

Your role in keeping our waterways safe and secure



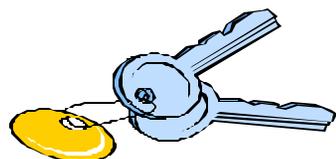
Keep your distance from all military, cruise-line, or commercial shipping! Do not approach within **100-yards**, and slow to minimum speed within **500-yards** of any U.S. naval vessel, including any U.S. military or military supply vessel. Violators of the Naval Vessel Protection Zone face up to 6 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine, not to mention a quick and severe response. Approaching certain other commercial vessels may result in an immediate boarding.

Observe and avoid all security zones. Avoid commercial port operation areas, especially those that involve military, cruise-line or petroleum facilities. Observe and avoid other restricted areas near dams, power plants, etc. Violators will be perceived as a threat, and will face a quick, determined and severe response.



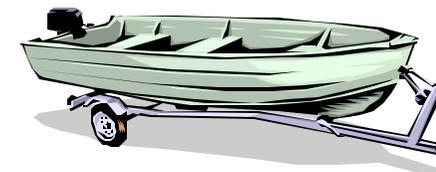
Do not stop or anchor beneath bridges or in the channel. If you do, then expect to be boarded by law enforcement officials.

Keep a sharp eye out for anything that looks peculiar or out of the ordinary. Report all activities that seem suspicious to the local authorities, the Coast Guard, or the port or marina security. Do not approach or challenge those acting in a suspicious manner.



Always secure and lock your boat when not on board. This includes while visiting marina restaurants or a friend's dock and other piers. Never leave your boat accessible to others. Always take the keys to the boat with you.

When storing your boat, make sure it is secure and its engine is disabled. If it is on a trailer, make the trailer as immovable as possible.



How else can you help?

First, make sure your boat is safe and that it meets all safety requirements and regulations. Getting a *Vessel Safety Check* is an important first step. You can arrange for a free safety check of your boat by contacting your local Coast Guard Auxiliary or U.S. Power Squadron.



Second, know and obey the navigation rules. To learn more about boating classes in your area, call (800) 336-2628.

Remain sober and alert when out on the water. Stay in control of your craft and respect the rights of others lawfully enjoying the waterways.

Finally, wear your life jacket as a badge of support for your Coast Guard men and women.

By displaying your commitment to boating safety, you help reduce the demand on rescue resources and help keep the focus on homeland security efforts.



For more information on how you can help, call (800) 368-5647 or go to www.uscgboating.org today!



Report:

Suspicious persons conducting unusual activities, such as near bridges or high security areas on or near the water

Individuals establishing roadside stands near marinas or other waterfront facilities

Unknown persons photographing or creating diagrams of such things as the underside of bridges, the area around nuclear power plants, and waterfront facilities near what might be high-risk vessels

Unknown or suspicious persons loitering for extended periods of time in waterfront areas

Suspicious persons renting or attempting to procure or "borrow" watercraft

Suspicious vendors attempting to sell/deliver merchandise or drop off packages in waterfront areas

If you observe suspicious behavior on or near the waterfront, contact local law enforcement immediately!



Keeping Our Waterways Safe and Secure

Now is the time to get back on the water... and enjoy the many rewards and opportunities our marine environment offers.



But, it's also a time when we must all be more cautious and constantly aware of our surroundings!

Here's what you need to know to prepare for this boating season!