

WAYPOINTS

CONNECTING THE MANY PARTNERS OF THE U.S. COAST GUARD OFFICE OF BOATING SAFETY

October 2006 | Issue No. 18



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Featured Story

Total Boating Fatalities Nationwide Remain Under 700 as Pastime's Popularity Soars

News from the Office of Boating Safety

The U.S. Coast Guard's Office of Boating Safety recently announced the release of its 2005 Boating Statistics Report, the 47th annual report containing statistics on recreational boating



accidents for the fifty States, five Territories and the District of Columbia. While there were encouraging signs reflecting improvement in some areas of boating safety, the report also revealed that boaters continue to take unnecessary risks on the water, as evidenced by an increase in overall boating fatalities from 676 to 697.

"This report simply serves as a reminder that we have much more work to do in the boating safety advocacy arena," commented Jeff Hoedt, Chief of the Office of Boating Safety. "Our goal is to reach all recreational boaters with information that would clearly explain the most important ways to protect yourself while boating and to encourage them to make those behaviors habit."

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Upcoming Events

November 1-3, 2006
International BoatBuilders' Exhibition & Conference (IBEX), National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA), Miami, FL

November 15-19, 2006
Annual Meeting, US Sailing, Newport, Rhode Island

February 20-25, 2007

Featured Story

In Vest

By PA2 Luke Pinneo, U.S. Coast Guard First District Public Affairs

Besides being a sure-fire adrenaline generator, kayaking is a great way to stay fit - physically and mentally. But good health starts with staying alive and in simple terms, this means sporting a life jacket when kayaking.

Annual Meeting, United States Power Squadrons, Jacksonville, Florida

March 4-7, 2007

International Boating and Water Safety Summit, National Boating Safety Council and National Water Safety Congress, San Antonio, Texas

May 6-9, 2007 Annual Conference, Western States Boating Administrators Association, Laughlin, Nevada

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The alternative could have deadly consequences.

Few know this as well as U.S. Coast Guard Recreational Boating Specialist, Al Johnson.

Johnson, whose Boston-based office is practically wallpapered with boating fatality statistics, has ventured throughout New England for more than 10 years teaching and preaching the value of recreational boating safety.

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RBS Specialists News



[RBS Updates October](#)

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Recommends to Boaters: Know Before You Go

Fall is an Ideal Time to Improve Your Boating Safety Education

With boating season winding down for many of America's boaters, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is urging America's boaters to start thinking about taking one of the many boating courses available to enhance their boating skills.



Courses offered range from the most basic boating safety course, to advanced navigation courses. These courses are offered all across America by local units of the Coast Guard Auxiliary (called flotillas).

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[U.S. Coast Guard Recreational Boating Statistics](#)

Call for NWSC Award Nominations

Each year the National Water Safety Congress (NWSC) presents awards at the International Boating and Water Safety Summit to selected individuals and organizations that have made outstanding contributions to water safety during the previous year.

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Nautical Terms of The Month

Did you know that "**Greenwich Time**" was established in 1675 as the international time center for mariners? It was not until the first World War, from 1914 - 1918, that French navigators used any measure other than Paris time for their reckonings.

What is **Reckonings**? The act or process of calculating the position of a ship or an aircraft, or the position so calculated.

Quick Links

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News from NSBC

NSBC Announces Second Annual Boating Safety Sidekicks Contest for Kids

The National Safe Boating Council (NSBC) has launched its second annual Boating Safety Sidekicks contest with this year's theme, "I'm a Safe Boater, Are You?"



Expanding on the "Why I Wear My Life Jacket" essay contest from 2005, the NSBC has partnered with West Marine® and Within Reach, Inc. to expand the contest beyond essays to also include posters and videos made by kids to tell others what they do to be safe boaters. Our goal is that by hearing these stories, their parents, brothers, sisters, families and friends realize how important it is for children – as well as adults – to wear their life jackets and boat safely.

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Waypoints Now Accepting Articles!

Ever dream of seeing your name in print? Waypoints is always looking for a few good writers to share their expertise. Editorials, news pieces, feature articles—anything related to making boaters safer on the water—we love to see them all! In past issues, partners have provided us with articles on everything from float plans, to safety for sportsmen, to boating safety education.

If you've been wanting to flex your writing muscle, contact newsletter@uscgboating.org for more details.



Please submit comments to: newsletter@uscgboating.org

U.S. Coast Guard Office of Boating Safety Infoline: 1-800-368-5647
www.uscgboating.org

News from the Office of Boating Safety

Total Boating Fatalities Nationwide Remain Under 700 as Pastime's Popularity Soars

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"This report simply serves as a reminder that we have much more work to do in the boating safety advocacy arena," commented Jeff Hoedt, Chief of the Office of Boating Safety. "Our goal is to reach all recreational boaters with information that would clearly explain the most important ways to protect yourself while boating and to encourage them to make those behaviors habit."

The U.S. Coast Guard's four tenets of their nationally known campaign, "You're in Command. Boat Responsibly!" illustrate their key recommendations for staying safe while boating: always wear your life jacket, take a boating safety course, never boat under the influence (BUI), and get an annual Vessel Safety Check (VSC).

In 2005, life jacket wear - acknowledged by many boating safety advocates to be the most important precaution one can take on the water - showed slight improvement from the previous year when measured in context of total boating fatalities.



In 2004, of the seventy percent of all recreational boating deaths caused by drowning (the leading cause of death in total boating fatalities), 89 percent of these victims were not wearing their life jackets. The sobering reality: if these victims had taken a few seconds to put on their personal flotation devices (PFDs) before heading out on the water, an estimated 431 deaths could have been prevented. In 2005, authorities were encouraged to see that the number of drowning victims who were not wearing life jackets decreased slightly from 89 to 87 percent, representing a welcome

improvement, yet also serving as a reminder that boating advocates must continue to educate boaters about the importance of life jacket wear through mass public awareness initiatives.

"Whereas a two-percentage-point decline may not seem significant, the numbers are moving in

the right direction. It means that fewer people drowned needlessly because they were not wearing a life jacket," said Bruce Schmidt, Statistician, Office of Boating Safety. "The significance of wearing a life jacket cannot be overstated in the national conversation on boating safety on the water."

While 2005 total recorded fatalities included fewer victims who were not wearing life jackets, they showed an increase in the number of victims for whom alcohol was involved in their accidents. In total, alcohol was shown to be a direct or indirect contributing factor in approximately one-quarter of all boating deaths last year; this statistic is noteworthy as there were more fatal accidents caused by alcohol use in 2005 than in any other year since 2001.

