

# On the Water - Follow the Rules!

*Get Carded! Obtain your Pleasure Craft Operators (PCO) card.*



## Drive Your Boat Responsibly!

Be courteous while on our waterways and obey all boating rules!

- Of those people who drowned while boating, 79% were not wearing a PFD or lifejacket.
- 64% of drowning victims were impaired by drugs or alcohol while boating.
- 51% of the victims drowned when their boat capsized.
- 24% drowned when they fell or were thrown overboard.
- Collisions killed another 10%.

*These drowning statistics are based on Lifesaving Society research from the past ten years.*

For more information, contact:



**LIFESAVING SOCIETY®**  
*The Lifeguarding Experts*

11759 Groat Road, Edmonton, AB T5M 3K6  
Tel: 780 415 1755 | Fax: 780 427 9334  
[experts@lifesaving.org](mailto:experts@lifesaving.org) | [www.lifesaving.org](http://www.lifesaving.org)

**Everyone operating a boat with a motor must get their PCO card by September 15, 2009.**

## Get Carded – with a PCO Card

Get your PCO card by taking a *Lifesaving Society BOAT* course or by studying at home, using the *BOAT Study Guide*. Take the test at one of our *BOAT Test Centres*.

## Know the rules to stay safe

Every time you go out on the water, there is a risk that you are in for more adventure than you expect. And the outcome may well depend on how prepared you are. Getting trained will make sure you know what to do.

## Smart Boaters know ...

- Everyone wears their lifejacket
- Boat sober
- Look before you act
- Give right of way early & visibly to prevent collisions
- When meeting head on, boats pass port-to-port (shift right)
- Drive with extreme caution & with proper lights after dark
- At night, give way if you see their red (port) light
- Drive at moderate speeds
- Know before you go – local hazards & expected weather
- Watch for changing weather conditions
- Have the right gear? Use a simple safety checklist
- Tell someone your plans, and when you expect to return

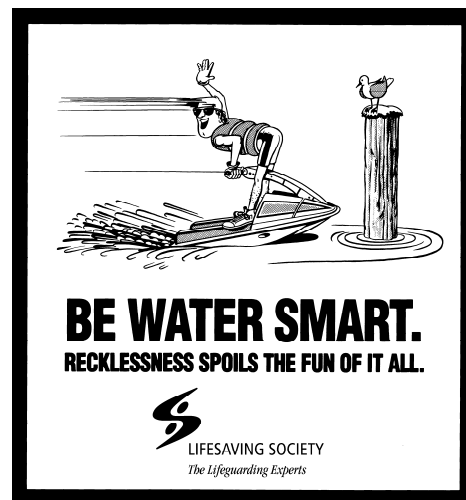
## Did you know ...

- Children under 16 years of age are not permitted to operate a personal watercraft.
- Children under 12 years must be accompanied by an adult to operate a boat with a motor of more than 7.5 KW (10 HP).
- Children 12 to 15 years must be accompanied by an adult to operate a boat with a motor of more than 30 KW (40 HP).

## Did you know ...

Federal regulations specify that:

- Anyone born after April 1, 1983 must have a PCO card to operate any size of powerboat;
- Anyone operating a powerboat under four meters in length, including a personal watercraft (PWC), must have the PCO card;



*Choose it. Use it! Always wear a lifejacket or PFD!*