

IOWA BOATING REGULATIONS



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
WALLACE STATE OFFICE BUILDING
DES MOINES, IOWA 50319-0034



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A Synopsis of Iowa Boating Regulations

This synopsis is not intended to quote the complete law, but rather to present a summary of the various regulations concerning safe boating. These guidelines are, however, included as regulations in the Code of Iowa and the Administrative Code.

DEFINITIONS

1. "Authorized emergency vessel" means any vessel which is designated or authorized by the commission for use in law enforcement, search and rescue and disaster work.

2. "Boat livery" means a person who holds a vessel for hire, renting, leasing, or chartering including hotels, motels, or resorts which furnish a vessel to guests as part of the services of the business.

3. **"Certificate"** means a certificate of title.
4. **"Commission"** means the Natural Resource Commission.
5. **"Dealer"** means every person engaged in the business of buying, selling, or exchanging boats of a type required to be registered hereunder and who has an established place of business for such purpose in this state.
6. **"Department"** means the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).
7. **"Director"** means the director of the department or the director's designee.
8. **"Established place of business"** means the place actually occupied either continuously or at regular periods by a dealer or manufacturer where the dealer's or manufacturer's books and records are kept and a large share of the dealer's or manufacturer's business is transacted.
9. **"Farm pond"** means a body of water wholly on the lands of a single owner, or a group of joint owners, which does not have any connection with any public waters and which is less than 10 surface acres.
10. **"Inboard"** means a vessel in which the engine is located internally, the propulsion system is rigidly attached to the engine, and the propulsion mechanism is within the confines of the vessel's extreme length and beam.
11. **"Inboard-outdrive"** means a vessel in which the power plant or engine is located inside of the vessel and the propulsion mechanism is located outside the transom.
12. **"Inflatable vessel"** means a vessel which achieves and maintains its intended shape and buoyancy by inflation.
13. **"Lienholder"** means a person holding a security interest.
14. **"Manufacturer"** means every person engaged in the business of constructing or assembling boats of a type required to be registered hereunder and who has an established place of business for such purpose in this state.
15. **"Motorboat"** means any vessel propelled by machinery, whether or not such machinery is the principal source of propulsion, or vessel propelled attached another craft which is propelled by machinery. (Includes electric trolling motor.)
16. **"Navigable waters"** means all lakes, rivers and streams, which can support a vessel capable of carrying one or more persons during a total of six months period in one out of every 10 years.
17. **"Nonresident"** means every person who is not a resident of this state.
18. **"Operate"** means to navigate or otherwise use a vessel or motorboat.
19. **"Operator"** means a person who operates or is in actual physical control of a vessel.
20. **"Owner"** means a person, other than a lienholder, having the property right in or title to a motorboat or vessel. The term includes a person entitled to the use or possession of a vessel or motorboat subject to an interest in another person, reserved or created by agreement and securing payment of performance of an obligation, but the term excludes a lessee under a lease not intended as security.
21. **"Passenger"** means a person carried on board a vessel, including the operator, and anyone towed by a vessel on water skis, surfboards, inner tubes, or similar devices.
22. **"Person"** means an individual, partnership, firm, corporation or association.
23. **"Privately owned lakes"** means any lake located within the boundaries of this state and not subject to federal control covering navigation owned by an indi-

vidual, group of individuals or a nonprofit corporation and which is not open to the use of the general public but is used exclusively by the owners and their personal guests.

24. "Proceeds" includes whatever is received when collateral or proceeds are sold, exchanged, collected, or otherwise disposed of. The term also includes the account arising when the right to payment is earned under a contract right. Money, checks, and the like are cash "*proceeds*". All other proceeds are "*noncash proceeds*".

24A. "Sailboard" means a windsurfing vessel with a mount for a sail, dagger board, and a small skeg.

25. "Security interest" means an interest which is reserved or created by an agreement which secures payment or performance of an obligation and is valid against third parties generally.

26. "State of principal use" means the state on whose waters a vessel is used or to be used most during a calendar year.

27. "Undocumented vessel" means any vessel which is not required to have, and does not have, a valid marine document issued by the U.S. Coast Guard or foreign government.

28. "Use" means to operate, navigate, or employ a vessel. A vessel is in use whenever it is upon the water.

29. "Vessel" means every description of watercraft, other than a seaplane on the water, used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on water.

30. "Vessel for hire or commercial vessel" means a vessel for the use of which a fee of any nature is imposed including vessels furnished as a part of lodge, hotel, or resort services.

31. "Wake" means any movement of water created by a vessel which adversely affects the activities of another person who is involved in activities approved for that area or which may adversely affect the natural features of the shoreline.

32. "Watercraft" means any vessel which through the buoyance force of water floats upon the water and is capable of carrying one or more persons.

33. "Waters of this state under the jurisdiction of the commission" means any navigable waters within the territorial limits of this state, and the marginal river areas adjacent to this state, exempting only farm ponds and privately owned lakes.

34. "Writing Fee" means the amount paid by the boat owner to the county recorder for handling the transaction.

PROSECUTION

Any owner or operator of a vessel committing any misdemeanor offense, as set forth in this chapter, may be prosecuted regardless of age.

REGISTRATION AND TITLING

WHERE: County recorder in county of residence

NONRESIDENTS: Apply with county recorder of county where boat is principally used.

Titling of Boats

All new vessels 17 feet and longer and all currently registered vessels 17 feet and longer upon sale or trade, must be titled.

A manufacturer or dealer shall not transfer ownership of a new vessel subject to titling without supplying the buyer with the manufacturer's certificate of origin signed by the manufacturer's authorized agent. The certificate shall include the Coast Guard or manufacturer's assigned capacity in whole persons.

The registration requirements for boats has not changed and is not directly affected by this requirement.

REGISTRATION AND NUMBERING

Which Vessels To Register—every vessel operated on waters under jurisdiction of the DNR. The registration certificate shall be carried either in the vessel or on the person of the operator of such vessel when in use.

Which Vessels Not To Register—any vessel which is:

1. Covered by a number in full force and effect which has been awarded to it pursuant to a federally approved numbering system of another state if such vessel shall not have been within this state for a period in excess of sixty days within one calendar year.