Remaining unchanged in 2005 was the number of boating fatalities that occurred on boats where the operator had not received boating safety instruction – approximately 70 percent. Also, carelessness/reckless operation, operator inattention, operator inexperience, and excessive speed were still the overall leading contributing factors of all reported accidents.

As it is estimated that America's waterways play host to some 78 million boaters and nearly 13 million registered boats each year, boating safety advocates agree it is more important than ever to advance the boating safety message.

"The reality is that safety is the factor that preserves boating as a relaxing and fun activity," says Hoedt. "We must all do our part to make sure that America's current and future generation of boaters can enjoy the sport for years to come."

The U.S. Coast Guard is asking all boat owners and operators to help reduce fatalities, injuries, property damage, and associated healthcare costs related to recreational boating accidents by taking personal responsibility for their own safety and the safety of their passengers. Essential steps include always wear a life jacket and require passengers to do the same; never boat under the influence (BUI); successfully complete a boating safety course; and get a Vessel Safety Check (VSC) annually from your local U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, United States Power Squadron, or your state boating agency's vessel examiners. The U.S. Coast Guard reminds all boaters, "You're in Command. Boat Responsibly!"

For more information on boating responsibly, go to www.USCGboating.org.

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In Vest

By PA2 Luke Pinneo, U.S. Coast Guard First District Public Affairs

Besides being a sure-fire adrenaline generator, kayaking is a great way to stay fit - physically and mentally. But good health starts with staying alive and in simple terms, this means sporting a life jacket when kayaking.

The alternative could have deadly consequences.

Few know this as well as U.S. Coast Guard Recreational Boating Specialist, Al Johnson. Johnson, whose Boston-based office is practically wallpapered with boating fatality statistics, has ventured throughout New England for more than 10 years teaching and preaching the value of recreational boating safety.



Along the way, he's made some startling discoveries. Referring to an eye-level spreadsheet on his wall, he affirms, "32 people have died since 2000 while kayaking [on waters in the First Coast Guard District]." These figures reveal another fact. Of those 32 deaths, exactly half were not wearing life jackets.

Staggering as they may be, these numbers illustrate only a fraction of the big picture. Johnson is quick to emphasize that these deaths occurred within the Coast Guard's First District, the area comprising the coastal and inland waterways from Maine to New Jersey.

What's more, the death rate continues to soar.

This year, Johnson has seen a 100 percent increase in kayaking deaths since 2005. Already there have been six people killed, four of whom were not wearing life jackets.

Still, during his travels, Johnson hears stacks of complaints about the hassles of wearing life jackets, ranging from "too bulky" and "uncomfortable," to being just plain "ugly."

Quick to dismiss such comments is experienced kayaker Keith Attenborough, a founding member of the Massachusetts North Shore Paddlers Network. If anyone is familiar with the inherent dangers of kayaking, he is.

"The very next breaker broke that grip and my boat took off with the wave - and was gone."

This past June, while sea kayaking near Plum Island, Mass., he suffered a rushing roll over and was forced out of his kayak in a series of pounding waves.

"The next wave took the boat out of my hand, but I was able to grab the rear toggle," he recalled. He was left clinging to his craft by a one-hand grip around a thin rope.

"The very next breaker broke that grip and my boat took off with the wave - and was gone," he said.

Luckily, the buoyant kayak was not his last line of survival. As with every trip he takes,

Attenborough was wearing his life jacket that day. What followed was more than two hours in the churning waves, before being rescued by the Coast Guard.

He said without his life jacket, his chances of survival would have been much slimmer.

"Without the life jacket ... it's hard to say," he said. "I don't even really want to think about it."

With nearly a dozen years of sea kayaking under his belt, Attenborough asserts that a life jacket is imperative. "If you're going to be on the water, the first thing you need to do is wear a life jacket - that's just a basic ground rule."

He admits, "Ninety-nine percent of the time, you're not going to need it. But if you happen to be that one percent [as he was] and you don't have it on - you're not coming home."

Yet, like Johnson, Attenborough has faced similar gripes from those who either refuse to or forget to wear floatation devices. He's heard everything from, "I'm a good swimmer," to "I'm not going to get into trouble," he said. "The problem with that," he warns, "is when you're in the water, things can change very quickly."

Thus, his advice is simple and sensible. "Put it on, get used to it and you won't even know you're wearing it."

Further, as Johnson points out, many life jacket types now offer comfort and class.

Some are sporty-looking and come in an array of colors. Another, around-the-waist, belt-pack type, inflates at the pull of a cord. Johnson said its appeal is its smallness and lightweight design.

"This is the perfect life jacket to wear if you don't want to wear a life jacket," he said. "With the many styles available today, there is no reason why you shouldn't wear one."

But still, some choose to go without.

"They often overestimate their swimming ability and underestimate the dangers of the activity they're involved in," laments Johnson.

Despite all excuses, both experts insist life jackets are essential - and it's not enough just to have one with you. To maximize safety, they say it must be worn.

As Johnson put it, "When you need it, you need it on."

Johnson said he sees the draw to kayaking as both sport and leisure and he equates it to good clean fun and uncomplicated exercise. Yet neither comes without serious risk.

"People should be aware of what can happen out there and be prepared for it," he said. With Attenborough's years of experience and Johnson's hard-crunched numbers, it's clear to them that kayaking can be deadly if taken lightly. Together, they clutch the bottom line: life jackets save lives.

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News from the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Recommends to Boaters: Know Before You Go Fall is an Ideal Time to Improve Your Boating Safety Education

With boating season winding down for many of America's boaters, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is urging America's boaters to start thinking about taking one of the many boating courses available to enhance their boating skills.

Courses offered range from the most basic boating safety course, to advanced navigation courses. These courses are offered all across America by local units of the Coast Guard Auxiliary (called flotillas).

For non-boaters who might some day find themselves out with a boating friend who is suddenly incapacitated, the three-hour, "Suddenly In Command" course provides the non-boater with enough information to deal with an emergency that incapacitates the captain of a recreational boat. This includes getting help by radio, what to do in case of fire, boat basics, using life jackets, how to survive if in the water, avoiding collisions while at the helm, the dangers of carbon monoxide, and how to get help other than by radio.



"America's Boating Course" and "Boating Skills and Seamanship" generally satisfy state boater education requirements, and, because they are given in person by Auxiliarists with years of boating experience, they offer boaters wisdom gleaned from hundreds and sometimes thousands of hours on the water.

