

ATTENTION MOTORBOAT RENTERS

IMPORTANT BOATING/OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

SAFETY ON THE WATER

- **Wear a Life Jacket:** All boats must have a USCG-approved and properly sized wearable life jacket on board for each person.
- **Be Cautious of Your Wake:** Boats must not create a wake within 100 feet of shorelines, docks, launching ramps, downed skiers, swimmers and anchored/moored/drifted boats.
- **Use the Engine Cut-off Switch Lanyard:** Attach it to your life jacket, body or clothing to shut off the engine if ejected from the boat.
- **Carbon Monoxide is Deadly:** Avoid idling and exposure to other boats' emissions.
- **Stop that Prop:** Always shut off your engine before picking up a swimmer or skier.
- **Stay Away from Dams:** Signs and buoys mark many dams. It is illegal and dangerous to boat near dams. Strong hydraulic currents can trap and drown individuals. Keep your distance upstream and downstream.
- **Boats Do Not Have Brakes:** Practice using the throttle to steer away from objects.
- **Watch the Weather:** Bad weather can kill boaters. If a storm is near, head for shore or a safe harbor.

NEGLIGENT OR RECKLESS BEHAVIOR IS ILLEGAL

- Maintain a safe speed. Any damage, including from your wake, is your responsibility.
- When approaching another boat head on, yield to the right.
- When overtaking, pass on either side. The boat being overtaken should maintain its course and speed.
- In a crossing situation, the boat on your right has the right of way. Adjust course, slow down, and pass behind the right-side boat. You have the right of way over boats on your left, but yield when in doubt.

IT IS ILLEGAL TO:

- Operate any boat while under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance.
- Operate a watercraft in a reckless or dangerous manner.
- Operate within 100 feet of a skier towed by another boat.
- Operate a motorboat less than 20 feet in length at greater than slow, no-wake speed while a person is standing on or in the boat.
- Operate a motorboat not equipped with railings or other safeguards at greater than slow, no-wake speed while a person is riding on the bow decking, gunwales, transom or motor cover.

MINIMUM AGE OF OPERATION - GREATER THAN 25 HP

- Persons 11 years of age or younger may not operate.
- Persons born on or after January 1, 1982, may not operate unless they have obtained and carry a Boating Safety Education Certificate.

More information:



[fishandboat.com/Boating/
Pages/default.aspx](http://fishandboat.com/Boating/Pages/default.aspx)



**Penalty for Violation as Provided by Law
Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission**



WEAR IT
National Safe Boating Council
Pennsylvania