

JULY 2024

COMMANDER'S COLUMN

AHOY THERE.....AHOY THERE!!! Safe Boating through Education is Alive and Appreciated!
It looks like the summer boating/fishing season has finally got here. Here's wishing everyone a safe and enjoyable summer on the water.

We continue to get requests from the public about our safe boating classes. This reaffirms that our mission statement "Safe Boating through Education" is alive and much appreciated by the boating public.

I want to let folks know that we have decided to postpone our annual summer picnic until later in the summer or early fall. We'll discuss potential dates and location at our next scheduled social time Sunday July 21st at 1400 at the Fisherman's Grotto in Charleston. In past years at our summer picnic we have gathered around noon and started eating when the fish and oysters were ready. Stay tuned for more details in the near future. See you there!

Remember Together Everyone Accomplishes More

"TEAM"!



Cdr Craig M Beyer, AP

Boaters Reminded of Duties After an Incident

The Oregon State Marine Board wants to remind boaters that it's state law to help and render aid in cases where another boat is swamped, capsizes or is involved in another incident with property damage or personal injury. It's also about being a "good neighbor" on the water.

Failure to fulfill the duties of the boat operator (ORS 830.475) could result in a Class A misdemeanor citation.

In cases where the boat operator leaves the scene of a boat accident where there is personal injury or death, the boater may be charged with a Class C felony.

"Boaters need to pay close attention to other people recreating on the water around them, and in many cases, everyday boaters become heroes when others go overboard, helping avert further tragedy," said Brian Paulsen, Boating Safety Program Manager for the Marine Board.

Oregon's waterways are increasingly congested, but everyone has the same right to recreate. Please be mindful and remember to share the waterways while recreating responsibly.

Learn more about the Marine Board, the agency's programs and its marine law enforcement partners.

MEETINGS & EVENTS

Coos Bay Squadron Social Meeting, July 21, 1400 at Fisherman's Grotto, Charleston.

Fall 2024 Governing Board
PITTSBURGH, PA, SEPT. 22-30



Fellowship & fun await in Pittsburgh Join your friends —new and old—in Pittsburgh for the 2024 Governing Board Meeting of United States Power

Squadrons, America's Boating Club

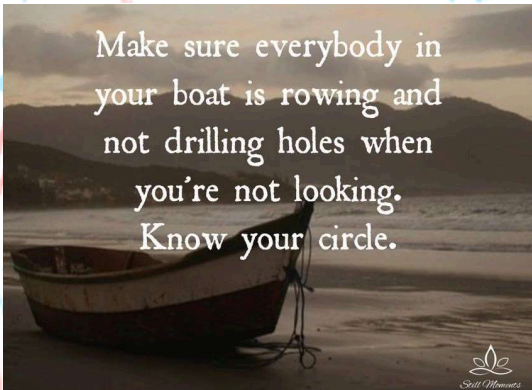
OREGON — COOS BAY — COOS RIVER — Bridge notice

The Coast Guard has approved a temporary closure of the Chandler Bridge draw (LLNR 9125) from 0600 on 22 Jul 2024 to 2359 on 02 Aug 2024. The Chandler Bridge crosses the COOS River at waterway mile 2.2 near Eastside, OR. This draw closure supports draw cable replacements. Once the replacement begins, the draw of the subject bridge cannot be opened for navigation until the new cables have been installed and tested. The draw in the closed-to-navigation position provides 25 feet of vertical clearance at high tide. Vessels that do not need a draw opening may transit under the Chandler Bridge at any time. For more information contact Bryan Mast at bryan.k.mast@odot.oregon.gov. Chart 18587 LNM: 26/24Sept. 22-30.

OAR: Opportunity + Action = Results

If you just sit on the dock waiting for your ship to come in you're in for a long wait. You have to put your oars in the water and row out to meet your ship of dreams. We have to row our own boat in life or we'll never get out of the shallows.

~ Dennis Gaskill



Make sure everybody in your boat is rowing and not drilling holes when you're not looking. Know your circle.



Enhanced Patrols July 4-6 Looking for Impaired Boaters

The Marine Board, Sheriff's Offices across the state and the Oregon State Police will be participating in Operation Dry Water, July 4-6, as part of a nationally coordinated effort to reduce the number of accidents and fatalities related to boating under the influence of intoxicants (BUII).

Boating under the influence of intoxicants means prescription drugs, alcohol, inhalants, marijuana, or any other substance that impairs a person's ability to make sound judgments and safely operate a boat. The effects of drugs and alcohol are amplified on the water, due to the combined impacts of environmental stressors like sun glare, wind, wave motion and other factors. Alcohol also dehydrates the body making sudden immersion into cold water at an even greater risk for drowning.

Impaired boaters face serious penalties. The consequences of a BUII conviction include possible jail time, a \$6,250 fine and loss of boating privileges. Marine officers can legally obtain blood, breath or urine if a boater fails field sobriety tests. The US Coast Guard's nationwide statistics for 2023 noted alcohol use as the leading known contributing factor in boating accidents where the primary cause was known and was listed as the leading factor in 17% of deaths.

"Recreational boating is a relatively safe activity when boating sober, wearing life jackets, and staying aware of the surroundings," Paulsen adds. So far this year, the common denominators for boating fatalities are operator inattention, not wearing a life jacket and operator inexperience.

If you see an impaired operator or someone who is operating in a way that threatens others' safety, call 911 to report

For more information about Operation Dry Water, visit www.operationdrywater.org.