For boaters wishing to learn principles of navigation, courses available range from the basic "How To Read A Nautical Chart," to "GPS for Mariners," to the advanced "Weekend Navigator" course.

To find out about boating courses in your area, the Auxiliary encourages boaters to visit the website at http://nws.cgaux.org/visitors/pe_visitor/index.html.

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is the uniformed, volunteer Component of Team Coast Guard that assists the active duty Coast Guard in all of its varied missions, except for military and direct law enforcement. These men and women can be found on the nation's waterways, in the air, in classrooms and on the dock, performing Maritime Domain Awareness patrols, safety patrols, vessel safety checks and public education.

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary was founded in 1939 by an Act of Congress as the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve and re-designated as the Auxiliary in 1941. Its over 31,000 members donate millions of hours annually in support of Coast Guard missions.

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News from the National Safe Boating Council (NSBC)

I'm a Safe Boater, Are YOU? NSBC Announces Second Annual Boating Safety Sidekicks Contest for Kids

The National Safe Boating Council (NSBC) has launched its second annual Boating Safety Sidekicks contest with this year's theme, "I'm a Safe Boater, Are You?" Expanding on the "Why I Wear My Life Jacket" essay contest from 2005, the NSBC has partnered with West Marine® and Within Reach, Inc. to expand the contest beyond essays to also include posters and videos made by kids to tell others what they do to be safe boaters. Our goal is that by hearing these stories, their parents, brothers, sisters, families and friends realize how important it is for children – as well as adults – to wear their life jackets and boat safely.



Stories should be between 150 and 750 words in length and tell about a particular boating experience or safe boating habit in which you wear your life jacket and follow other practices to be a safe boater. Posters should be 8.5" x 11" or 8.5" x 14" and contain a simple message to inspire others to boat safely. Computer-generated submissions must be submitted as one JPEG, TIFF or EPS picture file. Videos can range from 30 seconds to 2 minutes in length and must show life jacket wear. They can be submitted as mpeg files on CD or DVD. The title of all entries should be "I'm a Safe Boater, Are You?" and demonstrate what you do to be safer on the water. Kids between the ages of 4 to 15 are eligible to enter anytime between now and January 1, 2007.

Once again, first, second, and third place prizes will be awarded in each of three age groups. First place winners will receive a \$100 savings bond, a life jacket, one NSBC member-donated prize, Sidekicks cap and DVD and recognition on the Sidekicks website. Please visit the Boating Safety Sidekicks website at www.boatingsidekicks.com for more information on the contest and how to enter. We look forward to hearing from you!

Be a Part of the North American Safe Boating Campaign Donate Materials to the World's Largest Campaign Dedicated to Boating Safety



The North American Safe Boating Campaign is now accepting donations! This is your chance to have your materials distributed throughout the boating community. Simply donate a pamphlet, poster, flyer, brochure, decal, etc. that displays informative boating safety information from your organization. If approved by NSBC, your items will be included in the campaign for use by boating safety advocates throughout the United States and Canada. Additionally, you have the option to list materials that carry a cost on our paid order form along with information on how to order these items directly from your organization.

If you would like to provide an item to the 2007 campaign, please provide us with three samples of your proposed materials by November 30, 2006. Your samples may be mailed to the NSBC, P.O. Box 509, Bristow, VA 20136. Final versions of accepted materials should be sent to our fulfillment center by January 15, 2007. We ask that if you are interested in contributing handouts to our kit that you be able to supply 80,000 to 100,000 copies to the fulfillment center by this date. For more information, please contact the National Safe Boating

Council at (703) 361-4294, campaign@safeboatingcouncil.org or www.safeboatingcampaign.com.

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News from the National Water Safety Congress

Call for NWSC Award Nominations



Each year the National Water Safety Congress (NWSC) presents awards at the International Boating and Water Safety Summit to selected individuals and organizations that have made outstanding contributions to water safety during the previous year. The following is a list of the NWSC Awards to be presented at the Summit:

Regional Award (*one per region*)
Award of Merit (*numbers vary per region*)
Letter of Commendation (*numbers vary per region*)

National Award (*one for the entire nation*)

Nominations must be submitted to the appropriate Regional Vice President with supporting information no later than December 1, 2006. Nomination forms are available on the National Water Safety Congress website at www.watersafetycongress.org. A list of NWSC Vice Presidents and their contact information may also be found on the website, under the heading, "Board".

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News from BoatU.S. - Boat Owners Association of The United States

Last Call: \$50,000 in Boating Safety Grants Available from BoatU.S. Foundation

November 1st Deadline to Apply Fast Approaches

The BoatU.S. Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water has a great way for your local non-profit boating organization to help keep our waterways safe – but time is running out. The Foundation's Boating Safety Grant program offers individual grants of up to \$4,000 for boating safety projects, but to have a chance at funding organizations need to apply by the November 1, 2006 deadline. A total of \$50,000 is available for this campaign.

Over the past 15 years, the Foundation has awarded nearly \$700,000 to organizations that have developed creative projects that promote safe boating on local waterways. Some of them include creating literature on the effects of boating under the influence of alcohol to boat ramp signage informing users about free vessel safety checks.

"When the boating safety message comes from your neighbors, fellow boaters, or well-respected local organizations, it has much more credibility," said David Carter, Boating Safety Grant Manager. "This is your organization's chance to make a difference within your own community," he added.

To download an application and learn more about these Boating Safety Grants, please visit <http://www.BoatUS.com/foundation> or call 1-800-336-BOAT. Grant applications must be emailed or postmarked on or before November 1, 2006 and will be announced in January 2007.

The BoatU.S. Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water is a national 501(c)(3) nonprofit education and research organization primarily funded by the voluntary contributions of the 670,000 members of BoatU.S. The Foundation operates more than a dozen programs including the only accredited, free, online general boating safety course, a low-cost EPIRB rental program, the "Help Stop the Drops" national clean fueling campaign, a free kid's Life Jacket Loaner Program, and has awarded hundreds of thousands of dollars in grants for nonprofit groups for boating safety and environmental projects.

For more information on making a tax-deductible donation to help keep programs like these afloat, go to <http://www.BoatUS.com/foundation/donate.htm>.

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News from BoatU.S. – Boat Owners Association of The United States

How to Avoid the Six Most Common Winterizing Mistakes

Free BoatU.S. Winterizing Guide Available



With winter approaching, Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatU.S.) has reviewed its insurance claim files and reports the following six most common mistakes made when winterizing a boat:

1. Failure to drain the engine block: Surprisingly, it's the balmy states of California, Florida, Texas, Alabama and Georgia where boaters are most likely to have freeze-related damage to engine blocks - and it routinely occurs to boats stored ashore. Water retains heat longer than air so boats left in the slip are less susceptible to sudden freezing.