2. Foreign vessels temporarily using the navigable waters of the United States and of this state.

3. A public vessel of the United States, a state or subdivision thereof which is used for enforcement, search and rescue or official research and studies, but not including vessels used for recreation or commercial purposes.

4. A ship's lifeboat.

5. A type of vessel which has been exempted from registration by the commission after said commission has found that the registration or numbering of such vessel will not materially aid in their identification and such vessel would be exempt from numbering if it were subject to federal law.

6. An air mattress, inner tube, or other toy or beach type item which is being used in a recognized swimming area. In the case of a natural lake or reservoir there beach or swimming areas may be less, but in no case shall exceed three hundred feet from shore.

7. The following nonpower or nonsail vessels:

a. Inflatable vessels, seven feet or less in length.

b. Conventional design canoes and kayak type vessels, thirteen feet or less in length.

When To Register

1. Every registration certificate and number issued shall become delinquent at midnight, April 30, on odd numbered years. Penalty for delinquency is **five dollars**;

2. Upon change of ownership a vessel application for transfer must be made within five days;

3. Upon transfer of any vessel;

a. complete form on back of current registration certificate;

b. complete back of Title Certificate, if any;

c. deliver to purchaser or transferee;

d. file new application with the county recorder;

e. carry registration certificate in boat at all times.

IOWA BOAT REGISTRATION FEES

Motorboat OR Sailboat		Odd-Numbered Year		New Registration Only Even Number Year	
		New	Renew	New	Renew
No Motor/ No Sail	Any Length	New	\$5.00	\$2.50	---
	Less Than 12 Ft. In Length	New	8.00	4.00	---
		Renew	8.00	---	---
	12 Ft. To Less Than 15 Ft.	New	10.00	5.00	---
		Renew	10.00	---	---
	15 Ft. To Less Than 18 Ft.	New	12.00	6.00	---
		Renew	12.00	---	---
	18 Ft. Or More In Length	New	18.00	9.00	---
		Renew	18.00	---	---
	25 Ft. Or More In Length	New	28.00	14.00	---
		Renew	28.00	---	---
	Documented Vessels Any Length	New	25.00	12.50	---
		Renew	25.00	---	---
A \$1.00 writing fee is charged by the County Recorder for each					

Notify County Recorder Within 10 Days Whenever—

1. Address is changed;
2. Name is changed (marriage or otherwise);
3. A vessel is abandoned or destroyed.

Numbers for Vessel Manufacturers and Dealers—the DNR will issue a certificate to dealers and manufacturers which may be used on different vessels at different times when these vessels are used as demonstrators or experimental craft.

Numbering Pattern To Be Used—

1. Identification numbers consist of three parts:
 - a. Letters “IA” indicate the state;
 - b. four (or less) Arabic numerals;
 - c. one or two letters.
2. The parts shall be separated by a hyphen or an equivalent space as shown in example:

IA-2500-C IA-9875-EA IA-7560 ZZ

3. Since the letter “I,” “0,” or “Q” may be mistaken for Arabic numerals, they shall not be used in the suffix.

Correct Display Of Number On Vessel (refer to Figure 1)

1. The numerals and letters shall be:
 - a. painted on, or attached to, each side of the bow (i.e., the forward half) of the

vessel to be read from left to right; and in such position as to provide maximum visibility;

- b. in block characters of good proportion not less than three inches in height
 - c. of a color which will contrast with the color of the background (i.e., dark numbers on a light background, or light numbers on a dark background) and so maintained as to be clearly visible and legible
 - d. On vessels propelled by sail only, the numbers may be placed in such a position as to provide maximum visibility, on each side of the bow or deck or on each side of the boom or mast. In all cases except placement on the mast, the numbers shall read from left to right and comply with "b" and "c" of this subrule. In placement on the mast the number shall read from top to bottom and comply with "b" and "c" of this subrule.
2. No other number shall be carried on the bow of the vessel;
 3. Purchase and attachment of these letters and numbers is the responsibility of the boat owner.

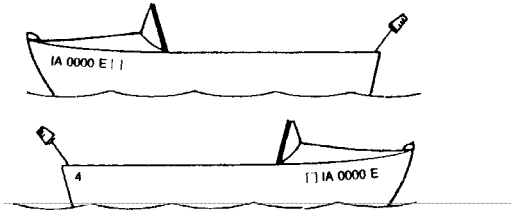


Figure 1

State Decal—A colored identification symbol is issued by the DNR during registration. Its location on the vessel shall be four inches toward the stern (back of boat) of the registration number and on the same level (refer to Figure 1).

Passenger Capacity Number—The passenger capacity of vessels, as assigned by the DNR, shall be painted on or attached to the starboard side of the vessel within nine inches of the transom. It shall conform in size and color to the numbers and letters on the bow. The numbers should ride above the water when the vessel is fully loaded. Most boats have a Coast Guard or manufacturer's plate which shows capacity in number of persons. This is the capacity number that must be placed on the registration certificate and on the right side of the boat. If there is no plate, then the capacity of the boat is "operator's responsibility" and the letters "OR" must be placed on the certificate and on the boat in place of the number.

Exemption from display of registration and capacity numbers.

The following vessels are exempt from displaying a registration number and a passenger capacity number as required in section 106.5:

1. Authentically constructed native American styled craft including birchbark canoes, dugout canoes, competitive racing shells, reed boats, and skin-covered canoes or boats.
2. Historically styled craft such as keel boats used only during historic recreations or public demonstrations.
3. A vessel which has a valid marine document issued by the United States Coast Guard and the vessel bears the identification required in the document.
4. A sailboat. However, the registration decal shall be attached to the bottom surface of the bow.

Vessel Storage—If the owner of a currently registered vessel places it in storage, the owner must return the registration certificate to the county recorder with an affidavit stating that the vessel is in storage including the effective date. When the owner of a stored vessel desires to renew the vessel's registration, application must be made to the county recorder and registration fees plus a writing fee must be paid. No refund of registration fees shall be allowed for a stored vessel.

SPEED AND DISTANCE

All waters under the jurisdiction of the DNR:

1. Don't exceed 5 mph within 100 feet of any craft going 5 mph or less.
2. Keep a distance of 50 feet when both boats are going over 5 mph.
3. Don't exceed 10 mph unless vision is unobstructed more than 200 feet ahead.

