BOATING SAFETY TIPS

In 2017, the Coast Guard counted 4,291 accidents that involved 658 deaths, 2,629 injuries. Here are some facts and tips to keep you your family safe this boating season! Have fun and be safe!



CHECK THE WEATHER



How does the weather look? You don't want to head out on the water if there is rain or heavy winds!



LIGHT IT UP



Check that all handheld lights have batteries and are working properly!



CHECK IT OUT



Make sure your boat is running properly and that your navigation lights and horn work before leaving! You can also get your boat checked out by the Coast Guard for free!



CHECK YOUR FUEL



Check the gas gauge and be sure you have enough fuel to get back from where you are going!



SAVE A LIFE



Does everyone have their own life jacket that fits? You should have at least one lifesaver.



IN CASE OF EMERGENCY



Make sure everyone knows where a first aid kit and the fire extinguishers are.



PHONE A FRIEND



Do a radio check to make sure the VHF radio is working and be sure to call a friend and let them know where you are going before you leave the dock.



DON'T DRINK AND BOAT



Do not drink alcohol before or while operating the boat. It is illegal and can cause an accident!



of drowning victims were not wearing a lifejacket



of fatalities had alcohol listed as the leading factor.



of fatalities occurred on boats where the operator had received safety training.



of fatal boating accident victims drowned.

