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## New boating laws in effect for 2013 are the following:

1. Any person born on or after July 1, 1996 is now required to have a boater's safety certificate to operate any watercraft over 6 H.P.
2. Any person towed behind a watercraft is required to wear a type I, II or III PFD
3. Individuals between the age of 6 and 12 may now wear a type I, II or III PFD while riding on a PWC, passengers under 6 must still have a Type I or II PFD.

## Laws that need to be reviewed:

1. Your Registration expires on March 31<sup>st</sup>, the year on the sticker.
2. You must have a proper size and type US Coast Guard approved PFD (Personal Floation Device -Life Jacket) in your watercraft for each person on board. Anyone under 6 years of age must wear a type I or II PFD at all times. Remember, people that wear a PFD rarely drown.
3. Anyone connected to a Personal Watercraft has to wear a PFD.
4. All watercraft over 16 feet require a US Coast Guard approved throwable device plus a wearable PFD for the boat.
5. Watercraft must be 100 feet away from docks, rafts, anchored, moored, or drifting boats, occupied swim areas and persons in the water or be operating at a Slow, No Wake Speed. If in doubt keep a safe, reasonable distance.
6. Personal watercraft must be 150 feet behind a watercraft to jump its wake.
7. Personal watercraft may operate between 8 A.M. and Sunset.
8. Proper lighting must be displayed between sunset and sunrise and during periods of reduced visibility. (Non motorized vessels must display a white light at hand. All motorized vessels are required to have a white stern light visible 360 degrees and a red and green light on the bow).
9. Operators of Personal Watercraft born after December 31, 1978 are required to have a Boaters Safety Certificate on their person while operating.
10. Any motorized watercraft with a closed or semi enclosed area is required to have a type B1 Fire Extinguisher in a readily accessible location. If the craft is over 26 feet, it needs two B1's or a B2 Fire Extinguisher.
11. Boats on the Great Lakes require visual distress signals, i.e. flare guns, flares or other daytime and/or nighttime devices. Watercraft under 16 feet require night time devices after sunset.