

## Lake Safety & Environmental Issues

The Ad hoc Subcommittee on Lake Safety and Environmental Issues has been meeting to review concerns around large waves or wakes that are produced at Lake Carroll. This was announced in the January newspaper. See page 5B. There have been complaints about water safety, waterfront erosion and dock and lift damage. One of the culprits is when a boat plows water for longer periods of time. Any boat can plow water when it is going slowly trying to get on plane. The keel of the boat will effectively push large amounts of water with its back end pushed lower into the water. This produces large rolling waves or wakes that can travel further in the lake. In addition, one of the newest and hottest water sport is called wake surfing. This is done when a swimmer will be on a small surf board riding the wake directly behind the boat at about 8-10mph. The boat travels slowly and in some boats will take in water in stern ballasts to lower the boat even further to create a large waves or wakes directly behind the boat that the person can surf on and follow the boat with or without a rope. As much fun as that activity maybe for the rider those same large wakes can be dangerous to those on their docks, kayakers/paddleboards, floating docks or other boats that are at no wake speeds.

A video that's shows wake surfing can be seen here: [Wake surfing... Skimming... Lake Fun! Mastercraft X30](#); by Ryan Woon

Picture of the activity:



Photo credit YachtingPages Media Group

Currently Lake Carroll has confirmed there are at least 50 or so boats already at Lake Carroll that may have this capability. As this committee continues to research plowing water situations, we want to hear from you. A membership survey will be sent out. We hope that you will take a few minutes to read and review the questions as we try to look for solutions for all sides. If you own one of these boats and enjoy wake surfing, we are looking for 1-2 owners on this subcommittee to help! Please contact Mike Schmieder at [mschmieder@golakecarroll.com](mailto:mschmieder@golakecarroll.com) for further information.