

Subchapter 507. Over-sized Piers, Wharves, and other Structures in Navigable Waters.

507.01. PURPOSE. The purpose of this ordinance is to adopt regulations for the placement of structures in lakes and rivers within the township boundaries consistent with public rights, the convenience of riparian owners, the preservation of natural beauty and the protection of natural resources.

507.02. AUTHORITY. The Town Board of Presque Isle has the authority, pursuant to Chapter 30.13(2) of the Wisconsin State Statutes, to enact this ordinance.

507.03. DEFINITIONS. In addition to definitions provided in State Statute 30.01, the following definitions are hereby adopted:

“Boat cradle or boat ramp” means any structure or device used for mooring a boat on the shoreline. Such structures often consist of two rails for sliding the boat shoreward and elevating the hull partly or wholly above the ground.

“Pierage” refers to the total area of all piers and slips on a given lot, usually measured in square feet.

“Shoreline frontage width” shall be defined as in the Vilas County Shoreland Zoning Ordinance.

507.04. LOCAL ORDINANCE. In addition to restrictions specified in Ch. 30 (Wis. Stats.), the following regulations are hereby adopted:

(1). Piers, wharves, boat shelters and similar structures shall be for the exclusive maritime use of the riparian landowner and guests. They may not be leased, rented or co-owned by other parties.

(2). Piers, wharves and other structures put into service before January 1, 2010 that do not comply with section 507.04(3) of this ordinance may be repaired, replaced or reconfigured but not expanded except to temporarily accommodate changes in water level.

(3). Piers, wharves and other structures put into service after January 1, 2010 must conform to ALL of the following criteria:

(a) Total pierage on any lot shall not be more than 160 square feet in area (including side slips), unless sub (b) or (c) applies.

(b) In lakes with very shallow shorelines, such as the north shore of Presque Isle Lake, one long pier exceeding 160 square feet shall be allowed. The long pier shall extend straight out (without side slips) only

to a water depth sufficient to float a moored boat. One loading platform, not to exceed 40 square feet, may be attached to the lakeward end of a long pier.

(c). For lots with more than 200 feet of shoreline frontage, total pierage may be increased as follows:

(i). On residential lots with one single family dwelling, an additional 80 square feet of pierage may be added for each additional 200 feet of shoreline , but total pierage for the lot shall not exceed 320 square feet;

(ii). On commercial lots or lots with more than one dwelling unit, 80 square feet of pierage may be added for each additional dwelling unit (guest houses not included);

(iii). Under (i) and (ii), if said property is subsequently subdivided or put to new use, the allowable pierage on each lot shall be recalculated and brought back into compliance with the provisions of this ordinance;

(d) No wharf shall exceed 80 square feet in total area, and only one wharf shall be allowed per lot.

(e) No pier, wharf or other structure shall be less than 15 feet from an adjacent riparian's rights line.

(f). Piers and wharves may not have roofs or upper decks. Removable covers on boat hoists are allowed.

(4). No more than two (2) boat shelters or boat hoists shall be allowed for any lot.

(5). No more than two boat cradles or ramps may be used to moor boats on shore below the OHWM on any lot.

507.05. ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES

(1). The town constable and town board shall have the power to enforce this ordinance.

(2)..Any person who violates this ordinance shall be subject to a forfeiture of not less than \$100, plus court costs, and each day of violation shall constitute a separate offense. The offending portion of structures shall be removed by the town or its agents after 60 days notice is sent by registered mail to the last known address of the landowner. The landowner shall be liable for removal costs, which may be placed on the landowner's property tax bill.

501.06. VALIDITY. Should any section or provision of this ordinance be declared invalid by the courts, it shall not affect the validity of the balance of the ordinance.