On inland lakes and federal impoundments:

4. Don't exceed 10 mph within 300 feet of shore (except in specially zoned areas).

REPORTING COLLISIONS, ACCIDENTS AND CASUALTIES

THE OPERATOR OF THE VESSEL SHALL:

1. Without serious danger to the vessel, crew or passengers render to other persons affected such assistance as may be practicable and necessary to save them from any danger caused by the accident.
2. Give name, address and identification of vessel in writing to any person injured and to the owner of any property damaged in the accident.
3. File a written report within 48 hours, with the DNR if the accident results in loss of life or disappearance of any person from on board a vessel under circumstances which suggest any possibility of death or injury.
4. File a written report within five days if the accident results in:
 - a. injury requiring medical attention,
 - b. property damage in excess of \$500,
 - c. loss of consciousness,
 - d. disability in excess of 24 hours.

Copies of the accident report form can be obtained from:

1. Conservation Officers
2. DNR
3. County Sheriff's Department

ACCIDENT REPORTS

All reports shall be in writing. A vessel operator's report shall be without prejudice to the person making the report and shall be for the confidential use of the department. However, upon request the department shall disclose the identities of the persons on board the vessels involved in the occurrence and their addresses. Upon request of a person who made and filed a vessel operator's report, the department shall provide a copy of the vessel operator's report to the requestor. A written vessel operator's report to the department shall not be admissible in or used in evidence in any civil or criminal action arising out of the facts on which the report is based.

Law enforcement officer's boating accident reports are confidential. However, it will be made available to any party to a boating accident, insurance company or attorney on written request and payment of a fee.

REGATTAS, RACES, MARINE PARADES, TOURNAMENTS OR EXHIBITIONS

The DNR may authorize the holding of regattas, motorboat or other boat races, marine parades, tournaments or exhibitions on any waters under the jurisdiction of the DNR. An application must be filed with the DNR at least 30 days before the scheduled date of a special event. Applications may be obtained from Conservation Officers or the DNR, Wallace Building, Des Moines, IA 50319-0034.

UNLAWFUL PRACTICES

It is unlawful to:

1. Operate an **unregistered vessel** on waters under the jurisdiction of the DNR.
2. Let anyone **under 12 years of age** operate a motorboat which is propelled by a motor more than 6 H.P. unless he or she is accompanied by a responsible person at least 18 years of age who is experienced in motorboat operation.
3. Operate any vessel without proper **U.S. Coast Guard approved Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs)** aboard. (See Equipment.) Anyone using a vessel in Iowa is required to have a wearable, Type I, II, or III personal flotation device (PFD) for each person on board. The PFD must be in good condition and fit the wearer properly. A Type IV - buoyant cushion or ring buoy is required in addition to a type I, II or III as a throwable device for vessels 16 feet or longer. All PFDs must be Coast Guard approved. This does not apply to a vessel which is a racing shell used in the sport of sculling or to a sailboard while used for windsurfing.
4. Operate any vessel displaying or reflecting a blue light or flashing blue light unless such vessel is an authorized emergency vessel.
5. Operate a vessel while intoxicated or under the influence of alcohol, hypnotic drug, narcotic, or marijuana. **The penalty for operating a vessel in violation of the above shall be upon conviction, not less than \$300 nor more than \$1,000** or by imprisonment for a period not to exceed one year or both.
6. Operate a vessel or manipulate any water skis, surfboard, or similar device in a careless, reckless, or negligent manner so as to endanger the life, limb, or property of any person.
7. Operate a vessel and enter into areas in which search and rescue operations are being conducted unless authorized by the officer in charge.
8. Operate a vessel while towing a person or persons on water skis, surfboard, or similar device unless there is in such a craft a responsible person (**observer**) in addition to the operator, in a position to observe the progress of the person or persons being towed.
9. Operate a motorboat propelled by an outboard motor larger than 10 h.p., or any inboard motor without a proper **Coast Guard approved fire extinguisher** on board. (See Equipment.)
10. Operate any vessel between sunset and sunrise without proper navigation lights.

11. Place, cause to be placed, throw or deposit onto or in any of the public waters, ice, or land of the state any cans, bottles, garbage, rubbish, or other types of litter.

12. Maintain a private buoy in water of this state under the jurisdiction of the DNR except as specified by the rules and regulations of the DNR.

13. Place a mooring buoy, dock, or raft in waters of this state under the jurisdiction of the DNR without first having obtained a permit from the DNR.

14. Maintain any other obstruction of any kind without first receiving permission from the DNR.

15. Tamper with, move, or attempt to move or moor to any state-approved buoy or sign.

16. Anchor a boat away from shore and leave unguarded unless it is attached to a legal buoy.

17. Operate a vessel in violation of restrictions indicated by state-approved buoys or signs marking an area.

18. Operate a vessel in a manner which unreasonably or unnecessarily interferes with other watercraft or with free and proper navigation. Anchoring under bridges, in a heavily traveled channel, in a lock chamber, or near the entrance of a lock constitutes such interference if unreasonable under the prevailing circumstances.

19. Operate on the waters of this state under the jurisdiction of the DNR a vessel equipped with an engine of greater horsepower rating than is designated for the vessel by the federally required capacity plate or by the manufacturer's plate on those vessels not covered by federal regulations.

20. Leave an unattended vessel tied or moored to a dock which is placed immediately adjacent to a public boat launching ramp or loading dock.

21. Alter any federal or manufacturer's capacity plate.

22. Alter a serial or hull identification number of any vessel or component part.

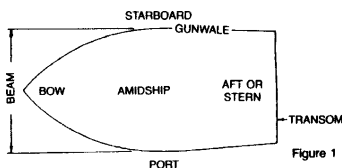
23. To operate a vessel within 50 feet of a diver's flag placed in accordance with the rules of the commission, adopted under chapter 17A.

MUFFLING DEVICE

Every internal combustion engine used on any motorboat must be effectively muffled to a noise level maximum of 86 decibels as measured at a distance of 50 feet or more.

LIGHTING—ALL VESSELS

Every vessel in all weather from sunset to sunrise, shall carry and exhibit the required lights when under way, and during such time shall exhibit no other lights which may be mistaken for those required. In addition to Iowa's lighting requirements, the international lighting system approved by the U.S. Coast Guard will be accepted for use by motorboats and sailboats on the waters of this state. Refer to figures below.



