

NEWS RELEASE

2018 Progressive Akron Boat and Water Sports Show  
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### **WAKESURFING FEATURED IN AKRON SHOW**

If you assume the rapid expansion of wakesurfing is a sport being enjoyed just by the young, you'd be dead wrong! That's why it will be a key part of the 2018 Progressive Akron Boat & Water Sports Show slated for March 2-4 in the downtown John S. Knight Center.

The fact is, wakesurfing is being recognized as a way to get teenagers off the couch and away video games to more healthy outdoor activity. But, here's the surprise – the aging baby boomers are reportedly being drawn to this activity as are the Generation X'ers and the Millennials.

Boomers say they're finding wakesurfing has a far lower physical impact on them than hanging on to the tow line for wakeboarding or traditional water skiing. Essentially, the wakesurfer stands atop a special wakesurfing board and skims along close behind a boat designed to provide the ideal wave height for genuine hands-free surfing.

Not surprising, major boat builders have quickly responded to the wakesurfing trend by designing new models. These boats take the well-established tow boat design and modify it to allow the driver to operate the boat so it produces the best wakesurfing wave. They'll be part of the fleet on display at the boat show and will include brands like: Malibu's Wakesetter and Nautique's G-21 with "Surf Select Switch"; Regal's new RX Surf models; and others majors including Vortex and Supra.

If names like Voodoo, Slingshot, Big Easy and Liquid Force entice you, these are examples of the wakesurfing boards and equipment that will also be part of the boat show scene.

Of course, the Akron boat show won't be limited to just wakesurfing craft, emphasizes show manager Bryan Ralston. It will showcase a wide variety of boats from the most popular pontoons and family runabouts to a wide variety of fishing models including bass boats and center consoles.

New to the show this year will be a lineup of clinics and seminars covering water sports and fishing for adults and kids. There will also be live steel drum musical entertainment and appropriate food and beverages to set the "summer" atmosphere.

Show hours will be: Opening Friday (3/3) 12 Noon to 9:00 pm; Saturday (3/4) 10:00 am to 9:00 pm; Sunday (3/5) 11:00 am to 6:00 pm. Admission: \$5.00 Adults; Children 12 & under Free. There is also free parking after 6pm Friday evening and all day Saturday and Sunday at several City Garages.

For the latest show schedules, go to: [www.akronboatshow.com](http://www.akronboatshow.com)

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