

Navigating Shallow Shoals

Last year a map was developed to outline recommended wake boat operation areas based on guidance from MDNR (blue areas on map). Limiting wake boating to these sufficiently deep (at least 15 feet deep) and far from shore (at least 500 feet from shore) areas minimizes lakeshore and lake bottom disturbance. These recommendations are not rule or law, but are meant to educate wake boat owners on how to most responsibly operate wake boats on Lake Lansing. This year the map has been updated to include shallow shoals, highlighted in red. These areas are difficult to navigate and may cause prop damage if not treated with caution. If you find yourself in one of these shallow shoal areas, follow these steps to ensure the safety of you and your boat:

1. Reduce Speed Immediately

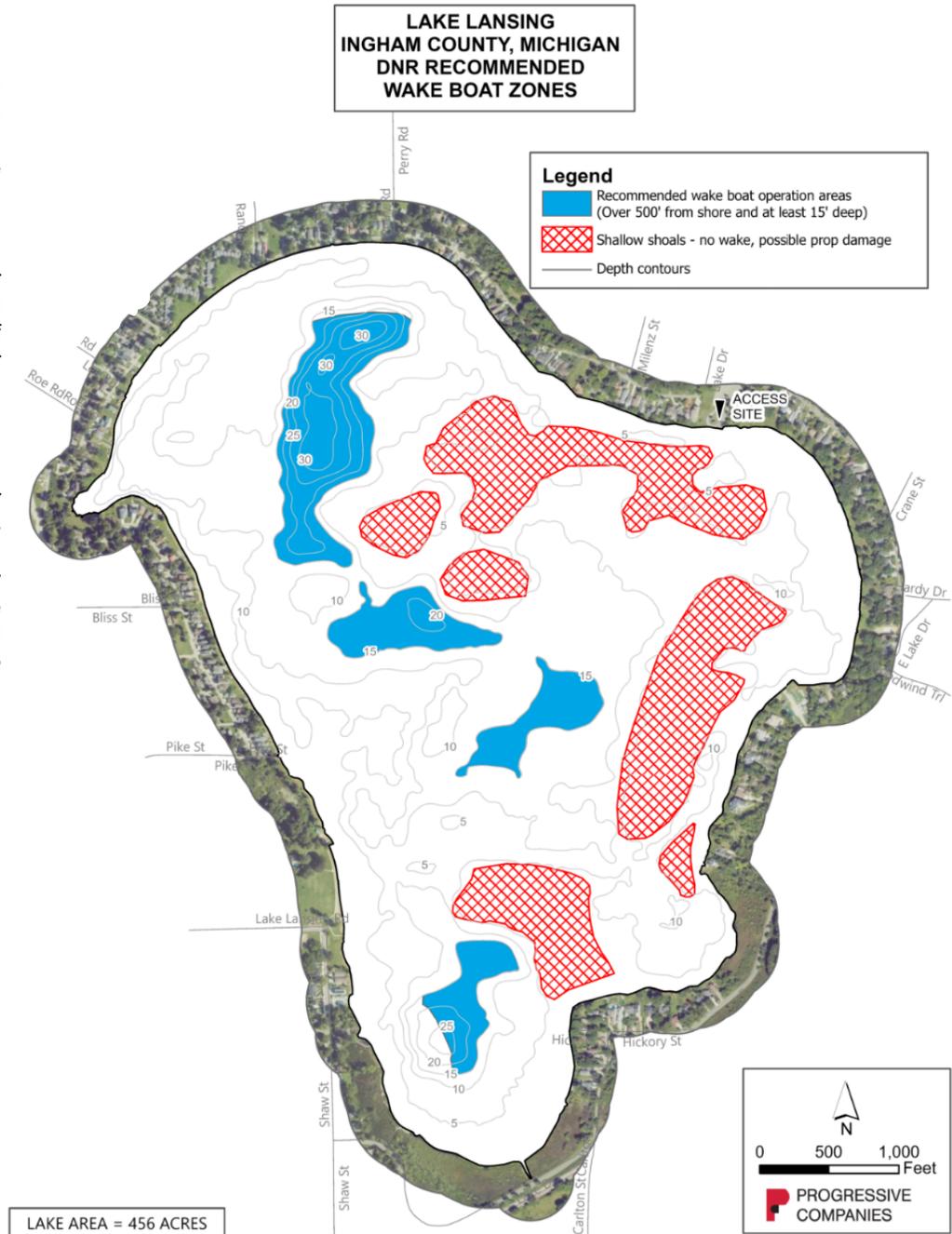
Slow your speed to an idle. Higher speeds can damage your boat's hull or motor and increase the risk of running aground.

2. Trim the Motor Up

Raise (trim up) your motor to reduce draft and minimize the chance of hitting underwater obstacles.

3. Avoid Sudden Maneuvers

Quick maneuvers or abrupt throttle changes can destabilize your boat, especially in shallow waters. Stick to gentle movements to avoid further grounding or prop damage.



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