CLASSIFICATION OF VESSELS

Vessels subject to the provisions of the Iowa Code shall be divided into four classes. They are:

Class I – less than 16 feet in length.

Class II – 16 feet to less than 26 feet in length.

Class III – 26 feet to less than 40 feet in length.

Class IV – 40 feet or over in length.

NO OWNER OF A VESSEL SHALL OPERATE OR GIVE PERMISSION FOR THE OPERATION OF A VESSEL WHICH IS NOT EQUIPPED AS REQUIRED. ALL VESSELS MUST BE SEAWORTHY FOR THE WATERS ON WHICH THEY ARE BEING USED. AN OFFICER MAY INSPECT A VESSEL BEING LAUNCHED, OPERATED OR MOORED ON WATERS OF THIS STATE.

REQUIRED EQUIPMENT

MOTORBOATS (Including sailboats with motors)

	Bells	Whistle or Horn	Fire Extinguisher (Only required over 10 hp)	Flame Arrester (Inboards Only)	Ventilation (Inboards only)	PFD's	Lights
CLASS I			With fixed fire extinguisher in machinery space – none; without fixed system one B-I	●	●	One (wearable) type I, II or III, for each person on board	● (See separate section)
CLASS II		●	With fixed extinguisher in machinery space – none; without fixed system one B-I	●	●	One (wearable) Type I, II, or III for each person on board, plus one type IV (throwable) per vessel	● (See separate section)
CLASS III	●	●	With fixed extinguisher in machinery space one B-I; without fixed system; two B-I's or one B-II	●	●	Same as Class II	● (See separate section)
CLASS IV	●	●	With fixed fire extinguisher in machinery space – two B-I's or one B-II. Without fixed system, three B-I's or one B-I and one B-II	●	●	Same as Class II and III	● (See separate section)

NONPOWERED CRAFT

PFD's

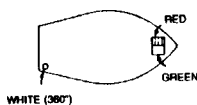
Lights

CLASS I & II *Sailboats	Same as Class I & II Motorboats	● (See separate section)
CLASS III & IV *Sailboats	Same as Class III & IV Motorboats	● (See separate section)
Canoes & Kayaks	One wearable type I, II or III for each person on board	● (See separate section)
Rowboats & other	Same as motorboats. See appropriate size class	● (See separate section)

*NOTE SAILBOATS WITH MOTORS – SAME AS MOTORBOATS

CLASS I & II VESSELS

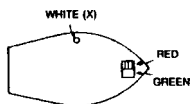
MOTORBOATS INCLUDING SAILBOATS WITH MOTORS



A. A bright white light aft to show all around the horizon.

B. A combined lantern in the fore part of the vessel and lower than the white light aft, showing green to starboard (right) and red to port (left), so fixed as to throw each light from dead ahead to $112\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ on their respective sides.

SAILBOATS

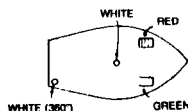


A. A combined lantern as required for motorboats.

B. A white light so placed as to illuminate the sail and the sail must be visible at a distance of at least one-half mile.

CLASS III & IV VESSELS

MOTORBOATS INCLUDING SAILBOATS WITH MOTORS



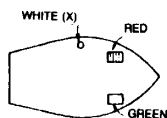
A. A bright white light in the fore part of the vessel as near the bow as practicable, to show an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of 225° , $112\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ being on each side from dead ahead.

B. A bright white light aft to show all around the horizon (360°) and higher than the white light forward.

C. A green light on the starboard (right) side and a red light on the port (left) side of the vessel to show an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of $112\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ from dead ahead.

D. The aforementioned red and green lights shall be fitted with inboard screens of sufficient height so as to prevent these lights from being seen across the bow.

SAILBOATS

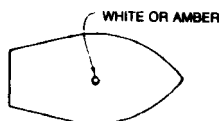


(X) To Illuminate Sail

A. Separate side lights as required for motorboats.

B. A white light to illuminate the sail as required for Class I & II sailboats.

ALL OTHER VESSELS AND ALL VESSELS INHABITED AT ANCHOR

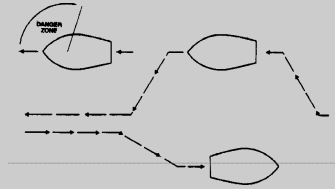


Vessels less than 50 meters

All vessels not powered by motor or sail and not at anchor shall exhibit a white light to show 360 degrees around the horizon between the hours of sunset and sunrise when operated on; natural lakes, Corps of Engineers impoundments, border rivers and impoundments on inland rivers. When operated on bodies of water other than those listed in this rule, all vessels not powered by motor or sail and not at anchor shall have in possession a hand-held light to be used when necessary between the hours of sunset and sunrise.

All vessels while at anchor shall exhibit where it can best be seen between the hours of sunset and sunrise; in the fore part, an all-round white light or one ball; and at or near the stern, and at a lower level than the light prescribed above, an all-round white light. **A vessel of less than 50 meters in length may exhibit an all-round white light where it can best be seen instead of the lights prescribed above.**

RIGHT OF WAY RULES



VESSEL TRAFFIC—shall be governed by the following rules: Refer to Figure above.

1. Passing from rear—pass to other vessel's port (left).
2. Passing head on—pass port to port.
3. Passing at right angles— vessel at right has right of way
4. Manually propelled vessels have the right of way over all other vessels.
5. Sailboats have the right of way over all motor-driven vessels. Motor boats, when meeting or overtaking sailboats, shall always pass on the leeward (downwind) side.
6. Any vessel backing from a landing has the right of way over incoming vessels.

UNIFORM WATERWAY MARKING SYSTEM



RED & WHITE

O B S T R U C T I O N



RED & WHITE
(CAUTION -
Diver in Area)

D I V E R S
F L A G



C A U T I O N



I N F O R M A T I O N



ORANGE & WHITE



D A N G E R



ORANGE & WHITE



ORANGE & WHITE



B O A T S
K E E P
O U T

ANCHOR BUOY



BLUE & WHITE

CHANNEL MARKER



RED & WHITE
a. Refer to Nun Buoy below.

CENTER CHANNEL



BLACK & WHITE

CHANNEL MARKER



BLACK & WHITE
b. Refer to Can Buoy below.



