

Sec. 54-32. - Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning. These definitions are supplemental to the definitions in section 1-2 of this code. The definitions in this section shall prevail in case of conflict.

Aircraft means any motor vehicle or contrivance now known or hereinafter invented, which is used or designed for navigation of or flight in the air, except a parachute or other contrivance designed for such navigation but used primarily as safety equipment. The term "aircraft" shall include ultra-light aircraft and seaplanes.

Bather means any person who is in the same water as a vessel, whether said person is swimming, wading or engaged in any other activity in the water.

Bathing area means any area of the waters adjoining the beach in which bathers are located or may be located, whether or not designated by signs or other form of notification.

Beach has the meaning ascribed to it in section 1-2 of this code.

Beach permit means a vendor permit required by the city to comply with this article.

Blood baiting means the use of blood or bloody fish parts to attract sharks.

Camping means the erection of shelter or similar structures for the purpose of sleeping overnight or lying upon the beach.

Chumming means the throwing of bait or fish parts into the water to attract fish.

Decibel (dB) means a unit for measuring the volume of sound; it is a logarithmic (dimensionless) unit of measure used in describing the amplitude of sound. Decibel is denoted as dB.

Dune means the mounds or mound of sand piled up by wind or other natural events or created by a legally permitted activity such as a beach renourishment project, sources on the backshore of the beach, landward of the high tide line.

Dune vegetation means the coastal plants that help to hold the sand in dunes. Examples of plants, but not limited to this list include: Sea oats, beach morning-glory, railroad vine, evening primrose, Indian paintbrush, and coastal sand bur.

Gulf means the Gulf of Mexico from Caxambas Pass to Capri Pass Inlet.

Idle speed means the lowest speed at which a vessel or sail craft can operate and maintain steering control; the vessel shall not create a bow or stern wake.

License or licensed means a valid business receipts tax recognized by the city.

Operate means to be in charge of or in command of or in actual physical control of a vessel or aircraft, or to exercise control over or to have responsibility for a vessel's navigation or safety while the vessel is underway, or to control or steer a vessel being towed by another vessel within the city's incorporated limits.

Personal watercraft means a vessel less than 16 feet in length which uses an inboard motor powering a water jet pump as its primary source of motor power and which is designed to be operated by a person sitting, standing, or kneeling on the vessel, rather than in the conventional manner of sitting or standing inside the vessel.

Rafts, floats, and flotation devices means any device, whether of canvas, vinyl, rubber, Styrofoam, or other substance, intended or capable of assisting in the flotation of a person on or within the city. The term shall not include vessels or sail craft, but shall include body boards unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

Sail craft means a wind-propelled vehicle used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on or in the water, including sailboats, sailboards and wind-surfboards.

Seaplane means any aircraft as defined herein that is capable of landing and/or lifting off from a water surface.

Skier, water skier, water skiing means anyone being towed with a line or rope behind a vessel and using water skis, a ski board, inflatable device or aqua plane.

Slow speed/minimum wake means the speed at which a vessel is neither planning nor moving with an elevated bow. A vessel that is operating on a plane or is in the process of coming off plane and settling into the water is not considered operating at a slow speed/minimum wake.

Solicit or canvass means any act, delivery, or exchange not initiated by the prospective customer or which directs attention to any business, mercantile or commercial establishment, or any other commercial activity, for the purpose of directly or indirectly promoting commercial interests through sales, rentals, or any exchange of value.

Surfing means the riding or paddling of a surfboard within city waters adjacent to the beach.

Ultra-light aircraft or ultra-light means any heavier-than-air, motorized aircraft that meets the criteria for maximum weight, fuel capacity or airspeed established for such aircraft by the Federal Aviation Administration under Part 103 of the Federal Aviation Regulations.

Vessel means any human, motor, wind, non-powered or motor propelled or artificially propelled water conveyance and every other description of boat, watercraft, barge, and airboat other than a seaplane on the water, used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on or in the water.

Wildlife means any living animal species, including mammal, bird, fish, reptile, amphibian, invertebrate and/or plant species, especially living in a natural, undomesticated state.

(Ord. No. 98-12, § 4, 9-8-1998; Ord. No. 02-30, § 4, 10-21-2002; Ord. No. 08-14, § 2(1), 10-20-2008; Ord. No. 24-15, § 2(Exh. A), 9-9-2024)

Cross reference— Definitions generally, § 1-2.