2. Failure to drain water from sea strainer: Like an engine, the seawater strainer must be winterized or residual water could freeze and rupture the watertight seal. Sometimes you don't know it's damaged until spring launching when water begins to trickle in

3. Failure to close seacocks: For boats left in the water, leaving seacocks open over the winter is like going on an extended vacation without locking the house. If a thru-hull cannot be closed the vessel must be stored ashore - the sole exceptions are cockpit drains. Heavy snow loads can also force your boat under, allowing water to enter through hulls normally well above the water line.

4. Clogged petcocks: Engine cooling system petcocks clogged by rust or other debris can prevent water from fully draining. If it's plugged, try using a coat hanger to clear the blockage or use the engine's intake hose to flush anti-freeze through the system.

5. Leaving open boats in the water over winter: Boats with large open cockpits or low freeboard can easily go under by accumulated snow. Always store them ashore.

6. Using bimini covers as winter storage covers: A cover that protects the crew from the sun does a lousy job protecting the boat from freezing rain and snow. Unlike a bonafide winter cover, biminis tend to rip apart and age prematurely by the effects of winter weather.

Winterizing Checklist

<p>Equipment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Toxic Antifreeze <input type="checkbox"/> Engine Antifreeze <input type="checkbox"/> Crankcase Oil <input type="checkbox"/> Lower Unit Fluid <input type="checkbox"/> Fogging Fluid <input type="checkbox"/> Engine Water Pump Impeller <input type="checkbox"/> Plugs for Exhaust Ports <input type="checkbox"/> Fuel Additives <input type="checkbox"/> Extra Lines <input type="checkbox"/> Chafe Guards <input type="checkbox"/> Storage Cover/ Supports <input type="checkbox"/> De-humidifying Chemicals <input type="checkbox"/> Cleaner/Anti-Corrosion Spray <input type="checkbox"/> Tools <input type="checkbox"/> Have Fuel Tanks Topped Off <p>Boats Stored Ashore</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Is boat level to prevent damage from pooling water? <input type="checkbox"/> Is the boat adequately supported at bulkheads, engines and keel? <input type="checkbox"/> If boat is on jack-stands, are the stands chained together with plywood beneath the base? 	<p>Equipment Stored Ashore</p> <p>Electronics</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Dinghy</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Outboard/Fuel</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Sails</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Galley Fuel</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Ship's Papers</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Bimini</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Battery</p> <p>_____</p>
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To get a free copy of the "BoatU.S. Winterizing Guide" full of tips to help you prepare your vessel for the winter, go to www.BoatUS.com/Seaworthy and click on "Winterizing Your Boat," or call 800-283-2883.

A New Winter Hazard: What You Need to Know About E-10 Ethanol Fuel and Winter Boat Layup

This spring and with little prior notice, recreational boaters in most parts of the country were introduced to gasoline containing higher concentrations of ethanol, a corn-based additive that replaced a known carcinogen, MTBE. The new fuel, dubbed "E-10" for its 10 percent ethanol content, unfortunately has the ability to attract greater amounts of water and "phase separate," or form two separate solutions in the gas tank, usually over a long period of time. Once this happens, the engine won't run and internal damage could occur.

With the lengthy winter layup period upon us, many boaters are asking how they should store their boat over the winter to prevent fuel problems next year. The BoatU.S. damage prevention newsletter, *Seaworthy*, tackles the problem in its October issue and has these recommendations:

- * Once phase separation occurs in E-10 gasoline, additives and water separators can't help. The only remedy is to have the gas and ethanol/water professionally removed from the tank.
- * With any fuel that sits in a tank for a long time, it's important to add a stabilizer. But understand that stabilizers do not prevent phase separation.
- * E-10 has been a fact of life in certain areas of the Midwest for over a decade and there have been relatively few problems. The best practical recommendation learned from marina operators in the region is to top off a boat's fuel tanks to about 95 percent full, leaving room for expansion. A tank that is almost full limits the flow of air into and out of the vent, which reduces the chance of condensation adding water to the fuel. Draining fuel tanks of E-10 gas, while completely eliminating any chances of phase separation, is potentially dangerous and an impractical solution.
- * Whether you believe your boat's fuel tanks are half full or half empty, leaving a tank partially filled is a bad move. A Midwest marina owner confirmed that phase separation problems typically occurred when boats were stored over the winter with tanks only one quarter to one-half full. In the summer, infrequently used boats with partially filled tanks are also prone to phase separation.
- * Never try to plug up a fuel tank vent to prevent moist air from entering a tank. Without room to expand, the additional pressure could rupture fuel system components.

All BoatU.S. marine insurance policy holders get a free subscription to *Seaworthy*. Subscriptions are also available for \$10 a year (4 issues) by going to www.BoatUS.com/Seaworthy or by calling 800-262-8082, ext. 3276.

If you'd like to get a free insurance quote for your boat, go to <http://BoatUS.com/Insurance> or call 800-283-2883.

BoatU.S. - Boat Owners Association of The United States - is the nation's leading advocate for recreational boaters providing its 670,000 members with a wide array of consumer services including a group-rate marine insurance program that insures nearly a quarter million boats; the largest fleet of more than 500 towing assistance vessels; discounts on fuel, slips, and repairs at over 835 Cooperating Marinas; boat financing; and a subscription to BoatU.S. Magazine, the most widely read boating publication in the U.S. For membership information visit <http://www.BoatUS.com> or call 800-395-2628.

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Winterizing Checklist

Equipment

- Non-Toxic Antifreeze
- Engine Antifreeze
- Crankcase Oil
- Lower Unit Fluid
- Fogging Fluid
- Engine Water Pump Impeller
- Plugs for Exhaust Ports
- Fuel Additives
- Extra Lines
- Chafe Guards
- Storage Cover/ Supports
- De-humidifying Chemicals
- Cleaner/Anti-Corrosion Spray
- Tools
- Have Fuel Tanks Topped Off

Boats Stored Ashore

- Is boat level to prevent damage from pooling water?
- Is the boat adequately supported at bulkheads, engines and keel?
- If boat is on jack-stands, are the stands chained together with plywood beneath the base?

