



## Ohio Administrative Code Rule 1501:47-2-24 Towing and pushing.

Effective: August 24, 1990

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(A) A power-driven vessel when towing astern shall exhibit:

(1) Instead of the light prescribed either in paragraph (A)(1) or (A)(2) of rule 1501:47-2-23 of the Administrative Code, two masthead lights in a vertical line. When the length of the tow, measuring from the stern of the towing vessel to the after end of the tow exceeds two hundred meters, three such lights in a vertical line.

(2) Sidelights.

(3) A sternlight.

(4) A towing light in a vertical line above the sternlight.

(5) When the length of the tow exceeds two hundred meters, a diamond shape where it can best be seen.

(B) When a pushing vessel and a vessel being pushed ahead are rigidly connected in a composite unit they shall be regarded as a power-driven vessel and exhibit the lights prescribed in rule 1501:47-2-23 of the Administrative Code.

(C) A power-driven vessel when pushing ahead or towing alongside, except as required by paragraphs (B) and (C)(1) of this rule, shall exhibit:

(1) Instead of the light prescribed either in paragraph (A)(1) or (A)(2) of rule 1501:47-2-23 of the Administrative Code, two masthead lights in a vertical line.

(2) Sidelights.



(3) Two towing lights in a vertical line.

(D) A power-driven vessel to which paragraph (A) or (C) of this rule apply shall also comply with paragraphs (A)(1) and (A)(2) of rule 1501:47-2-23 of the Administrative Code.

(E) A vessel or object other than those referred to in paragraph (G) of this rule being towed shall exhibit:

(1) Sidelights.

(2) A sternlight.

(3) When the length of the tow exceeds two hundred meters, a diamond shape where it can best be seen.

(F) Provided that any number of vessels being towed alongside or pushed in a group shall be lighted as one vessel:

(1) A vessel being pushed ahead, not being part of a composite unit, shall exhibit at the forward end sidelights, and a special flashing light.

(2) A vessel being towed alongside shall exhibit a sternlight and at the forward end sidelights.

(G) An inconspicuous, partly submerged vessel or object being towed shall exhibit:

(1) If it is less than twenty-five meters in breadth, one all-round white light at or near each end.

(2) If it is twenty-five meters or more in breadth, four all-round white lights to mark its length and breadth.

(3) If it exceeds one hundred meters in length, additional all-round white lights between the lights prescribed in paragraphs (G)(1) and (G)(2) of this rule so that the distance between the lights shall not exceed one hundred meters: provided, that any vessels or objects being towed alongside each



other shall be lighted as one vessel or object.

(4) A diamond shape at or near the aftermost extremity of the last vessel or object being towed.

(5) The towing vessel may direct a searchlight in the direction of the tow to indicate its presence to an approaching vessel.

(H) Where from any sufficient cause it is impracticable for a vessel or object being towed to exhibit the lights prescribed in paragraph (E) or (G) of this rule, all possible measures shall be taken to light the vessel or object towed or at least to indicate the presence of the unlighted vessel or object.

(I) Where from any sufficient cause it is impracticable for a vessel not normally engaged in towing operations to display the lights prescribed by paragraph (A), (C) or (I) of this rule, such vessel shall not be required to exhibit those lights when engaged in towing another vessel in distress or otherwise in need of assistance. All possible measures shall be taken to indicate the nature of the relationship between the towing vessel and the vessel being assisted. The searchlight authorized by rule 1501:47-2-36 of the Administrative Code may be used to illuminate the tow.

No person shall operate or permit to be operated, any vessel on the waters in this state, in violation of this rule.