

West Harbor Recreation, Inc. Boat Rental Safety Checklist

based on USCG/NASBLA and other State forms

Life Jackets Don't Work if You Don't Wear Them!



I understand that my passengers and I *should* wear an approved and properly-fitted life jacket but *must* have one readily available and know how to put it on.



I know that Children 12 and younger *must* wear their properly-sized life jacket at all times when aboard.

I have assigned a responsible adult to keep track of the whereabouts and safety of each child on board.

Take Early & Decisive Action to avoid Collisions!



I understand when crossing the path of another boat, I should yield to the boat on my right (starboard).

IF EITHER I or THE OTHER BOAT FAIL TO ACT...



I understand there is the threat of a collision and it is my responsibility to slow down, steer away and/or stop.



I understand that when I meet another boat head-on I should steer to the right (starboard).



I understand that when I overtake another boat I should pass on the left (port) side, leave plenty of room, and yield (give way) to that boat. If conditions require it, I may pass on the right (starboard) side.



I understand that I must yield (give way) to all boats under sail, oars, or paddle. I understand that I also must give way to commercial vessels, especially those engaged in fishing.

Boat Safe = Boat Sober! and other rules...



I understand that under Federal and State law it is a crime to operate a boat while persons are sitting on the front (bow), sides (gunwales), or rear (stern). This behavior is considered grossly negligent operation of a boat.



I understand that using alcohol, drugs and certain prescription medicines may impair my ability to operate this boat safely.

I will not operate this boat or allow anyone else to operate this boat while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.



I understand that discarding trash or human waste overboard is damaging to the environment and is illegal.



I understand that five short blasts of a horn or whistle signal danger or need for assistance.



I understand that I am not to operate this rental boat other than during daylight hours, regardless of whether it is equipped with running lights.



I understand that I am not to tow anybody behind this rental boat (no waterskiing, wakeboarding, or tubing).



I have been informed that the total capacity for this boat is ___ people and ___ pounds of gear. I will not exceed those totals.

I understand that overloading this boat is unsafe and against the law.



If this boat is equipped with an engine cut-off device (kill switch), I will use it.

Please also see the reverse side, sign and date

West Harbor Recreation, Inc. Boat Rental Safety Checklist

based on USCG/NASBLA and other State forms

Stay in Control! When in doubt, SLOW DOWN!



I understand that this boat is powerful, and that it is easy to lose control if I go too fast, turn too quickly, or encounter waves or the wake of another boat.



I understand that for some boats, the speed control is on the engine tiller and it is possible to cause an abrupt and dangerous change of speed while turning.

I understand this boat has no brakes, so that stopping quickly is difficult or impossible -- especially if I am going too fast.

I understand decelerating or turning too quickly could cause a wave to enter the rear (stern) of this boat, causing it to swamp or capsize.

I will not operate this boat at speeds that are unsafe for the conditions.



I will obey No Wake zones (signs) and will travel at a slow no-wake maximum 5-mph speed when within 200 feet of the shore, a person in the water, a diving flag, or a dock, float, or moored boat.

Stay on-board!



I understand that it is best for all passengers to remain seated whenever this boat is in motion.

I understand that standing or moving about can cause falls overboard or -- in some cases -- even overturn the boat.



I will instruct my passengers to keep a firm grip on the boat and stay low if they must move while this boat is in motion.

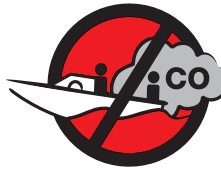


I understand falling into cold water can lead to cold-water shock and hypothermia, which will impede my ability for self-rescue, even if I am good swimmer.

Have fun on the water, but be safe about it.



I will not permit swimming, diving, or jumping from or near the boat unless the boat motor is turned off, the keys are removed, and the propeller has stopped spinning. Items such as long hair, loose clothing, or life jacket straps can become entangled in moving parts resulting in severe injury and drowning.



I understand the motor of this boat produces Carbon Monoxide, a colorless, odorless, and lethal gas that can quickly affect people in the zone (30 feet) around the boat.



I will only anchor where it is easy for other boats to see this boat (so long as the area is anchorable).

I will anchor this boat only from the front (bow).



I know the location of and how to use the following safety equipment: whistle or horn, paddles or oars, anchors, bilge pump or bailer, throwable flotation device, and fire extinguisher.



I know what to do in the case of a person overboard, collision, or other dangerous situation.



I confirm that I am aware of and will pay attention to local hazards such as shallow water, submerged objects, currents, and weather conditions.



I acknowledge this form is not a substitute for proper training and experience, and that I alone am responsible for the safety of my passengers and adherence to all applicable laws.

Renter's Signature

Date