

2025 NASBLA Annual Conference
Des Moines Marriott Downtown
700 Grand Avenue | Des Moines, IA 50309

**Monday,
September 15, 2025**

8:00 am – 5:00 pm NASBLA Executive Board Meeting

8:00 am – 5:00 pm National Boating Standards Panel Meeting

8:00 pm – 11:00 pm Networking

**Tuesday,
September 16, 2025**

8:00 am – 12:00 pm National Boating Standards Panel Meeting

9:00 am – 4:00 pm Registration Open

10:00 am – 11:00 am First Time Attendee Orientation

10:00 am – 12:00 pm State Education Water Cooler Meeting

11:00 am – 12:00 pm New Boating Law Administrator (BLA) Orientation

12:00 pm – 3:30 pm Exhibitor Setup

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm NASBLA State Membership Meeting
NASBLA State Members only.

3:30 pm – 4:30 pm National Safe Boating Council (NSBC) Membership Meeting

5:00 pm – 6:00 pm Opening Ceremonies
Business Attire

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm Chair's Reception
Business Attire

8:00 pm – 11:00 pm Networking

**Wednesday,
September 17, 2025**

7:30 am – 5:00 pm Exhibits Open

7:30 am – 8:30 am Breakfast with Exhibitors

7:30 am – 12:00 pm Registration Open

8:00 am – 1:00 pm Office Hours with U.S. Coast Guards Boating Safety Division
(CG-BSX-2)

8:30 am – 8:35 am Welcome & Opening Remarks

8:35 am – 9:15 am **Long-Distance Leadership**
*Chris Jones, Boating Law Administrator, New Jersey State Police,
Marine Services Bureau*

9:15 am – 10:00 am **The Good, the Bad and the Ugly, Building a Reasonably Safe
Product**
John Adey, President, American Boat and Yacht Council

10:00 am – 10:15 am *Break with Exhibitors*

10:15 am – 10:45 am
Breakout / Training Sessions

Entry Level Training: How Much is Too Much?

Jason Russo, Boating Law Administrator, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Ser Captain

Brian Rehwinkel, Boating Safety Outreach and Education Coordinator, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC)

Mark Chanski, Education Director, National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA)

Vessel Identification Systems

Kristin Williams, RBS Specialist, Program Management and Operations Branch (CG-BSX-21)

11:00 am – 11:15 am

Results of the Waterway Management Survey - Recommendations for State Consideration

Peter Francis, Boating Law Administrator, Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (CT DEEP)

11:15 am – 12:00 pm

Boat Incident Report Narratives - How Good Narratives Lead to Better Analysis

Stacey Brown, Boating Law Administrator, Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR)

Josh Landrum, Boating Investigator, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA)

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Lunch (on own)

1:30 pm – 4:30 pm

Business Meeting
Business Attire

4:30 pm – 5:30 pm Exhibitor Reception

8:00 pm – 11:00 pm Networking

**Thursday,
September 18, 2025**

7:30 am – 5:00 pm Exhibits Open

7:30 am – 8:30 am Breakfast with Exhibitors

7:30 am – 12:00 pm Registration Open

8:00 am – 5:00 pm Office Hours with U.S. Coast Guards Boating Safety Division
(CG-BSX-2)

8:30 am – 9:15 am **U.S. Coast Guard Boating Safety Division Update**
*Verne Gifford, Division Chief, U.S. Coast Guard's Boating Safety
Division (CG-BSX-2)*

9:15 am – 9:45 am **Navigating Insights: Understanding the National Recreational
Boating Safety Survey (NRBSS)**
*Lindsey Witt-Swanson, Senior Research Director, NORC at the
University of Chicago*

10:00 am – 10:30 am **Flood Response**
*Greg Harson, Captain, Iowa Department of Natural Resources,
Law Enforcement Bureau*

*Seth Snow, Boating Investigator, Tennessee Wildlife Resources
Agency*

Responding to Cold Water Immersion Incidents
*Joe McCullough, Boating Law Administrator, Alaska Office of
Boating Safety*

10:00 am – 10:30 am
Breakout / Training Sessions
Presenter's Guide to Paddlesport Safety: Kayak
Billy Doss, Conservation Officer, Indiana Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division

10:30 am – 10:45 am
Break with Exhibitors

10:45 am – 11:15 am
Breakout / Training Sessions
All Things ECOS
Jerad Bluem, Game Warden, North Dakota Game and Fish Department

Smart Start for Safe Paddling

Kelsey Bracewell, Director of Education, Insurance, and Membership, American Canoe Association (ACA)

Pam Dillon, Project Specialist, National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA)

Virgil Chambers, IBO Program Co-Manager, National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA)

New Hull Identification Number (HIN) PowerPoint

Caroline Mantel, Director of Business Development, Boat History Report

Will Hillyer, RBS Specialist, Recreational Boating Product Assurance Branch (CG-BSX-23)

11:30 am – 12:00 pm
ROI Measuring Results of Funded Programs
Peg Phillips, Executive Director, National Safe Boating Council (NSBC)

Ken Waldron, Producer & Creative Director, National Safe Boating Council (NSBC)

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm
Lunch (on own)

1:30 pm – 2:00 pm

Feasibility Study with Duquesne University – ADVs a Private Enterprise?

Mark Sweppenhiser, Boating Law Administrator, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC)

2:15 pm – 2:45 pm
Breakout / Training Sessions

The Human Element of Thorough Investigations

Roy Smith, Boating Investigator, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA)

Inflatable Life Jackets: Operation and Maintenance Essentials for Boating Safety Professionals

Lili Colby, Industry and Outreach Representative, Mustang Survival

Finance & Grants Crosswalk

Al Johnson, Boating Law Administrator, Vermont State Police, Marine Division, Department of Public Safety

2:45 pm – 3:15 pm

Break with Exhibitors

3:15 pm

Exhibitor Breakdown

3:15 pm – 3:45 pm
Breakout / Training Sessions

CPW's Marine Evidence Recovery Team

Grant Brown, Boating Law Administrator, Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Brian Phillips, Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Boat Safety Education at the Illinois High School Association Bass Fishing State Tournament

Ben Fowler, CEO & Founder, PARKS360

Unlocking Electronic Vehicle Titling: Streamlining Vehicle Title Management

Paul Steier, Director, Vehicle Programs and Services, American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators

4:00 pm – 4:30 pm
**Breakout / Training
Sessions**

Practical Marine Fire Investigations for First Responders
*Glen Lawson, Certified Marine Investigator, International
Association of Marine Investigators*

Iowa's Seasonal Water Patrol Program - A Recruitment Tool
Shawn Meier, Captain, Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Knowledge Retention Grant
*Mark Chanski, Education Director, National Association of State
Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA)*

4:45 pm – 5:00 pm

Closing Ceremonies
2026 NASBLA Annual Conference Preview

5:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Awards Ceremony

*Subject to change.
August 13, 2025*