

Why take a Boating Course?

Provided by Michael Karlovich,
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The State of North Carolina requires an approved National Association of State Boating Law Administration (NASBLA) boating course to operate a boat. Any person born on or after January 1, 1988 must complete a NASBLA approved boating education course. The state requires completing the course before operating any vessel propelled by a motor of 10 horse power (HP) or greater. The states surrounding North Carolina also require completion of a boating course as well as a license to operate a boat. Visit www.boat-ed.com/northcarolina for the law and more information boating courses and licenses.

Imagine being able to get behind the wheel of a car without ever driven or taking any training...that really is scary. With boating it is even more so, boating has no roads or brakes which increases the risk. This required training provides you and your family/friends the knowledge needed to keep you safer when you are out on the water.

Not following boating “rules of the road” can result in fines and possibly Jail. Rules of the road apply to all boats, cruisers, sailboats, runabouts, fishing boats, jet ski, kayak, canoe, commercial tug or tanker. As a boat captain, you are responsible, take that responsibility seriously. If you haven’t taking any training in years, a refresher is a great idea. Accidents on the water with injury or damage requires reporting to law enforcement and the United States coast guard. Therefore, the boats captain could face serious consequences.

Boating is meant to be safe an enjoyable for everyone. Please continue to lead by example when you are on the water. Your children will learn, respect, and understand the responsibilities of good boating while your friends will learn the rules and boating etiquette. All other boaters on the water will also benefit from your repeated positive example.

An additional incentive is many boat insurance companies have discounts to those who have completed this required training.

I strongly encourage an instructor taught class that provides student and an experienced instructor interaction. There are several organizations that can offer this training locally: America’s Boating Club of the Pamlico, N C Wildlife, U.S. Coast Guard Aux and Boat U.S. some of which are offered on line.

This article is given the courtesy of your local America’s Boating Club of the Pamlico. We are offering the America’s Boating Course meeting NC certification on Friday, May 19th 6:00 – 8:00 PM and Saturday, May 20th 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM.

To register or learn more contact Kelly by email at pspsed@gmail.com or call 551-427-0585.

Visit <https://pamlicosailandpowersquadron.org> to learn more about what we can offer in the areas of Boating Education & Safety.