

## Anne Arundel County — Stoney Creek

### **What is being considered?**

The department received a request to expand the current boating regulation in Stoney Creek to the mouth of the creek, and to have the expanded area be 6 knots at all times during the year.

### **What is the current regulation for the area?**

The request is to change the speed limit for the area described in the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 08.18.19.03.

[COMAR 08.18.19](#) Patapsco River.

[Regulation .03](#) Patapsco River South Shore

D. Stoney Creek.

(1) The bridge area encompasses the Route 173 bridge from 50 yards northeast of the bridge to a distance 150 yards southwest of the bridge which encompasses the area upstream of a line beginning at a point, at or near Lat. 39° 9.853'N., Long. 76° 31.560' W., then running 127° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39° 9.765'N., Long. 76° 31.410' W., and downstream of a line beginning at point, at or near Lat. 39° 9.785'N., Long. 76° 31.650' W., then running 127° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39° 9.668'N., Long. 76° 31.453' W. This area has a 6-knot speed limit all year.

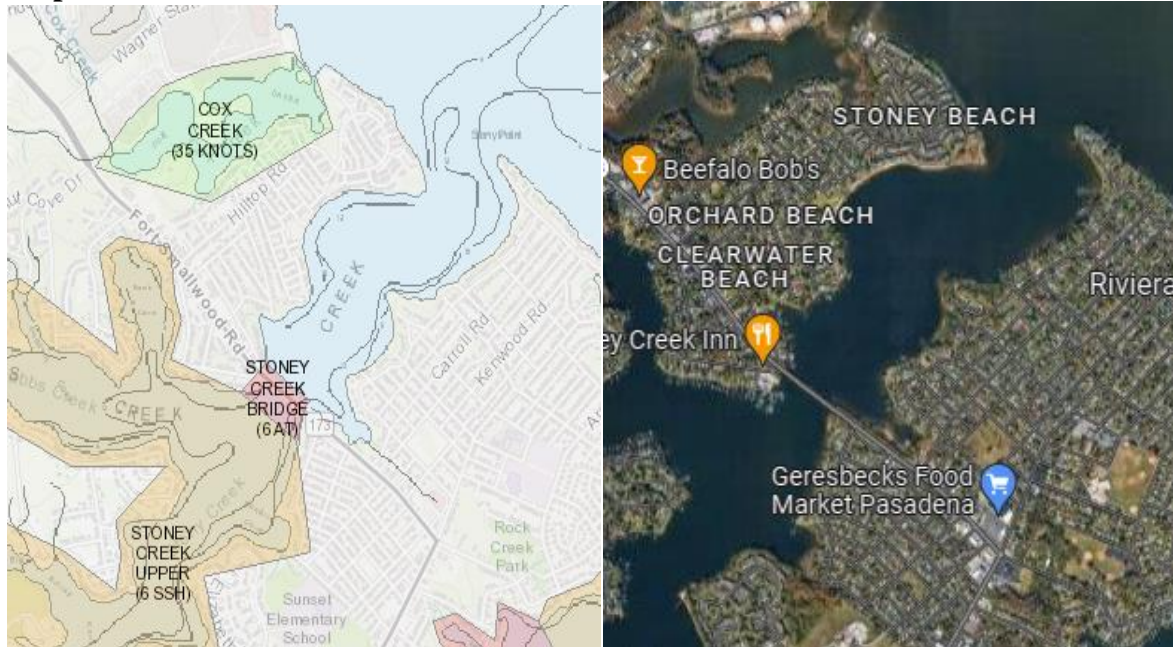
(2) The Upper Stoney Creek encompasses the area upstream of a line beginning 150 yards southwest of the Route 173 bridge, at or near Lat. 39° 9.785'N., Long. 76° 31.650' W., then running 127° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39° 9.668'N., Long. 76° 31.453' W. All water from this line to the head of the creek, including Nabbs Creek, has a 6-knot speed limit Saturdays, Sundays, and State holidays, all year.

### **Why was this change requested?**

*The requestors stated:* All you have to do is watch the high speed, and large power boats entering the creek and you will see how dangerous and tight the S turn is to other boaters. The wakes carry all the way to the bridge.

The area under consideration is a narrow channel for larger vessels and it makes the area dangerous for small and human powered vessels. In addition, the wakes from larger vessels cause damage to the shoreline.

## Maps of the Area



## Who will this affect?

- All waterway users (recreational and commercial), business owners in the area, and property owners in the area.
- There are four marinas on Stoney Creek

## Has this change been discussed with advisory bodies?

The department and the Boat Act Advisory Committee (BAAC) are gathering information and will meet in September to fully discuss and [evaluate](#) the request. Please [join our mailing list](#) to be notified when this request will be evaluated by the BAAC.

## What is the specific regulatory action?

Amend Regulation .03 under COMAR 08.18.19 Patapsco River.

## When could this be effective?

This change could be effective in 2023, however, at this time, the department cannot determine if the change will be adopted nor the exact date that it could be effective. The department will follow our normal scoping and proposal procedure. The goal of scoping is to identify issues, potential impacts, and reasonable alternatives associated with the issues so that management actions can be developed.

After the public has had an opportunity to comment on possible management actions during the scoping process, the department considers these comments and develops an appropriate management strategy.

If the action is necessary and appropriate, the rules will be promulgated following the Administrative Procedures Act described in Title 10, Subtitle 1 of the State Government Article Annotated Code of Maryland.

- The General Assembly's Administrative, Executive, and Legislative Review Committee reviews the regulatory proposal for fiscal and legal analysis.
- The proposal is printed by the Division of State Documents in the Maryland Register.
- A 30-day public comment period begins on the day of publication.
- After review of the comments, the department may adopt the changes.
- If the department adopts the changes, they become effective after a notice is published in the Maryland Register that announces approval and the effective date.

### **Notes Regarding This Summary**

This summary is prepared in accordance with the requirements of State Government Article, §10-110, Annotated Code of Maryland. It is intended to help you understand the potential or revised rules. This summary is not intended to replace or supersede these rules, but to facilitate understanding and compliance with the rules. The department will clarify or update the text of the summary as the idea moves through the regulatory process.