ORANGE & WHITE

a. A red-topped white buoy, red buoy or sign shall indicate that side of a channel to be kept to the right of a vessel when entering the channel from the main water body or when proceeding upstream.

b. A black-topped white buoy, black buoy or sign shall indicate that side of a channel to be kept to the left of a vessel when entering the channel from the main water body or when proceeding upstream.



Usually found in pairs, pass between these buoys



Can Buoy (Black or Green)

Stay to left
when going downstream;
stay to right
when going upstream.

Nun Buoy (Red)

Stay to right
when going downstream;
stay to left
when going upstream.

These two buoys are not used in the uniform waterway marking system, but are a part of the federal navigational aids system. These buoys are used to mark the maintained navigation channel on both the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers bordering Iowa.

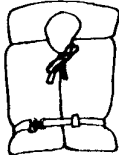
TYPES OF PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICE (PFD's)



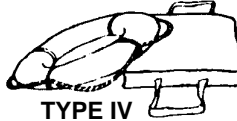
TYPE I
Life Preserver



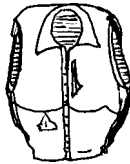
TYPE III
Buoyant Device



TYPE II
Buoyant Vest



TYPE IV
Buoyant Cushion
Ring Buoy
(Throwable devices)



TYPE V
Hybrid Device
(Required to be worn to
be counted as a regulation PFD)

Type I—Life Preserver—Good on any vessel.

Type II— Buoyant Vest—Good on all Recreational Boats

Type III—Buoyant Device—Good on all Recreational Boats

Type IV—Buoyant Cushion or Ring Life Buoy—

On recreational boats 16 feet in length and over Type IV Device must be carried in addition to the Type I, II, or III for each person.

Type V—Special use device—must be worn to meet legal safety requirements.

Flotation Devices (All flotation devices must properly fit the wearer)

Check periodically for possible deterioration of cloth or plastic, missing tie strap or fastening devices and Coast Guard approval label must be legible.

BOATING ON ARTIFICIAL LAKES

1. A boat equipped with any size motor may be operated at a no-wake speed on artificial lakes of more than 100 acres in size under the custody of the DNR. However, on Lake Macbride (Johnson County) a boat with a motor exceeding 10 horsepower may be used only from September 8 through May 20 of each year at no-wake speed.

Lakes included in this regulation are:

Lake	County
Ahquabi	Warren
Anita	Cass
Badger Creek	Madison
Big Creek	Polk
Darling	Washington
Geode	Henry
*Green Valley	Union
Hawthorn	Mahaska

Icaria	Adams
Little River	Decatur
Miami	Monroe
Pleasant Creek	Linn/Benton
Prairie Rose	Shelby
Rock Creek	Jasper
Sugema	Van Buren
Swan	Carroll
Twelve Mile	Union
Union Grove	Tama
Viking	Montgomery
Volga	Fayette
Wapello	Davis
West	Clarke

*special regulations exist

Other lakes managed by counties and municipalities may be included. Check local regulations.

2. Under 100 acres a motorboat equipped with one or more outboard battery operated electric trolling motors shall be permitted.

Exceptions:

Motors larger than electric trolling motors, may be operated on the following lakes as designated:

Motor not to exceed 10 h.p. on following lakes:

Beeds Lake	Franklin County
Lake of Three Fires	Taylor County

Motor not to exceed 10 h.p. at no wake speed on following lakes:

Black Hawk Pits	Sac County
Meadow Lake	Adair County
Silver Lake	Delaware County
Thayer Lake	Union County
Williamson Pond	Lucas County

Unrestricted H.P. at no wake speed on following lakes:

Beaver Lake	Dallas County
Crawford Creek	Ida County
Deer Creek	Plymouth County
George Wyth	Black Hawk County
Lake Iowa	Iowa County
Otter Creek	Tama County

Motors not more than 100 h.p.:

Loch Ayr	Ringgold County
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3. All privately owned boats shall be kept at locations designated by the DNR.

4. All such boats shall be removed from such property not later than December 15 each year.

5. All vessels may be inspected by a Conservation Officer to determine seaworthiness and passenger capacity.

6. For experimental purposes supplemental rules apply to Green Valley Lake. These regulations can be obtained from the Conservation Officer in your area, or by contacting the DNR.

BOAT TRAILER REGULATIONS

All boat owners using trailers are urged to check the highway laws in regard to restrictive speed and load limits.

1. Speed limits—Same as posted limit for other motor vehicles.
2. Load limits—Office of Vehicle Enforcement, Des Moines, (515)237-3247.

WATER SKIS AND SURFBOARDS

OBSERVER—No person shall operate a vessel on any waters of the state for towing a person or persons on water skis, surfboard, or similar device, unless there is in such vessel a responsible person, in addition to the operator, in a position to observe the progress of the person or persons being towed.

FLOTATION DEVICE—Any person engaged in water skiing, surfboarding, or similar activity, except for vessels known as windsurfers, shall wear a Type I, II or III PFD approved by the U.S. Coast Guard. This does not apply to a vessel which is a racing shell used in the sport of sculling or to a sailboard while used for windsurfing.

SKI HOURS—Ski hours are from sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

EXEMPTION—Specific regulations apply to performers engaged in activities for professional exhibitions. Check with the DNR.

