



## BOAT RESPONSIBLY

Never boat under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or medication. Alcohol use is the leading known contributing factor in recreational boating fatalities.

### WEAR A LIFE JACKET WHILE BOATING.

87% of people who drowned in a recreational boating incident were not wearing a life jacket.

*Always wear a life jacket!*

### TAKE A BOATING SAFETY COURSE.

In incidents where the operator's instruction was known, 69% of fatalities occurred on boats where the operator had not received any boating safety instruction.

### GET A FREE VESSEL SAFETY CHECK EVERY YEAR.

These checks have revealed life-threatening problems even on boats owned by safe, responsible boaters.



## OPERATION DRY WATER

is a nationwide outreach and enforcement campaign with the goal of raising awareness of the dangers of

### BOATING UNDER THE INFLUENCE (BUI)

and providing heightened enforcement of boating under the influence laws through the efforts of local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies.



Produced under a grant from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund, administered by the U.S. Coast Guard.



## NATIONAL BOATING UNDER THE INFLUENCE AWARENESS & ENFORCEMENT CAMPAIGN





## OPERATION DRY WATER

Law enforcement agencies are participating in Operation Dry Water, an intensified effort of detection and deterrence aimed at boaters who are operating under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

### BOATING UNDER THE INFLUENCE (BUI)

is not only illegal, it is dangerous. If you boat under the influence of drugs or alcohol you are endangering your life and the lives of others.

**BOATING UNDER THE  
INFLUENCE IS AGAINST  
THE LAW.**



## FACTS ABOUT BUI

Alcohol can impair a boater's judgment, balance, vision, and reaction time. It can increase fatigue and susceptibility to the effects of cold water immersion.

Sun, wind, noise, vibration, and motion—common stressors in the boating environment—can intensify the side effects of alcohol, drugs, and some medications.

Alcohol use is the leading contributing factor in recreational boating deaths.

Alcohol use is dangerous for passengers, too. Intoxication can cause slips, falls overboard and other dangerous incidents.



## BUI ENFORCEMENT

Operating a recreational vessel with a Blood Alcohol Content of .08 or higher is against state and federal laws.

The U.S. Coast Guard standard for determining if a boat operator is intoxicated is when the effect of an intoxicant (alcohol or drugs) on the person's manner, disposition, speech, muscular movement, general appearance or behavior is apparent by observation and/or through the administration of a chemical test.

If you boat under the influence your voyage may be terminated, the boat may be impounded, and the operator may be arrested.

Penalties vary by state but can include fines, jail and loss of boating or even driving privileges.

