Watercraft Rental Orientation

Cold Water and Life Jackets

I understand the number one threat to boaters in Alaska is cold water, regardless of swimming ability or experience. Wearing a life jacket is the single most important factor in surviving a cold water immersion event.

I understand passengers and I should each wear a properly fitted and fastened, U.S. Coast Guard approved life jacket at all times when in the boat. Each life jacket should be in serviceable condition:

- no rips or holes in fabric
- no broken zippers, buckles or straps
- flotation material not compressed

Alaska law requires children under the age of 13 wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved life jacket when in an open boat or on the deck of a boat.

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Preventing Cold Water Immersion

I understand that five out of six of Alaska’s fatalities involve a capsizing, swamping or a fall overboard, resulting in a cold water immersion related drowning.

- maintain three points of contact when inside a small boat
- avoid standing in or moving around inside the boat
- avoid overloading the boat
- balance and secure loads to avoid shifting, adjust for water conditions
- do not reach overboard for objects

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Alaska Requirements

I understand under federal and state law it is my responsibility as the boat operator to ensure all legal requirements are met.

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Communication and Signaling

I understand the importance of carrying communication and signaling devices ON MY PERSON.

In an emergency, items such as a whistle, a cellular phone in a waterproof case, a marine VHF radio or an emergency locator beacon may shorten rescue response time considerably.

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Float Plan

Complete float plan:

1. Description of boat and equipment:__________________________________________________
2. Names of persons on boat:________________________________________________________
3. Planned destination and route:____________________________________________________
4. Expected date and time of return:___________________________________________________
5. When and who to contact if overdue:_______________________________________________

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Operator and passengers have received instructions on how to safely operate the boat.

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Boat Operator (print)  Boat Operator (signature)  Date

Vendor (print)  Vendor (signature)  Date

State of Alaska Office of Boating Safety
www.alaskaboatingsafety.org
907-269-8706

Renter’s Receipt: Watercraft Rental Orientation

Boat Operator:__________________________________________
Company Name:________________________________________
Date:__________________________________________________
The above named boat operator and vendor has completed the Watercraft Rental Orientation