

ATTENTION

PERSONAL WATERCRAFT RENTERS

PERSONAL WATERCRAFT ARE BOATS, NOT TOYS. OPERATORS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR KNOWING ALL BOATING LAWS AND REGULATIONS.



IMPORTANT BOATING REGULATIONS & TIPS FOR OPERATION

- **A Coast Guard-approved LIFE JACKET MUST BE WORN** at all times by operators and passengers. Wear one rated for a minimum 50 mph impact. Inflatable units are NOT approved.
 - **LOOK AROUND!** Most boating accidents involve collisions between boats or between a boat and a fixed object (like a bridge pier). Avoid accidents by being aware of everything going on around you. This is called **KEEPING A PROPER LOOKOUT**.
 - **DRINKING AND BOATING DON'T MIX!** It is illegal to operate any boat while under the influence of **ALCOHOL** or a controlled substance. **PENALTIES** include fines up to \$5,000, 90 days imprisonment and loss of boating privileges.
 - **WATCH YOUR WAKE!** A wake is the wave created by your boat while you are operating it. You must travel at a **SLOW-NO-WAKE** speed within **100 FEET** of the shoreline, unpowered boats, docks, downed skiers, swimmers, and anchored, moored or drifting boats.
 - **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE** for your actions on the water. **RECKLESS OPERATION** is illegal and dangerous. Travel a safe speed so your ability to maneuver and stop is never in doubt. Any damage you cause (even from your wake) is your responsibility.
 - **YOU MUST BE AT LEAST 100 FEET BEHIND and 50 FEET TO THE SIDE** of another boat that is underway.
 - **YOU MUST** stay at least **100 FEET AWAY FROM A WATERSKIERS** towed by another boat.
 - **YOU MAY NOT CAUSE YOUR PERSONAL WATERCRAFT TO BECOME AIRBORNE** or to completely leave the water while crossing the wake of another boat when within 100 feet of the other boat creating the wake.
 - **DO NOT WEAVE** through congested boat traffic!
 - **YOU MUST BE 16 YEARS OF AGE** or older to rent or to operate a rented personal watercraft.
 - **THE SAFETY CUT-OFF LANYARD MUST BE ATTACHED** to your body, life jacket or clothing.
 - **PERSONAL WATERCRAFT MAY NOT** be operated between sunset and sunrise.
 - **WHEN APPROACHING** another boat **HEAD ON, TURN TO THE RIGHT**.
 - **WHEN OVERTAKING** another boat, you may pass on either side. The boat you are overtaking must maintain its course and speed.
 - **IN A CROSSING** situation, the boat to your right has the right of way and should maintain course and speed. You should change course, slow down and pass behind the boat on the right. You have the right of way over boats on your left, **BUT NEVER INSIST ON THE RIGHT OF WAY. WHEN IN DOUBT, GIVE WAY.**
 - **STAY AWAY FROM DAMS.** The downstream side is just as dangerous as the upstream side. Don't be lured near a dam by the downstream side's safe appearance.
 - Become familiar with the boat by testing the turning radius and stopping distance. Remember, **BOATS DO NOT HAVE BRAKES.**
 - **STAY AWAY** from unpowered boats and large commercial craft .
 - **BAD WEATHER CAN KILL BOATERS.** If a storm is near, head for shore or a safe harbor.
 - Keep your hands, feet, hair and clothing away from the jet pump impeller.
 - **DON'T SINK THE SPORT!** Courtesy toward others on the water and to people on shore is very important. Have fun, but don't ruin someone else's day.
- FOR MORE INFORMATION, TAKE A BOATING COURSE. CALL 1-888-PAFISH-1 TO FIND ONE NEAR YOU.**