

## Some helpful DOs and DON'Ts

### Top 10 DOs:

1. Wear your lifejacket!
2. Take an approved boating safety course.
3. Boat sober!
4. Come prepared; bring drinking water, sunglasses, sunscreen, etc.
5. Use the Rule for Fuel: 1/3 for trip out, 1/3 for trip back, and 1/3 for emergencies. Remember to run the blower.
6. Learn and follow the boating "rules of the road."
7. Check the weather, watch for changing water conditions.
8. Always pay attention!
9. Inspect your vessel (battery, lines, fuel, etc.).
10. Carbon monoxide is a silent killer: stay alert, stay alive.

### Top 10 DON'Ts:

1. **DON'T** drink alcohol while boating.
2. **DON'T** ride on the outside of a boat (such as bow riding).
3. **DON'T** ride too closely to other boats. Remember, boats don't have brakes!
4. **DON'T** jump wakes.
5. **DON'T** tie up to buoys or markers.
6. **DON'T** litter.
7. **DON'T** fish within harbors or where people are swimming.
8. **DON'T** bring glass or styrofoam containers into the park.
9. **DON'T** make sudden turns without looking for other vessels.
10. **DON'T** operate a vessel above wakeless speed within 200 feet of people in the water or at the shoreline.



## Stay Safe, Boat Safe!

[www.BoatLakeMead.com](http://www.BoatLakeMead.com)

### Essential Emergency Information

Lake Mead National Recreation Area Dispatch Center  
In an emergency call: 800.680.5851  
Non-emergencies call: 702.293.8998

National Weather Service Forecast Line: 702.736.8854  
From your boat radio: Marine Band 16

### Partners



California Department of  
Boating and Waterways  
[www.dbw.ca.gov](http://www.dbw.ca.gov)  
888.326.2822



Arizona Game & Fish  
Department  
[www.azgfd.com](http://www.azgfd.com)  
602.942.3000



Nevada Department of  
Wildlife  
[www.ndow.org](http://www.ndow.org)  
702.486.5127



National Park Service  
Lake Mead National  
Recreation Area  
[www.nps.gov/lame](http://www.nps.gov/lame)  
702.293.8990



Personal Watercraft Industry Association  
[www.pwia.org](http://www.pwia.org)  
202.737.9768

# Stay Safe, Boat Safe!



[www.BoatLakeMead.com](http://www.BoatLakeMead.com)

## Our Mission

The Lake Mead Safe Boating Partnership's mission is to reduce the number of boating accidents and fatalities that occur by raising awareness of safe boating practices on Lakes Mead and Mohave.



This partnership is a joint effort of National Park Service, Arizona Game and Fish Department, California Department of Boating and Waterways, Nevada

Department of Wildlife, and the Personal Watercraft Industry Association. It focuses on getting everyone in the Lake Mead and Lake Mohave boating community involved in boating safety.

## Why Lake Mead?

Lake Mead National Recreation Area is home to some of the best boating in America. Each year 8-10 million visitors come to Lake Mead and Lake Mohave to enjoy hundreds of miles of coastline, canyons, and coves. About half of all visitors come from out-of-state, many from California. Boating of all kinds is popular within Lake Mead National Recreation Area. Waterskiing and personal watercraft use are favorite activities on the broad expanses of open water. Lakes Mead and Mohave also offer some of the best sailing, windsurfing, houseboating, and fishing opportunities in the nation.



If you take the proper steps to prepare for a boating trip and follow the boating laws and regulations you can avoid most accidents.

## Did you know this about Lake Mead National Recreation Area?

- About 50% of all boating fatalities involve a person who wasn't wearing a lifejacket.
- Alcohol is a contributing factor in the majority of accidents on the water.
- Most boating accidents involve a person who hasn't taken a boating safety course.

## Play It Safe

### Always wear a lifejacket

Boats must have one serviceable U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) approved lifejacket for each person and one throwable flotation device on board. We strongly urge everyone to wear a lifejacket while the boat is underway or when swimming off the vessel. Although state regulations differ, we support the state law that children 12 and younger wear lifejackets at all times.



PWC lifejacket rule: Anyone on board a personal watercraft or participating in tow sports such as waterskiing must wear a lifejacket at all times.

### Take a safety course

We recommend taking a boating safety course before you operate a boat in Lake Mead National Recreation Area. Nevada law requires anyone born after January 1, 1983 to pass a boating safety course and carry proof with you on Lakes Mead and Mohave. You can find information about classes and an on-line safety course at [www.ndow.org](http://www.ndow.org).



### Have a fire extinguisher

Motorboats under 26 feet must carry at least one fire extinguisher. PWC must have a serviceable B-I USCG fire extinguisher on board.

## Use your PWC lanyard

On PWC equipped with a lanyard stop switch, the stop switch must function properly and the lanyard must be used properly by the operator.

## Use a flag while towing

Remember, if you're towing someone, a person needs to be the designated observer and continually view the person being towed. Anytime a person being towed is in the water, a bright orange flag should be displayed.

## Report accidents

All boating accidents should be reported to the Lake Mead National Recreation Area Dispatch Center. The non-emergency number is 702.293.8998. For emergencies only, please call 800.680.5851. All accidents must be reported within 24 hours.

## Tell someone where you are going

Let someone know where you are going and when you will return. Be specific. Make sure to tell someone the areas of the lake you will be visiting and which launch ramp you parked your vehicle and trailer.

## Register your vessel

All vessels must have a registration number according to the rules and regulations established by the states. Numbers must be displayed properly on the hull and valid registration papers carried on the vessel.

## Maintain a distance from other boats

Boats don't have brakes and operators need to maintain a safe distance from other boats to avoid collisions.



## Check weather conditions

Before you leave home and while you are on the water call the National Weather Service's forecast line at 702.736.8854.