PUBLIC USE OF WATER FOR NAVIGATION PURPOSES

Water occurring in any river, stream or creek having definite banks and bed with visible evidence of the flow of water is declared to be public waters of the state of Iowa and subject to use by the public for navigation purposes in accordance with law.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS AND ZONING

SPECIAL REGULATIONS regarding zoning, safety areas, and other right of way and speed and distance restrictions apply to the following areas:

1. Black Hawk Lake—Sac County
2. Browns Lake—Woodbury County
3. Carter Lake—Pottawattamie County
4. Cedar River—Black Hawk County
5. Cedar River—Charles City - Floyd County
6. Cedar River—Mitchell County
7. Cedar River—Nashua - Chickasaw County
8. Coralville—Johnson County
9. Crystal Lake — Hancock County
10. Des Moines River
11. East & West Okoboji—Dickinson County
12. Five Island Lake—Palo Alto County
13. Harpers Slough—Allamakee County
14. Ingham Lake—Emmet County
15. Iowa River — Hardin County
16. Iowa River—Johnson County
17. Joyce Slough Area—Clinton County
18. Lake Odessa—Louisa County
19. Lake Icaria—Adams County
20. Lake Manawa—Pottawattamie County
21. Little Wall Lake—Hamilton County
22. Lost Island Lake—Palo Alto & Clay Counties
23. Maquoketa River-Lake Delhi—Delaware County
24. Massey Slough—Dubuque County
25. Mississippi River—Above and below all navigation lock and dam structures and other designated areas. (Contact Conservation Officer, Corps of Engineers or lock master for special rules.)
26. Mt. Ayr City Lake (Loch Ayr)—Ringgold County
27. Raccoon River Regional Park Lake—Polk County
28. Rathbun—Appanoose County
29. Red Rock—Marion County
30. Saylorville—Polk County
31. Shell Rock River (Greene Impoundment)—Floyd County
32. Snyder Bend—Woodbury County
33. Spirit Lake—Dickinson County
34. Storm Lake—Buena Vista County
35. Swan Slough—Clinton County
36. Three Mile Lake—Union County
37. Upper Gar Lake—Dickinson County
38. Wapsipinicon River—Linn County

The specific regulations for each area may be obtained from Officers or the DNR office in Des Moines.

(C) is the officer's cell phone number - (H) is the officer's home phone number

1	Adair	-Eric Sansgaard	712/250-0303(C) 712/243-5263(H)
2	Adams	-David Moore	712/520-0508(C) 712/523-3556(H)
3	Allamakee	-Bill Collins	319/380-0801(C) 319/568-6251(H)
		-Ed Lawrence	319/380-0800(C) 319/538-3089(H)
4	Appanoose	-Mike Runyan	515/777-2163(C) 515/932-2934(H)
		-Randy McPherran	515/777-2164(C) 515/452-6630(H)
5	Audubon	-George Hemmen	712/250-0061(C) 515/747-3643(H)
6	Benton	-Bob Mullen (west 1/2)	515/750-1873(C) 515/484-3808(H)
		-Kirby Bragg (east 1/2)	319/350-2871(C) 319/848-3250(H)
7	Black Hawk	-Mike Bonser	319/240-5034(C) 319/988-9181(H)
		-Jennifer Lancaster-Woodley	319/240-5017(C) 319/885-4916(H)
8	Boone	-Mark Edwards	515/290-0177(C) 515/432-5819(H)
		-Bill Fribley	515/290-0527(C) 515/233-6747(H)
9	Bremer	-Jennifer Lancaster-Woodley	319/240-5017(C) 319/885-4916(H)
		-Mike Bonser	319/240-5034(C) 319/988-9181(H)
10	Buchanan	-Scott Kinseth	319/920-0566(C) 319/334-7206(H)
11	Buena Vista	-Chris Lloyd	712/261-1203(C) 712/732-6109(H)
12	Butler	-Greg Woodley	319/240-8033(C) 319/885-4916(H)
13	Calhoun	-Brian Smith	515/571-0127(C) 712/297-5353(H)
14	Carroll	-Dan Pauley	515/370-0422(C) 712/684-5723(H)
15	Cass	-Eric Sansgaard	712/250-0303(C) 712/243-5263(H)
16	Cedar	-Tim Dorr	319/357-1813(C) 319/643-2624(H)
17	Cerro Gordo	-Randy Schnoebelen	515/425-0822(C) 515/357-7795(H)
		-Steve Schutte	515/425-0828(C) 515/357-3394(H)

18 Cherokee	-Chris Lloyd (east 1/2)	712/261-1203(C) 712/732-6109(H)
	-Mike Martin (west 1/2)	712/548-3301(C) 712/239-3193(H)
19 Chickasaw	-Al Baxter	319/240-6662(C) 515/364-2425(H)
20 Clarke	-Craig Roberg	515/344-0252(C) 515/342-3917(H)
21 Clay	-Gary Biederman	712/261-1204(C) 712/834-2554(H)
	22 Clayton	-Stan Blair
	-Dave Elledge	319-880-0422(C) 319/928-6608(H)
23 Clinton	-Brian Roffman	319/357-1811(C) 319/447-1140(H)
	-Jason Sandholdt	319/357-1078(C) 319/242-4435(H)
24 Crawford	-Jens Bruun	712/420-2966(C) 712/423-1591(H)
25 Dallas	-Dennis Nelson	515/238-5005(C) 515/996-2455(H)
26 Davis	-Rod Pickens	515/777-2169(C) 515/664-1482(H)
	-Matt Rush	515/777-7805(C) 515/684-9148(H)
27 Decatur	-Craig Roberg	515/344-0252(C) 515/342-3917(H)
28 Delaware	-Aric Sloterdijk (west 1/2)	319/350-2863(C) 319/373-1105(H)
	-Scott Kinseth	319/920-0566(C) 319/334-7206(H)
	-Vicky Potter (east 1/2)	319/590-1945(C) 319/773-8226(H)
	-Mike Ouverson (east 1/2)	319/590-1944(C) 319/855-3285(H)
29 Des Moines	-Don Simonson	319/759-0751(C) 319/754-5282(H)
	-Les Nieland (west 1/2)	319/759-1957(C) 319/986-2243(H)
30 Dickinson	-Jeff Morrison	712/261-1206(C) 712/336-4485(H)
	-Gary Owen	712/261-1205(C) 712-336-5213(H)
31 Dubuque	-Mike Ouverson	319/590-1944(C) 319/855-3285(H)
	-Vicky Potter	319/590-1945(C) 319/773-8226(H)
32 Emmet	-Rich Jordet	515/341-2101(C)