Every holiday and heat wave brings water-related incidents, and many people find themselves in situations needing rescue. Right now, water levels on many rivers are running high with very strong currents. Winter landslides and soil saturation have added a lot of woody debris to area rivers in the Willamette Valley. Boaters must be vigilant by keeping a constant lookout by scanning from bank to bank throughout their trip. On moving water, this includes scouting ahead for obstructions, and not getting into water beyond your abilities. A great tool for trip planning is the Marine Board's Obstructions Map. Reported obstructions are listed along with recommendations on the safest navigation path.



"If you intend to recreate on Oregon's waters over the next few days, drink plenty of water, get the right gear for the water conditions, wear your lifejacket and pay attention to your surroundings," says Brian Paulsen, Boating Safety Program Manager for the Oregon State Marine Board. "Cold water doesn't discriminate and impacts everyone the same way. Plan on getting wet and wear a life jacket so you can buy yourself time to get out of any challenging situations." Cold water immersion will cause blood to move away from a person's arms and legs, which leads to cramping; often if a life jacket isn't worn, a person cannot self-rescue. The initial shock also causes an involuntary gasp reflex for air and can lead to inhaling water if a person is not wearing a life jacket.

In 2023, there were 13 recreational boating fatalities and of them, 11 victims were not wearing life jackets. Three of the 13 victims were solo operators. Seven victims were passengers and six were boat operators. Seven involved paddlecraft (including one sailboat under wind power) and six involved motorized boats. Many of these deaths were preventable.

For more information about equipment requirements, rules of the road for paddlecraft and motorized boats, and boating laws and rules, visit Boat.Oregon.gov.

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<https://Boat.Oregon.gov>

Remember to Boat Safe, Boat Sober, and always wear your life jacket.

Are you Properly Equipped?

All boats have equipment requirements based on length and boat type. Know what you must carry on board and how to use the equipment. We recommend always doing a pre-season check and keeping all your gear maintained according to the manufacturer's instructions.



America's Boating Channel™ Tips for Towed Sports Safety

The summer is in full swing, which makes the topic of our safety message today even more urgent – Towed Sports Safety. As our waterways become crowded during this time of year, it is vital to identify and implement important measures for safely water skiing, wake boarding, knee boarding, wake surfing, and tubing.

Videos like this one underscore the need for safety considerations when participating in towed sports. Did you know that according to the Coast Guard, towed water sports account for over 400 boating accidents a year. In addition to a properly fitted life jacket, get one designed for the type of towed sport you are enjoying.



These measures are presented in the “Towed Sports Safety” video where viewers learn about proper equipment selection and preparing to tow a person. For instance, tube ropes should be around 60 feet long and heavier than water ski and wake board ropes that should be about 75 feet long. Also, ski ropes should have more give than wake board ropes. Additionally, the video features tips for operating underway.

Follow the video link above or visit <https://www.youtube.com/@AmericasBoatingChannel> to find

this and other safe boating videos, which are an excellent tool to help recruit participants to our educational program and to membership. Invite your friends and neighbors to watch, like and subscribe to America’s Boating Channel to introduce them to what our organization has to offer.

In addition to YouTube, these professionally produced high-definition safe boating and boater education videos are available via the America's Boating Channel free, on-demand app on Apple TV, Roku or FireTV. America’s Boating Channel™ is produced by the United States Power Squadrons® (USPS) under a grant from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund administered by the U.S. Coast Guard.



Boaters Prepare to Play



They had to put up a sign at the boat ramp? REALLY?

The Woman In A Boat

There is a woman in a boat, on a lake, wearing a coat.
 If you want to know her name, it's in the riddle I just wrote.
 What's her name?

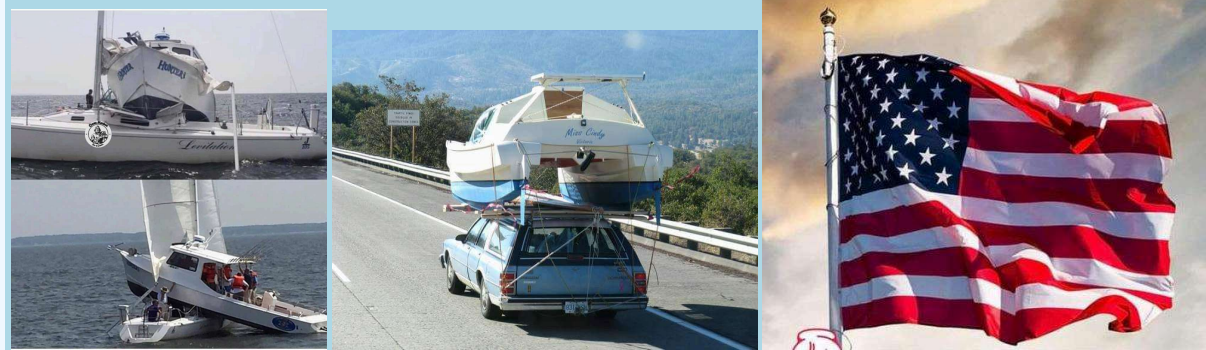
3 hardest things to say

I'm sorry

I was wrong

I'm not fishing this weekend.

A new study has just proven that people who don't regularly fish will eventually die. I know what you're thinking but why take the chance?



2023 - 2024 OFFICERS
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MEETINGS
 Due to Squadron INACTIVE STATUS meetings will be SOCIAL get-togethers on the **THIRD SUNDAY** each month. at 1400 (2:00 PM) at FISHERMAN'S GROTTTO, Charleston.

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