

2020 Navigation Guide to Lake Wisconsin

ELEVATION: 774 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL
SURFACE AREA: 7,000 ACRES, 53 MILES OF SHORELINE

This free map is provided by The Grade Boat Club, Inc. and Alliant Energy to promote boating safety on Lake Wisconsin and the adjacent Wisconsin River.

Keep in mind that Lake Wisconsin is part of the Wisconsin River system and its currents will cause sandbars to shift and will carry floating debris. Be careful to avoid areas with tree stumps, many of which are indicated on this map. It is highly recommended that boaters stay inside the buoy line and follow all boating safety regulations.

Boating near the Prairie du Sac Hydroelectric Dam

To prevent accidents and/or potential fatalities, it is important that recreational boaters and fishing enthusiasts use common sense around a dam and understand the dangers to be found near them.



- Never anchor boats below a dam because water levels can change rapidly.
- Obey all warning signs, barriers, flashing lights, horns and sirens.
- Always wear a life jacket/personal flotation device.
- Leave boat motors running to provide maneuvering power.
- Stay clear of spillways – changing currents and “boiling” waves can make boat control difficult near dams.
- Watch for reverse currents below dams – they can pull a boat back toward the dam into the spillway and potentially capsize it.

LEGEND

| | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|---|
| | Gas | | Main Buoy Line (yellow) |
| | Boat Launch | | Local Buoy Line (pink) |
| | Loan-a-Vest | | No-Sport-Tow Buoy line (red) |
| | Landmarks/Features | | Major Stump Area |
| | | | Services locations (see other side for details) |

Buoy identification



This buoy designates Slow-No-Wake



This buoy designates the center channel.



This buoy warns of rocks, cables and other hazards.

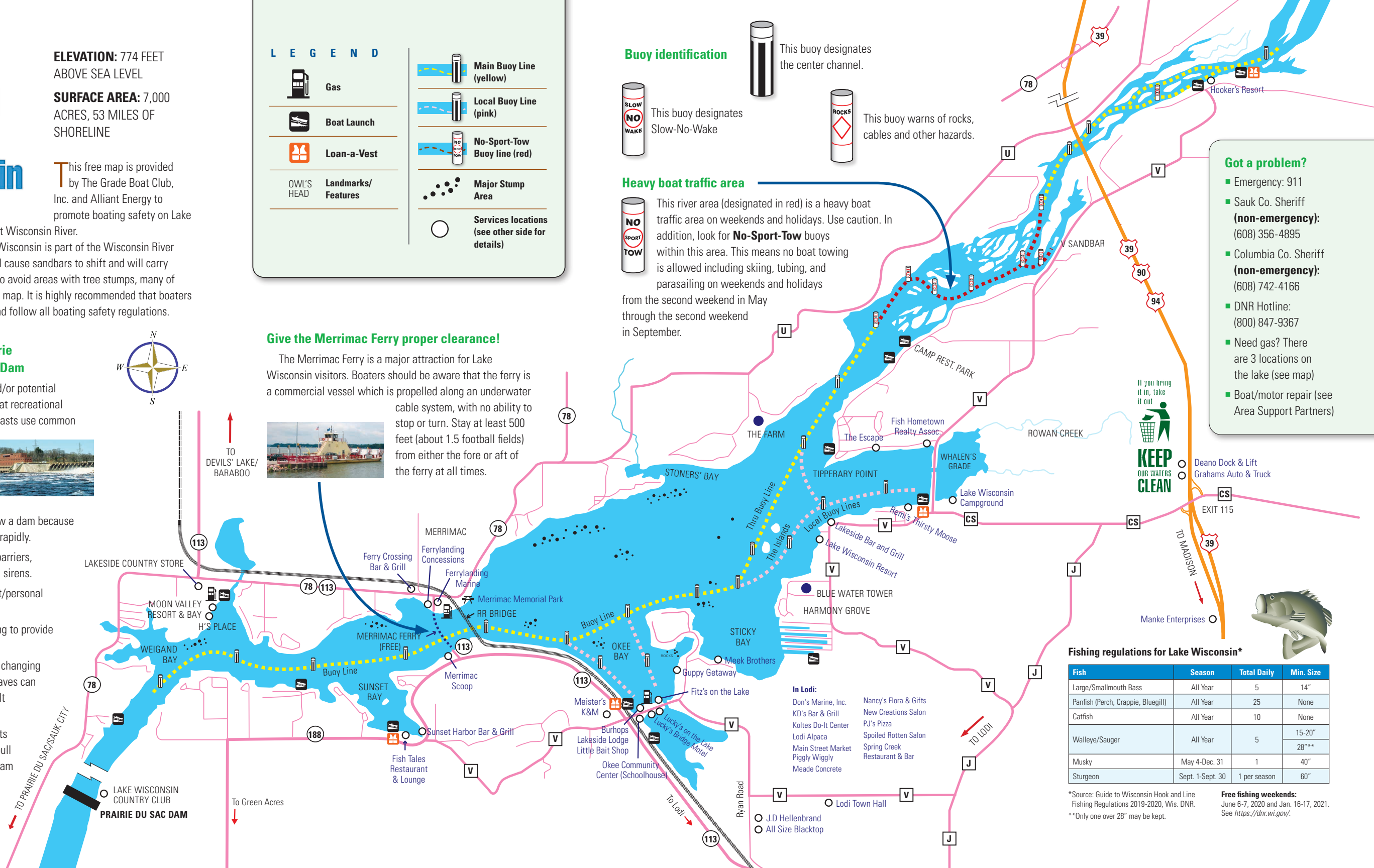
Heavy boat traffic area



This river area (designated in red) is a heavy boat traffic area on weekends and holidays. Use caution. In addition, look for **No-Sport-Tow** buoys within this area. This means no boat towing is allowed including skiing, tubing, and parasailing on weekends and holidays from the second weekend in May through the second weekend in September.

Give the Merrimac Ferry proper clearance!

The Merrimac Ferry is a major attraction for Lake Wisconsin visitors. Boaters should be aware that the ferry is a commercial vessel which is propelled along an underwater cable system, with no ability to stop or turn. Stay at least 500 feet (about 1.5 football fields) from either the fore or aft of the ferry at all times.



Got a problem?

- Emergency: 911
- Sauk Co. Sheriff (non-emergency): (608) 356-4895
- Columbia Co. Sheriff (non-emergency): (608) 742-4166
- DNR Hotline: (800) 847-9367
- Need gas? There are 3 locations on the lake (see map)
- Boat/motor repair (see Area Support Partners)



If you bring it in, take it out.

Deano Dock & Lift
Grahams Auto & Truck

Manke Enterprises



Fishing regulations for Lake Wisconsin*

| Fish | Season | Total Daily | Min. Size |
|------------------------------------|------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Large/Smallmouth Bass | All Year | 5 | 14" |
| Panfish (Perch, Crappie, Bluegill) | All Year | 25 | None |
| Catfish | All Year | 10 | None |
| Walleye/Sauger | All Year | 5 | 15-20" 28"*** |
| Musky | May 4-Dec. 31 | 1 | 40" |
| Sturgeon | Sept. 1-Sept. 30 | 1 per season | 60" |

*Source: Guide to Wisconsin Hook and Line Fishing Regulations 2019-2020, Wis. DNR.

**Only one over 28" may be kept.

Free fishing weekends: June 6-7, 2020 and Jan. 16-17, 2021. See <https://dnr.wi.gov/>.