Equipment Stored Ashore

Electronics

Dinghy

Outboard/Fuel

Sails

Galley Fuel

Ship's Papers

Bimini

Battery

News from the American Boat and Yacht Council

Westlawn Announces Design Competition in Conjunction With Cruising World Magazine & Island Packet Yachts

Annapolis, MD – The Westlawn Institute of Marine Technology is proud to announce a new design competition in conjunction with Cruising World magazine and sponsored by Island Packet Yachts. The purpose of the competition is to encourage and highlight new and exciting designs for serious cruising under sail.

"We're excited to be introducing an exciting and new design challenge," commented Dave Gerr, Westlawn Director. "The Cruising World Westlawn/Island Packet Design Competition is designed to encourage people to explore the possibilities of yacht design and uncover new design talent from around the world. We'd like to personally thank Bob Johnson, President of Island Packet Yachts and Westlawn Board member, for generously donating the prize money for this competition and his support of yacht design over the years," concluded Gerr.



Entries will be judged on the following criteria by a panel consisting of top designers and sailing experts:

- The design's potential success and utility as a cruising boat;
- How well the design meets its mission statement;
- Beauty (classic, modern, or ultramodern);
- Innovation (whether in modern or traditional designs);
- Ease of handling, comfort, and safety.

All criteria will have equal weight. The judges will select a group of 12 finalists from all entries. From the final 12, one winner and up to four honorable mentions will be selected. All entries must be postmarked no later than March 1, 2007.



WESTLAWN

The winner will have his or her design featured in an article in Cruising World and will receive a \$2,000 scholarship to be used towards any Westlawn Institute of Marine Technology course, or a \$1,000 check (at the winner's option), along with a certificate as the winner of the 2007 Cruising World's Westlawn/Island Packet Design Competition. Honorable mentions will receive a certificate.

For contest rules and entrance criteria, visit www.cruisingworld.com.

To learn more about Westlawn, please call (410) 990-4470 or visit the Westlawn website at www.westlawn.edu.

Founded in 1930, the [Westlawn Institute of Marine Technology](http://www.westlawn.edu) is the only nationally accredited and state certified distance-learning school of small-craft design in the United States. As the not-for-profit educational affiliate of the American Boat and Yacht Council, the mission of the Westlawn Institute of Technology is threefold:

-To provide our students with the skills and knowledge required to build a rewarding career in the profession of yacht and craft naval architecture.

-To support continued growth of the recreational and small craft marine community through

the development of well-trained, safety-oriented boat designers developing better products for the benefit of the boating public.

- To provide continuing education to marine industry professionals.

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News from the Ninth Coast Guard District

Ninth Coast Guard District Creates Website To Inform Public on Proposed Safety Zones

Cleveland, OH - The Ninth Coast Guard District has created a website for the sole purpose of informing the public concerning the 34 proposed permanent safety zones on the U.S. Great Lakes. The site is now available at www.uscgd9safetyzones.com.



The website will contain information such as copies of all Federal Registry entries, charts of the proposed zones, comment submission information, and press releases.

For any questions or concerns pertaining to website information or navigation, contact Chief Petty Officer Robert K. Lanier, Ninth Coast Guard District Public Affairs, at (216) 902-6022.

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News from the National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA)

NMMA Embarks on Youth-Oriented Partnership for 2007 Boat and Sportshows

Captain Kids and NMMA Aim to Educate Children on Boating and Water-related Activities

NMMA Chicago, IL – The National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA) announced its partnership today with Captain Kids, a national organization designed to connect kids, parents and educators to a broad range of maritime activities in, on and under the water. The partnership will include the “Captain Kids Discovery Point Exhibit,” to be hosted at several NMMA boat shows and sportshows throughout the 2007 season.

The Discovery Point Exhibit will be first unveiled January 10-14, 2007 at the New Orleans Boat Show. The interactive exhibits featured in Discovery Point encompass several unique stations to encourage children to get interested and involved in the water, including building a model boat, tying knots, and learning about boating safety. Other features include designated areas to explore and identify different types of boats, ocean literacy, fishing and conservation. Parents can easily enjoy the exhibit with their children and learn more about particular boats and how to get connected right in their own area.



“We’re excited to work with an organization such as Captain Kids that naturally aligns with the long term goals of the boating industry and the industry-wide ‘Grow Boating’ initiative,” said Ben Wold, NMMA executive vice president. “NMMA boat and sportshows offer an exceptional opportunity to introduce children and their parents to the joys of the on-the-water lifestyle.”



Recent research shows that childhood boating experiences have a direct influence on boat purchases as an adult. The NMMA’s 2005 Recreational Boating Statistical Abstract noted 78 percent of people who had never owned a boat, but experienced boating as a child, expressed current interest in purchasing a boat. Among this population, 48 percent of those whose parents owned a boat and 39 percent of those whose parents had not owned a boat were currently interested in buying a boat.

“Captain Kids is designed to get children involved in the marine industry at an early age while also educating them on the environment, ocean science, boating destinations, and other aquatic information,” said Tom Griffin, president of Captain Kids.

Future Captain Kids aquatic awareness campaigns will reach out to schools and local community youth organizations nationwide.

For more information on NMMA boat shows and Captain Kids, please contact Kelly Kaylor at (312) 946-6262; kkaylor@nmma.org.

The National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA) is the leading association representing the recreational boating industry. NMMA member companies produce more than 80 percent of the boats, engines, trailers, accessories and gear used by boaters and anglers in the United States. The association is dedicated to industry growth through programs in public policy, market research and data, product quality assurance and marketing communications.



Captain Kids (www.captainkids.org) is a non-profit, national initiative connecting kids, parents and educators to activities in, on and under the water, with the mission to help all children discover the rich aquatic environment. It seeks to ignite a lifetime interest in the world of water. From water sports to maritime culture, from boating and fishing to aquariums and maritime museums, Captain Kids helps children explore and participate in lifetime activities.

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News from the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

Hawaii Resident Elected National Commodore of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary

Kailua-Kona, HI - Steven M. Budar, born in Hawaii and a resident of the Big Island since 1996, was recently elected to serve as the National Commodore of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary at its national convention, recently held in Dallas, Texas.



Budar will assume office for a two-year term, beginning on November 1, 2006. He will be sworn in by ADM Thad Allen, Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard, in a ceremony to be held at U.S. Coast Guard headquarters in Washington, DC.

Commodore Budar joined the Auxiliary in 1985, and has served in all elected positions within the Auxiliary, including National Vice Commodore. His most recent duties included serving as National Vice Commodore, and President and Chief Operating Officer of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Association, Inc., the non-profit entity providing financial support to the 30,000 civilian volunteers of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. Commodore Budar is qualified as a coxswain (small boat operator), aircrew and instructor.