		712/867-4565(H)
33 Fayette	-Keith Rowley	319/380-0497(C)
		319/425-4293(H)
34 Floyd	-Alan Roemig	319/240-9174(C)
		515/732-3307(H)
35 Franklin	-Greg Woodley	319/240-8033(C)
		319/885-4916(H)
36 Fremont	-Dave Tierney	712/520-0506(C)
		712/629-7100(H)
37 Greene	-Dan Pauley	515/370-0422(C)
		712/684-5723(H)
38 Grundy	-Gary Sisco	515/750-0565(C)
		515/475-3215(H)
39 Guthrie	-George Hemmen	712/250-0061(C)
		515/747-3643(H)
40 Hamilton	-Chuck Humeston	515/571-7060(C)
		515/648-5425(H)
41 Hancock	-Ken Lonneman	515/425-0823(C)
		515/923-2835(H)
42 Hardin	-Chuck Humeston	515/571-7060(C)
		515/648-5425(H)
43 Harrison	-Richard Johnson	712/269-1911(C)
		712/642-3578(H)
44 Henry	-Les Nieland	319/759-1957(C)
		319/986-2243(H)
45 Howard	-Al Baxter	319/240-6662(C)
		515/364-2425(H)
46 Humboldt	-Andrea Mekus	515/571-0106(C)
		515/464-2735(H)
47 Ida	-Dan Mork	712/830-0490(C)
		712/662-3382(H)
48 Iowa	-Ralph Leigh	319/330-9709(C)
		319/642-5666(H)
49 Jackson	-Gary Purtilo	319/357-1814(C)
		319/872-5810(H)
	-Mike Macke	319/480-0397(C)
		319/652-6052(H)
50 Jasper	-Darrell Batterson	515/521-2003(C)
		515/792-8398(H)
51 Jefferson	-Chris Flynn	515/469-9115(C)
		515/693-8008(H)
52 Johnson	-Susan Hager	319/330-9710(C)
		319/338-6003(H)
52 Johnson	-Tim Dorr	319/357-1813(C)
		319/643-2624(H)
53 Jones	-Mike Macke	319/480-0397(C)
		319/652-6052(H)
	-Gary Purtilo	319/357-1814(C)
		319/872-5810(H)
54 Keokuk	-Dallas Davis	319/330-9709(C)
		319/456-6035(H)

55	Kossuth	-Virginia Ashby	515/341-0685(C) 515/928-2435(H)
56	Lee	-Doug Franta	319/470-0788(C) 319/835-5426(H)
57	Linn	-Aric Sloterdyk	319/350-2863(C) 319/373-1105(H)
		-Kirby Bragg	319/350-2871(C) 319/848-3250(H)
58	Louisa	-Larry Dessner	319/260-1225(C) 319/728-7351(H)
59	Lucas	-Rick Schlutz	515/344-0251(C) 515/535-2483(H)
60	Lyon	-Marty Eby	712/548-3300(C) 712/475-3697(H)
61	Madison	-Dennis Nelson	515/238-5005(C) 515/996-2455(H)
62	Mahaska	-Mike Ryan	515/660-0741(C) 515/637-4537(H)
63	Marion	-John Mertz	515/891-2004(C) 515/842-6472(H)
		-Stacy Sisco	515/891-2005(C) 515/848-3330(H)
64	Marshall	-Gary Sisco	515/750-0565(C) 515/475-3215(H)
65	Mills	-Dan Cain	712/520-0507(C) 712/829-2338(H)
66	Mitchell	-Alan Roemig	319/240-9174(C) 515/732-3307(H)
67	Monona	-Jens Bruun	712/420-2966(C) 712/423-1591(H)
68	Monroe	-Mike Runyan	515/777-2163(C) 515/932-2934(H)
		-Randy McPherran	515/777-2164(C) 515/452-6630(H)
69	Montgomery	-Dan Cain	712/520-0507(C) 712/829-2338(H)
70	Muscatine	-Tom Campbell	319/260-1223(C) 319/627-6695(H)
		-Shawn Meier	319/260-1224(C) 319/626-2584(H)
71	O'Brien	-Gary Biederman (east 1/2)	712/261-1204(C) 712/834-2554(H)
		-John Sells (west 1/2)	712/261-1201(C) 712/727-3773(H)
72	Osceola	-Marty Eby	712/548-3300(C) 712/475-3697(H)
73	Page	-Dave Tierney	712/520-0506(C) 712/629-7100(H)
74	Palo Alto	-Gary Koppie	515/341-2100(C) 712/852-3248(H)

75 Plymouth	-Mike Martin	712/548-3301(C) 712/239-3193(H)
76 Pocahontas	-Andrea Mekus	515/571-0106(C) 515/464-2735(H)
77 Polk	-Craig Lonneman	515/238-4849(C) 515/984-6638(H)
	-Lon Lindenberg	515/238-5006(C) 515/967-6407(H)
78 Pottawattamie	-Doug Clayton	402/689-8856(C) 712/323-9123(H)
78 Pottawattamie	-Joe Pestotnik	402/689-8854(C) 712/487-3152(H)
79 Poweshiek	-Mike Ryan	515/660-0741(C) 515/637-4537(H)
80 Ringgold	-Marc Roberg	515/344-0253(C) 515/347-8843(H)
81 Sac	-Dan Mork	712/830-0490(C) 712/662-3382(H)
82 Scott	-Larry Moore	319/349-9418(C) 319/344-9148(H)
	-Ed Kocal	319/349-8953(C) 319-324-1617(H)
83 Shelby	-Richard Johnson	712/269-1911(C) 712/642-3578(H)
84 Sioux	-John Sells	712/261-1201(C) 712/727-3773(H)
85 Story	-Mark Edwards	515/290-0177(C) 515/432-5819(H)
	-Bill Fribley	515/290-0527(C) 515/233-6747(H)
86 Tama	-Bob Mullen	515/750-1873(C) 515/484-3808(H)
87 Taylor	-David Moore	712/520-0508(C) 712/523-3556(H)
88 Union	-Marc Roberg	515/344-0253(C) 515/347-8843(H)
89 Van Buren	-Chris Flynn	515/469-9115(C) 515/693-8008(H)
90 Wapello	-Rod Pickens	515/777-2169(C) 515/664-1482(H)
	-Matt Rush	515/777-7805(C) 515/684-9148(H)
91 Warren	-Craig Cutts	515/238-4847(C) 515/942-6441(H)
92 Washington	-Steve Messinger	319/653-1636(C) 319/694-3650(H)
93 Wayne	-Rick Schlutz	515/344-0251(C) 515/535-2483(H)
94 Webster	-Brian Smith	515/571-0127(C) 712/297-5353(H)

