielded the most comprehensive and professional survey of lake users ever conducted in Ontario. With over 2,200 respondents representing many types of boaters and lake users, the survey results are clear and trustworthy.

The survey told us that:

- People love time by the lakes.
- Safety is a universal priority.
- Quiet is important; people like the sounds of nature.
- Lake users feel a responsibility to preserve the natural environment for future generations.

The major concerns are:

- Boats going too fast too close to shore.
- Loud boat engines.
- Large wakes.

Join us

We can all do something to make our lakes safer and more enjoyable. We are a grass roots organization run by volunteers. If you would like to learn more, receive our newsletter, make a contribution or share a lake story, please visit safequiet.ca or email us at safequieter@gmail.com.

Be respectful. Share the space.



Safe Quiet Lakes

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Welcome to Safe Quiet Lakes

Safe Quiet Lakes is a group of people who are passionate about life on the water and determined to help build respect on the lakes.

Safe Quiet Lakes started as a multi-lake movement of boaters in 2011, growing out of concerns raised at lake associations about inconsiderate behaviour by some boaters that increases the safety risks and decreases the enjoyment of the lakes for others.

Our mission is to make the lakes safer and quieter to ensure the sustainable enjoyment of a treasured shared resource.

We believe the lakes should be:

- Safe for everyone who wants to use the water every day; safe for swimmers and all types of motorized and human-powered craft.
- Quiet enough so that everyone can enjoy nature's sounds, speak at normal voice levels and not be startled or awakened by intrusive noises.
- Sustainable environmentally so we can share this resource with future generations.
- A shared responsibility of residents, businesses and visitors to keep our lakes safe, quiet and sustainable as part of our culture of respect.

Data collection, education and dialogue are the critical components of our strategy to ensure that Safe Quiet Lakes addresses the concerns of the majority of boaters and lake users.

Safe Quiet Lakes is a not-for-profit organization funded by lake associations, municipalities and individuals. Our reach is extended by in-kind contributions from communication, research and other professionals.

Actions we're taking

The Lake Activity Survey confirmed that there is a direct correlation between perceptions of safety and quietness of the lake environment and how much people enjoy the lake.

Safe Quiet Lakes focuses on:

Education and communication

- Boater's Code – a checklist for considerate behaviour.
- **safequiet.ca** website – a resource for boaters and lake users.
- Communication materials – posters and postcards.
- Social media - @SafeQuietLakes on Twitter and Safe Quiet Lakes on Facebook.
- Editorials and advertising – commentary in local media.
- Public service announcements and billboards.

Dialogue and public policy

- Stakeholder convening – facilitating dialogue with associations, law enforcement, marine manufacturers and government to explore issues and solutions.
- Lake Activity Survey – 2013 survey of behaviours and perceptions.
- Outreach – meetings with lake associations and special interest groups.
- Safety – partnering with organizations championing safe boating.
- Noise – researching and sharing best practices for safe, quiet lakes.
- Improving regulations and enforcement.