Steve Budar is a 1974 graduate of the University of Michigan School of Business. He began his business career with ALCOA Aluminum in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, after which he entered the insurance industry in Southern California. Commodore Budar also holds the designation as a Chartered Life Underwriter and Chartered Financial Consultant from the American College in Bryn Mawr, PA. He has owned and operated insurance agencies in California and Hawaii since 1977. Steve is the owner of the Budar Agency-ALLSTATE Insurance in Kona, Hawaii, and is also President and CEO of the Dragon Group Inc., a financial consulting company.

Budar has also been active in other leadership positions in the community, serving as Past President- Kona Executives Association, Past President- East Honolulu Association Life Underwriters, and Past Chairman- Life Underwriters Political Action Committee. He is also a member of the Society of Financial Service Professionals.

Commodore Budar and wife Mary Kay are members of Flotilla 3-13 in Kona, HI. They have three children: Jessica, Sophea and George.

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NOAA Nautical Charting Calendar

Click [here](#) to download the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's charting calendar for November.

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NOAA Nautical Charting Calendar

Chart Overlap¹

There is an old military adage that battles always take place at the junction of two maps. Many navigators believe that this applies equally to nautical charts.

NOAA uses 4 methods to minimize problems at the transition from one chart to another. First, nautical charts are sized and aligned to insure that dangerous passages are not located near chart borders. This lowers the likelihood of a vessel entering a hazardous area when it is necessary to shift from one chart to the next.

Second, adjoining charts of the same scale generally have an inch or two of overlapping coverage. The amount of overlap varies from chart to chart but is sufficient to include enough common prominent features, aids to navigation, etc., to facilitate the quick transfer of a plotted course and position from one chart to the next.

Third, if there are important features located just outside the chart border, a border break is used. The border break is an extension of the charted area outside the chart neat lines to depict a particularly important feature. Border breaks also reduce the need to print additional charts.

Fourth, notes identify the adjoining charts so mariners can quickly move to it. For example, “JOINS CHART 12214” if the adjoining chart is the same scale, or “CONTINUED ON CHART 12311” if the adjoining chart is a different scale, in black capital letters outside the neat line.

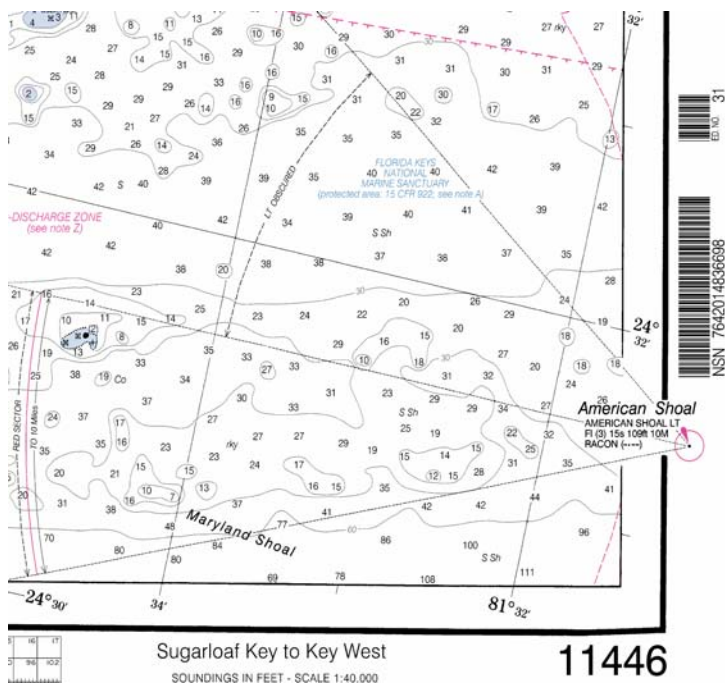
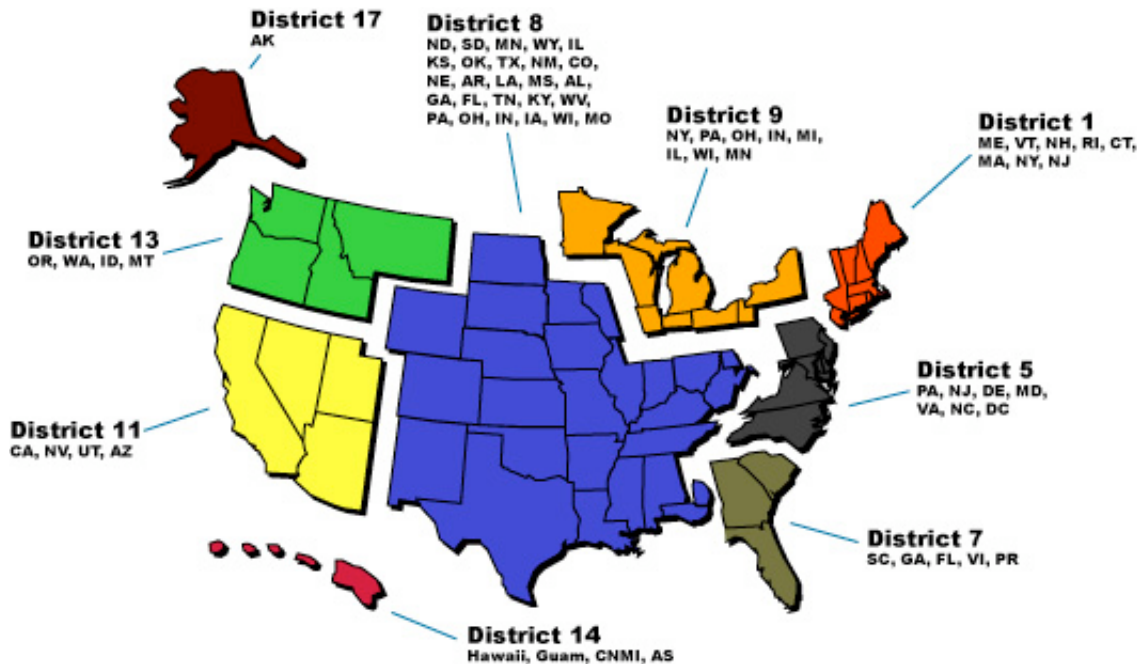


Figure - Example of a border break to include an important light on NOAA chart 11446.

SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
¹ Text adapted from “Nautical Chart Users Manual,” which is available for free at http://chartmaker.ncd.noaa.gov/staff/ncum/ncum.htm .						1	2	3	4				
5	6	7	8	9	10	11							
12	13	14	15	16	17	18							
19	20	21	22	23	24	25							
26	27	28	29	30	Prepared by the Office of Coast Survey, National Ocean Service, NOAA, www.NauticalCharts.NOAA.gov , 1-301-713-2770								

RBS Specialist News

Click on the map to go to your district's update.