95	Winnebago	-Richard Bowman	515/425-0821(C) 515/568-3395(H)
96	Winneshiek	-Dave Arp	319/380-0496(C) 319/382-4394(H)
97	Woodbury	-Steve Jauron	712/548-3302(C) 712/943-4189(H)
		-Joli Vollers	712/548-3303(C) 712/384-2348(H)
98	Worth	-Richard Bowman	515/425-0821(C) 515/568-3395(H)
99	Wright	-Ken Lonneman	515/425-0823(C) 515/923-2835(H)

Personal Watercraft Regulations & Courtesy

- Keep the neighborhood peace and quiet in mind. Try not to ride for long periods in a small area. Instead, do your riding out in the lake and away from shore and other boaters.
- Don't ride too close to other boats - especially other personal watercraft.
- Make gradual turns. Turning too sharply can cause you to spin out and stop, giving any boat following you ample time to run you down.
- Look before turning. If someone is in the process of passing you, you could turn right into them.
- While towing a person on water skis or other device, you must have an additional person on board to act as an observer. Your PWC must have a capacity for three people in order to legally waterski.
- You must be at least 12 years of age before you can operate a PWC.
- It is recommended you wear a US Coast Guard approved Type I, II, III or V personal flotation device (life vest)
- Must have fire extinguisher on board.
- Don't jump wake of another boat within 100 feet of the craft.
- Must obey all Iowa boating regulations.

Visit the DNR Website

You can access the DNR's homepage as follows:

www.state.ia.us/dnr

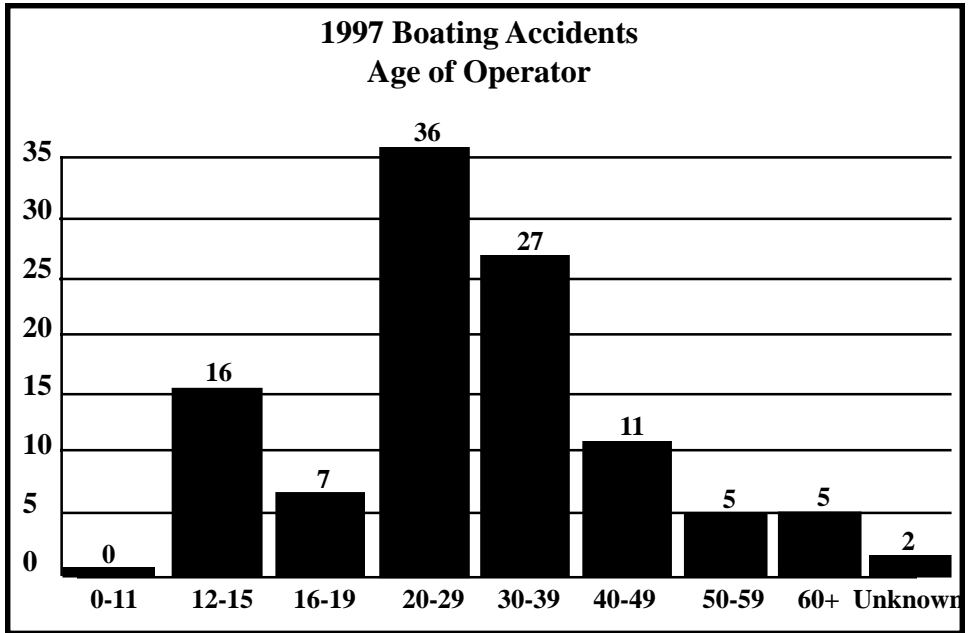
While you are online, you might want to check out these other boating information web sites:

- United States Coast Guard: www.uscgboating.org;
- National Safe Boating Council: www.safeboatingcouncil.org/index.html;
- Boat/U.S. Foundation: www.boatus.com;
- United States Power Squadrons: www.usps.org;
- Center for Marine Conservation: www.cmc-ocean.org; and
- Nautical Know How-Boating Safety Course: www.boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/index.htm.

1997 Boating Accident Summary

In 1997 Iowa recorded 93 boating accidents which included 58 personal injuries (injuries requiring medical treatment beyond first aid) and five fatalities. Personal property damage exceeded \$300,000. The three most common types of accidents included watercraft colliding with another vessel, falling overboard and capsizing. The primary causes of most accidents were operator negligence, excessive speed and operating on hazardous water. Personal watercraft were involved in 44% of the accidents.

An operator's boating accident report is required whenever a death occurs, injury requiring medical treatment beyond first aid, or damage to the vessel and other property totaling more than \$500, or a complete loss of the vessel, or a person disappears from the vessel under circumstances that indicate death or injury. An operator's boating accident report form is included for your convenience in this brochure.



**Boat Smart From The Start -
Wear Your Life Jacket!!**

BOATING SAFETY COURSES

The DNR has developed a home study boating safety course which is ideal for ages 12 and older. Those who successfully complete the course will receive a certificate and safety boating patch from the DNR. Successful students may also receive a discount on their boating insurance from several companies. You may receive your course materials by writing to the DNR, Boating Safety Program, Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0034 or telephone (515) 281-5918.

For other courses in basic boating techniques and navigation contact:

1. Conservation Officer in your area
2. U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
State Liaison Officer
7024 Oak Brook Dr., Urbandale, IA 50322
(515)271-3870
3. U.S. Power Squadron,
Rex LeCocq
4805 NW 86th St, #31
Des Moines, IA 50322
515/278-4912
4. Red Cross
2116 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50312
(515)243-6281

OR contact the Recreation Safety Officer in your area:

5. Recreation Safety Officers:
- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| NW - Dist. 1. Jennifer Sells | 712/261-1202(C)
712/727-3773(H) |
| NE - Dist. 2. Ronna Miner | 319/240-8640(C)
319/984-5245(H) |
| SW - Dist. 3. Dale Anderson | 712/250-0302(C)
712/769-2231(H) |
| SE - Dist. 4. Craig Jackson | 319/357-1812(C)
319/886-2203(H) |
| NC - Dist. 5. Arlen Throne | 515/425-0826(C)
515/423-1151(H) |
| SC - Dist. 6. Rod Slings | 515/238-4955(C)
515/225-1642(H) |

INFORMATION

For questions concerning specific regulations in certain areas check with the Conservation Officer closest to that area. For any further information contact the DNR, Des Moines, Iowa, telephone (515) 281-5918.

