

What You Need For Your Boat

- The Missouri watercraft registration certificate issued by the Missouri Department of Revenue.
- Outboard motors, regardless of horsepower, (excluding electric trolling motors), are required to have a certificate of title and to be registered with the state of Missouri.
- A Coast Guard approved, wearable life jacket for everyone on board, of the proper size, in good condition and readily accessible. Each person under the age of seven who is on board any watercraft shall wear a personal flotation device which is approved by the United States Coast Guard. This law does not apply when the person under the age of seven is in a part of a watercraft which is fully enclosed, where such enclosure will prevent such person from falling out of or being thrown from the watercraft.
- If your boat is 16 feet or longer, then you are also required to carry a Coast Guard approved throw-able device.
- Motorboats shall carry on board at least the following United States Coast Guard approved fire extinguishers:
 1. Every motorboat less than 26' in length, carrying or using gasoline or any other flammable or toxic fluid, one B1 type fire extinguisher;
 2. Every class 2 motorboat, one B2 or two B1 type fire extinguishers;
 3. Every class 3 motorboat:
 - a. Three B1 type fire extinguishers; or
 - b. One B2 type and one B1 type fire extinguisher; or
 - c. A fixed fire extinguishing system and one B2 type fire extinguisher; or
 - d. A fixed fire extinguishing system and two B1 type fire extinguishers.
- All vessels from 16' to 40' shall have a sounding device, such as a horn or a whistle. All vessels over 40' shall have at least a sounding device and one bell.
- Every person born after January 1, 1984, who operates a vessel on the lakes of this state shall possess, on the vessel, a boating safety identification card issued by the Missouri State Highway Patrol or its agent and a photo ID, or a boating safety identification card issued by their home state from a NASBLA approved boating safety course. Missouri residents may also have the boating safety endorsement added to their Missouri driver's license in lieu of carrying the additional card.
- All vessels shall display from sunset to sunrise proper navigational lights when under way, and during such time no other lights, continuous spotlights or docking lights, or other non-prescribed lights shall be exhibited.

What You Need For Your Personal Watercraft

- No person shall operate or ride upon a personal watercraft unless each person aboard is wearing a wearable type personal flotation device approved by the United States Coast Guard.
- A person operating a personal watercraft equipped by the manufacturer with a lanyard-type engine cutoff switch shall attach such lanyard to the person's body, clothing, or personal flotation device as appropriate for the specific vessel.
- No person under fourteen years of age shall operate a personal watercraft on the waters of this state, except that a person under fourteen years of age may operate a personal watercraft if a person at least sixteen years of age is aboard the personal watercraft.
- Every personal watercraft shall at all times be operated in a reasonable and prudent manner. Prohibited acts include;
 - weaving through congested vessel traffic,
 - jumping the wake of another vessel when visibility around such vessel is obstructed,
 - becoming airborne or completely leaving the water while crossing the wake of another vessel within one hundred feet of the vessel creating the wake,
 - operating at a speed in excess of a slow-no wake speed within fifty feet of any vessel or any person in or on the water,
 - operating at such a speed and proximity to another vessel so as to require the operator to swerve to avoid collision,
 - no person shall operate a personal watercraft on any waters of this state for towing a person or persons on water skis, or a surfboard, or similar device unless there is a person on the personal watercraft, in addition to the operator, or an approved ski mirror attached to the personal watercraft, in a position to observe the progress of the person or persons being towed.
- No person who owns or who has control of a personal watercraft shall permit it to be operated in violation of this section.
- Personal watercraft may not be operated between sunset and sunrise unless equipped with proper navigational lights.
- Personal watercraft must have a type B, USCG approved fire extinguisher on board.

What You Need For Your Canoe Or Kayak

- Federal law requires a Coast Guard approved, wearable life jacket for everyone onboard, of the proper size, in good condition, and readily accessible. Children under seven years of age must wear a USCG approved PFD at all times on board any vessel.
- A white flashlight or lantern must be displayed between sunset and sunrise and during times of restricted visibility.

Missouri State Highway Patrol emergency contact number:
1-800-525-5555 or *55 on a cellular phone
www.mshp.dps.mo.gov or (e-mail) mshppied@mshp.dps.mo.gov