October 2006 Updates

FIRST COAST GUARD DISTRICT

Al Johnson, Recreational Boating Safety Specialist
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Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont

U.S. Coast Guard Station Castle Hill, RI, hosted a professional kayak-training event on Monday, 2 October 2006. Coast Guard personnel from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, Station New London, Air Station Cape Cod and First Coast Guard District presented boating and paddling safety information, risk assessment strategies, and search and rescue procedures to professional kayak instructors representing several different organizations. Additional kayak rescue training was conducted on the waters of Narragansett Bay utilizing 41-foot and 25-foot patrol boats and rescue swimmers deployed from an HH-60J helicopter.

The annual meeting of the Maine Association of Sea Kayak Guides and Instructors (MASKGI) will be held at the Outward Bound facility located at St. George, Maine on Saturday, 21 October. MASKGI is one of the premier professional sea kayak guides and instructors' organizations, whose members are professional guides who are state-licensed in Maine with additional certifications as sea kayak guides, instructors and outfitters.

At the request of the Maine State Legislature, a working group comprised of representatives from the Maine Departments of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife – Warden Service and Marine

Resources – Marine Patrol, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, United States Power Squadrons®, National Transportation Safety Board and National Marine Manufacturers Association will meet at Augusta on Friday, 27 October to explore boating educational requirements.

The Northeast's First Coast Guard District, as of 30 September, has suffered the loss of 41 recreational boaters and paddlers. There continues to be a significant increase in fatalities involving non-motorized vessels. These vessels have accounted for almost 59 percent of 2006 fatalities and, of these, canoes and kayaks accounted for 54 percent and 32 percent of the overall total.

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FIFTH COAST GUARD DISTRICT

Dennis Sens, Recreational Boating Safety Specialist
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Dennis.M.Sens@uscg.mil

Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Virginia, District of Columbia

The Fifth District Office of Boating Safety, Portsmouth, Virginia, recently acquired six new recreational boating safety (RBS) displays. The RBS displays will be strategically placed within each Coast Guard Sector area of responsibility. Each display was professionally developed using the latest tradeshow equipment and was produced in partnership with Coast Guard Headquarters' Office of Boating Safety and the Fifth District. The national boating safety campaign "You're in Command. Boat Responsibly!" banner is emblazoned along the top of each display, depicting families and young people enjoying boating. The display will be ready for use by Auxiliary, Active and Reserve members at boat shows and other public venues. Our objective is to promote the national campaign and raise visibility for boating safety among the thousands of people who visit boat and sportsman shows each year throughout the mid-Atlantic region. For more detail, please contact Dennis Sens at: Dennis.M.Sens@uscg.mil.

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SEVENTH COAST GUARD DISTRICT

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Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands

The U.S. Coast Guard District 7 RBS Specialist Bruce R. Wright debuted the District's newest Boating Safety Display at the Tampa Boat Show, held at the Tampa Convention Center 12-15 October 2006. The U.S. Coast Guard again partnered with the Discover Boating Tour to kick off the 2007 Boat Show season. The partnership is a perfect blend for the new boater: Discover Boating assists new boaters with picking the "right style" boat for their activity, and the Coast Guard encourages the "Right Type" life jacket to go with that boat style!



Stacey Wright, D7, and Amy Murray, Discover Boating, discuss the electronic and safety equipment on display.



Malakai Harewood (second from right), along with Mom Heidi (left), sister Zyanne (second from left), and family friend Rebecca (right) enjoyed their Discover Boating Experience at the Tampa Boat Show held 12-15 October. Loaner life jackets for kids were provided by the U.S. Coast Guard District 7 Recreational Boating Safety Specialist as part of a partnership with NMMA's Discover Boating Tour. Boat Show guests were invited to try a boating experience for free.



The Sean Odegard Family of Mulberry, Florida, preparing to take a Discover Boating Ride at the Tampa Boat Show with loaner life jackets from the U.S. Coast Guard Safe Boating Display.

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EIGHTH COAST GUARD DISTRICT

Kevin Kelly, Chief, Recreational Boating Safety
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Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, West Virginia, Wyoming

YOUTH CAUGHT!!!

Beaver Lake, Arkansas – Nearly 500 XS to XL Youth were “caught” in a lake-wide sweep by the “Good Guys” of Flotilla 56! The kids were blatantly WEARING THEIR LIFE JACKETS! After being duly “upbraided” for their behavior, they were given citations in the form of TEES emblazoned with a public confession –

“I Got Caught Wearing My Life Jacket by the Beaver Lake Coast Guard Auxiliary, Rogers, Arkansas”

The event was a great time for all – as much for the Flotilla members as the kids who were caught. The t-shirts were made possible by a grant from BoatU.S. and the “awards sweep” actually began on 25 August. It culminated over the Labor Day weekend when it was paired with the regular Safety Patrol efforts of all Coxswains and their Crews.

Our Special Thanks to Debbie and Alan Main for assembling and packing the t-shirts in attractive plastic bags!

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NINTH COAST GUARD DISTRICT

Frank Jennings, Recreational Boating Safety Specialist
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Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin

– The D9 RBS Specialist attended the 47th Annual NASBLA Conference in Louisville, Kentucky., 22-27 September.

– The D9 RBS Specialist also traveled to the NTSB Academy in Ashburn, Virginia. to attend a two-day training seminar for small passenger vessel safety on non-navigable waters, 4-5 October.

– The D9 staff is preparing to travel throughout the region to conduct a series of public meetings to present issues relating to the proposed establishment of permanent safety zones on the Great Lakes to conduct live gunnery training exercises. On 1 August 2006, the U.S. Coast Guard published a Notice of Proposed Rule-Making to establish permanent safety zones throughout the Great Lakes, which would restrict vessels from portions of the Great Lakes during live fire gun exercises that will be conducted by Coast Guard cutters and small boats. The comment period will close on 13 November 2006.

– The D9 RBS Specialist is working with state and federal agency partners to spearhead the first Lake Erie-wide maritime law enforcement workshop. The one-day workshop is designed to bring marine patrol representatives from U.S. and Canadian law enforcement, serving Lake Erie, together for a full day of training and information exchange, 15 November 2006.

