

**WANTAGE TOWNSHIP
ORDINANCE NO. 09-2025**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE, COUNTY OF SUSSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING CHAPTER 26 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE ENTITLED “TOWNSHIP – OWNED PARKS, SECTION 26-8, LAKE NEEPAULIN RULES AND REGULATIONS”

WHEREAS, Lake Neepaulin is owned by the Township of Wantage; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Wantage have established Rules and Regulations for Lake Neepaulin; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Wantage have determined that ice fishing should be permitted at Lake Neepaulin subject to Rules and Regulations established by the Township.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. **Section 26-8:** Lake Neepaulin Rules and Regulations shall be amended as follows:
 - a. **Section 26-8.2:** Definitions shall be amended to add the following definition:

ICE FISHING Shall mean ice fishing as permitted in N.J.A.C. 7:25-6.14.”
 - b. **Section 26-8.5:** The Subsection shall be deleted and the following shall be inserted in its place:
 1. Public fishing, including ice fishing, is permitted at Lake Neepaulin in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey, including, but not limited to, the requirement for a freshwater fishing license or any other appropriate license, and in such manner as may be permitted by the laws of the State of New Jersey. Fishing shall be catch and release only. All fish shall be returned live to the lake. Ice fishing shall only be permitted when conditions for ice fishing are safe.
 - c. **Section 26-8.5.** The following shall be added to Section 26-8.5 as Subsection E:

E. The Township does not monitor and is not otherwise responsible for measuring the thickness of any ice formation. All ice fishing shall be at the individual’s own risk.
- Section 26-8.6:** Unlawful and Prohibited Activities shall be amended as follows:

Subsection a1 shall be amended to remove the words “ice fish” and to add the following words at the end of the Subsection “, except that ice fishing shall be permitted as provided in Section 26-8.5.”

Section II

Each Section in this Ordinance is an independent Section, and the holding of any part thereof to be unconstitutional, void or ineffective for any cause shall not be deemed to affect the validity or constitutionality of any other Sections or parts thereof.

Section IV

Any ordinances or parts thereof in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed as to their inconsistencies only.

Section V

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage, approval and publication by law.

Ronald Bassani, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melissa Morales, RMC
Township Clerk

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NOTICE is hereby given that the above Ordinance was introduced and passed upon first reading at a meeting of the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, held on the 27th day of March 2025. It will be further considered for final passage after public hearing at a meeting of the Mayor and Committee to be held in the Municipal Building, 888 Route 23 South, in the Township of Wantage, on April 10, 2025 at 7:00 P.M., and during the preceding week copies of the ordinance will be made available at the Clerk’s office in the Municipal Building to members of the general public

Melissa Morales, RMC
Township Clerk