

BOATING SAFETY

BASIC RULES FOR SAFE BOATING:

- Must have at least 1 LIFE JACKET on board for each person.
- Have at least 1 FIRE EXTINGUISHER on board.
- Know RIGHT OF WAY & traffic rules of the water.
- Obey NO WAKE ZONES.
- Must stay at least 100 ft. clear of DIVER DOWN flag. Example:



WATER SKIING IS GREAT!

- Always wear a LIFE JACKET.
- Always have a SPOTTER.
- Keep your eyes open for possible WATER HAZARDS.
- Use common sense.

You must use a SKIER DOWN FLAG - at least 1ft. square & orange in color. Example:



There are serious penalties for drinking while operating a vessel.

PERSONAL WATERCRAFT:

- Always wear your LIFE JACKET
- You are subject to the same RIGHT OF WAY rules as boats.
- WAKE JUMPING or operating in close proximity to others is prohibited.
- Keep a SHARP LOOK OUT for other water users.

Obey NO WAKE ZONES.

BOAT RAMP ETIQUETTE:

Launching

- Don't pull onto ramp until your boat is ready to launch.
- Prepare for launching in the parking area. Remove covers, load equipment, remove stern tie downs, attach mooring lines, etc., before pulling onto the ramp. **Don't release your bow winch line. Do unplug your trailer lights! Is your drain plug in?**
- **When ready**, pull into line to launch. Wait your turn. **Be courteous.**
- It takes at least two people to efficiently and courteously launch your boat: one to handle the boat and one to take care of the tow vehicle.
- Launch on the designated side of the ramp. Normally this is on the left side of the ramp when facing shore, but it may vary. Most ramps are marked.
- When your turn comes, back into the water, release your boat from the trailer and **get both the boat and tow vehicle clear** of the launch area as quickly as possible. If you feel competent, power your boat off the trailer. Be courteous.

Loading

- Know which side of the ramp is designated for loading.
- Don't block the loading area with your boat until your tow vehicle is ready to load. Wait until you are clear of the launch area to unload gear.
- Get in line and wait your turn. **Be courteous.**
- As soon as your trailer is in the water, load your boat and secure your bow line. If you feel competent, power your boat onto the trailer.
- Retrieve the boat and trailer from the water as quickly as possible.
- Get clear of the ramp. Pull into the parking area to finish securing your boat and unload gear. **Don't stop on the ramp.**

When your boat is secure, leave the parking area and drive home safely. **Did you remove the drain plug? Are your trailer lights plugged in and working?**