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ELEVENTH COAST GUARD DISTRICT

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Arizona, California, Nevada, Utah

More than 23 states and organizations participated in training at the National Transportation Safety Board Academy in Virginia on 4-5 October 2006. The two-day training on passenger vessel safety on sole state waters was the first of its kind on a national level. Lt. Tony Guild of the Eleventh Coast Guard District took the lead in training duties, joining others from U.S. Coast Guard headquarters in explaining the basics of commercial passenger vessel safety. A few state Boating Law Administrators shared their efforts to legislate commercial passenger vessel safety in their states. For many states, this is an area that has just begun to be addressed. In the Eleventh District, Utah and Arizona are actively pursuing regulations to ensure passenger safety.

Recently, California distributed a draft of proposed legislative changes that would create mandatory boater education. After holding two stakeholder meetings earlier in the year, the Department of Boating & Waterways has taken the consensus from those meetings and is now requesting comment on the draft proposal.

The California Boating Safety Officers Association held a one-day training session at Shasta Lake on 11 October. Sheriffs and other boating safety officers from around the state learned about the physiology of drowning, Cadaver Dogs, and propeller injuries. There were also on-the-water demonstrations of Martech Industries' Virtual Lifeline kill switch, prop guards, as well as demonstrations from Kokatat, Design Concepts, Boulton Powerboats and Zodiac.

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THIRTEENTH COAST GUARD DISTRICT

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Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington

Another summer boating season is behind us and we move forward into the winter activities. With the change in seasons we also have a change in leadership of two organizations that are

monumental in the advancement of recreational boating safety in the region. I would personally like to congratulate Mr. Bruce Miller, Commodore-elect for the 13th District, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, on his selection to lead the organization into the future. Bruce has some large shoes to fill and we wish the outgoing Commodore, Mr. Fred Bell, the best of luck and our sincere congratulations on a job well done.

Other happenings around the Pacific Northwest – The State of Montana has just released a outstanding video on boating under the influence (BUI). I had the pleasure of viewing this production at the October meeting of the newly-established Montana Boating Safety Advisory Counsel meeting and I give it "two thumbs up"! If you're interested in receiving a copy, please contact the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks.

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FOURTEENTH COAST GUARD DISTRICT

Kent Richards, Recreational Boating Safety Specialist
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Hawaii, Guam, American Samoa, Northern Marianas

Utilizing the services and resources of the Boating Law Administrator (BLA) is the citizen's real avenue to better and safer boating. It is in the interest of every citizen who wants to see a greater degree of safety on lakes and oceans to contact his or her state BLA about problems, concerns, and possible solutions. The Fourteenth Coast Guard District will host a Boating Law Administrator's Workshop, 25-27 October 2006 in Honolulu at the district office. The Boating Law Administrators from American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and Hawaii will all be in attendance. The goals of the workshop will be to improve boating safety through traditional and innovative means, promote the exchange of ideas, and enhance cooperation among those who have boating safety as their goal. Please call (808) 541-2161 and let us know your ideas and if there's a topic you would like discussed.

Warm weather, blue skies, and balmy winds are no excuse for not wearing a life jacket. There are available alternatives to wearing the big, bulky, and "too hot" life jackets. The inflatables are just one such alternative. The ocean doesn't care what your excuses are for not wearing a life jacket. Wear a life jacket and stay safe at sea.

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SEVENTEENTH COAST GUARD DISTRICT

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Michael.R.Folkerts@uscg.mil

Alaska

It's hunting season in Alaska! Every year, thousands of Alaskan residents, as well as non-residents, take to Alaska's wilderness in search of big game. Two of the most popular transportation choices for these excursions are small aircraft and boats. Often, hunters prepare their gear carefully but ignore the basic boating safety rules. Overloaded boats combined with bad weather result in recreational fatalities every year. Self-sufficiency and survival training are key elements for a successful hunt. We always recommend dressing for the water; not the weather. A sunny fall day might reach 60°, but the water could be as much as 20° colder than the air, and cold water immersion can be quickly fatal. Be safe and be prepared!



Swamped boat in Prince William Sound, Alaska. Photo by Mike Folkerts

The Auxiliary is beginning fall public education classes and there are some exciting developments on the horizon! Some of the upcoming offerings include Sailing Skills and Seamanship, a new 13th edition of Boating Skills and Seamanship, An Introduction to Piloting and the Weekend Navigator. Contact your local Auxiliary Flotilla for class schedules or try <http://nws.cgaux.org/visitors/index.html>

Also, Congratulations to Jeff Johnson (Boating Law Administrator-State of Alaska) for his election to President of NASBLA! Jeff brings a tremendous amount of experience and skill to the world of recreational boating safety and is a great asset! Jeff coordinated the efforts in passing HB108, Alaska's

Boating Safety Law in 1999, and has developed the boating safety program from its humble beginnings to what it is today. Best of luck, Jeff!

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Upcoming Events

If you have an event you would like to highlight, please send it to newsletter@uscgboating.org.

November

November 1-3, 2006 — International BoatBuilders' Exhibition & Conference (IBEX), National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA), Miami, FL

November 15-19, 2006 – Annual Meeting, US Sailing, Newport, Rhode Island, (401) 683-0800 or www.ussailing.org

February 2007

February 20-25, 2007 – Annual Meeting, United States Power Squadrons, Jacksonville, Florida, 888-367-8777 or www.usps.org

March 2007

March 4-7, 2007 – International Boating and Water Safety Summit, National Boating Safety Council and National Water Safety Congress, San Antonio, Texas, (703) 361-4294 or (501) 844-2197

May 2007

May 6-9, 2007 – Annual Conference, Western States Boating Administrators Association, Laughlin, Nevada, (859) 225-9487 or info@nasbla.org

May 9-11, 2007 – Working Waterways & Waterfronts – A National Symposium on Water Access, Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council, Norfolk, Virginia, www.wateraccess2007.com

September 2007

September 6-10, 2007— Annual Conference, National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA), Burlington, Vermont. For more information, call 859.225.9487, or e-mail info@nasbla.org

September 16-21, 2007 – Annual Meeting, Association of fish and Wildlife Agencies, Louisville, Kentucky, (202) 624-7890 or www.iafwa.org

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CONNECTING THE MANY PARTNERS OF THE U.S. COAST GUARD OFFICE OF BOATING SAFETY

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U.S. Coast Guard Recreational Boating Statistics

Click on the link below to download the U.S. Coast Guard Office of Boating Safety's 2005 Recreational Boating Statistics Report:

[2005 Recreational Boating Statistics](#) (Acrobat PDF - 852 KB)



To view reports from past years, visit the Office of Boating Safety [here](#).

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