

# Boating Laws and Regulations

## Boating Laws

- 31.109- Boater ED - If born after Sept 1, 1993, must have proof of boater ED.
- 31.123 - Response to Police Water Safety Vessel - operator must reduce power immediately, bring vessel to no-wake speed & stop until intentions of police vessel determined.
- 31.107 - Operation Age - operator must be at least 13 years of age unless accompanied by 18 year old who is lawful to operate (Boater ED)
- 31.095 - Excessive Speed - Speed must be reasonable and prudent to bring boat to a stop within the assured clear distance ahead.
- 31.096 - Reckless operation and excessive speed (Class B violation)
- 31.098 - Hazardous wake or wash
- 31.099 - Circular course around individual engaged in water activity
- 31.101 - Obstructing passage - may not obstruct the traveling portion of river/channel or any state-owned boat ramp.
- 31.102 - Operation in restricted area
- 31.1021 - Operate Vessel in Scuba Area - May not operate within 50' of diver down flag. May not operate at move headway (No wake speed) within 150'.
- 31.071 - Mirrors Required - when towing a skier/tuber. A spotter is also acceptable
- 31.093 - Rules of the road - Must follow USCG inland rules of operation
- 31.094 - Reckless or Negligent Operation - may not operate in a manner that endangers life, limb or property.
- 31.062 - Operate without Required Equipment
- 31.064 - Required Lighting - Green starboard, Red port visible 1 mile. White light visible 360 degrees for 2 miles. Kayaks/canoes must have one light.
- 31.065 - Sound Making device
- 31.066 - Personal Floatation devices
- 31.033 - Unauthorized Numbers
- 31.039 - Change of Address - required within 15 days
- 31.043 - HIN(hull #) - illegal to destroy, remove, alter or possess destroyed, removed or altered HIN (Class B)

## Required Equipment

- Registration Numbers
- Validation stickers
- Certificate number
- PFD for every occupant and person pulled
- 1 throwable floatation device
- All occupants under 13 must have PDF on when underway
- Sound making Device
- Fire Extinguisher

## Personal Watercraft (PWC) Restrictions

- Life Jackets must be worn by all on board or being towed
- Must have lanyard or cutoff switch attached
- May only operate between the hours of sunrise and sunset
- Cannot operate within 50' of another vessel or person
- Must be 13 years of age unless supervised by someone 18 or older who is on board
- May not operate in areas prohibited by boats/vessels
- May only pull skis or other recreational equipment if designed for 2 or more people
- May not jump wake recklessly or unnecessarily close
- Owners who permit a person under 18 to violate these restriction may receive the violation