

*the*  
**BOATER'S GUIDE**

**to Maine Boating Laws and  
Responsibilities**



## Simple Steps to Safe Boating

Statistics show that drinking alcohol while boating and not wearing a life jacket are major causes of boating accidents and fatalities.

### Avoid Alcohol

Research has proven that one-third of the amount of alcohol that makes a person legally intoxicated on land can make a boater equally intoxicated on the water. Most people become impaired after only one drink. To minimize the risk of an accident, make the wise choice—***Don't drink and boat!***



### Wear a Life Jacket

Recent year averages show that 90% of drowning victims were not wearing a life jacket. Drownings are rare when boaters wear a proper life jacket. To make your day of boating safe and enjoyable, always carry enough life jackets for everyone on board and have everyone wear them.



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# BOATER'S GUIDE

to

# Maine Boating Laws and Responsibilities

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## Where to Find Additional Information

This handbook is a guide to Maine boating laws.

- To stay up to date on new boating laws, call the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (MDIFW) at **207-287-8000**, or visit our website at **[www.maine.gov/ifw](http://www.maine.gov/ifw)**.
- For federal boating laws, visit the U.S. Coast Guard's boating safety website at **[www.uscgboating.org](http://www.uscgboating.org)**.

Information in this handbook does not replace what is specifically legal for boating in Maine, which is found in Maine laws and rules and federal laws. Visit the following websites for further information:

- **[www.maine.gov/sos/cec/rules/09/137/137c013-2022-025.docx](http://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/rules/09/137/137c013-2022-025.docx)**
- **[www.mainelegislature.org/legis/statutes/12/title12.pdf](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/statutes/12/title12.pdf)**

# Before Going Out

Before going out on the water, take steps to make the outing safe and enjoyable.

## Watercraft Length

Length is measured from the tip of the bow in a straight line to the stern. This does not include outboard motors, brackets, rudders, bow attachments, or swim platforms and ladders that are not a molded part of the hull.

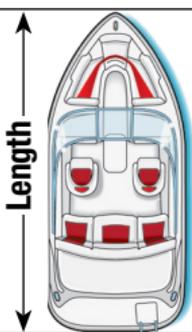
## Watercraft Capacity

- Always check the capacity plate, which is usually found near the operator's position or on the watercraft's transom. This plate indicates the maximum weight capacity and maximum number of people that the watercraft can carry safely.
- Personal watercraft (PWC) and some other watercraft are not required to have a capacity plate. Always follow the recommended capacity in the owner's manual and on the manufacturer's warning decal.

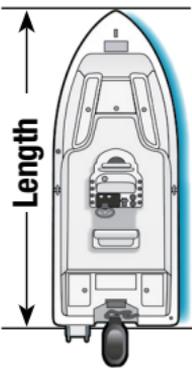
## Fueling a Watercraft

Never fuel at night unless it is an emergency. If you must refuel after dark, use only electric lights. Try to refuel away from the water or on a commercial fueling ramp.

### Inboards



### Outboards



## Float Plan

Before going out on a watercraft, it is always a good idea to leave a float plan with a relative or friend, or at least with a local marina. A float plan should:

- Describe the watercraft, including its registration number, length, make, horsepower, and engine type.
- State where you are going, the detailed route, your planned departure time, and your expected return time.
- Give the name, address, and telephone number of each person on board and an emergency contact.

### Pre-Departure Checklist

You can help ensure a good time while operating your watercraft by performing this pre-departure check.

- ✓ Check the weather forecast for the area and time frame during which you will be operating a watercraft.
- ✓ Make sure that the steering and throttle controls operate properly and all lights are working properly.
- ✓ Check for any fuel leaks from the tank, fuel lines, and carburetor.
- ✓ Check the engine compartment for oil leaks.
- ✓ Check hose connections for leaks or cracks, and make sure hose clamps are tight.
- ✓ Drain all water from the engine compartment, and be sure the bilge plug is replaced and secure.
- ✓ Check to be sure you have a fully charged engine battery and fire extinguishers.
- ✓ If so equipped, make sure the engine cut-off switch (ECOS) and wrist lanyard are in good order.
- ✓ Make sure you have the required number of personal flotation devices (PFDs), and check that they are in good condition.
- ✓ Leave a float plan with a reliable friend or relative.

# Protecting Our Waters

## Aquatic Invasive Species

### Three Simple Steps to Protect Maine's Waters

Don't let invasive species, such as milfoil, hydrilla, or zebra mussels, invade your favorite lake or pond.

1. **Clean** off visible aquatic plants, animals, and mud from watercraft, motor, trailer, and equipment before leaving water access.

2. **Drain** bilge water, engine water, live wells, and any other standing water sources at a location that will not drain directly into ANY state waters.



3. **Dry** completely before reuse.

### Help Us Keep It Maine: Protect Our Waters From Aquatic Invaders

Maine has some of the country's most pristine and healthy waters, which support high-quality habitat for fish and wildlife as well as endless opportunities for outdoor recreation.

Unfortunately, Maine waters, as well as the fish, wildlife, and recreation they support, are threatened each year by introductions of fish, plants, diseases, and other aquatic invasive species that compete with and displace native natural communities.

Once an invasive aquatic species has established in a body of water, it is extremely difficult for it to be eradicated. These efforts are costly, often risky, and not always successful.

Therefore, **prevention is key**. It's our duty as those who enjoy using Maine's waters to protect them against invasive species.

## Do Your Part

Before leaving and launching your boat:

- **CLEAN** off visible aquatic plants, animals, and mud from watercraft, motor, trailer, and equipment before leaving water access.
  - Scrub hull using a stiff brush.
  - Rinse watercraft, trailer, and equipment with high-pressure hot water when possible.
  - Flush motor according to owner's manual.
  - Users of Jet Boats and PWC: Clean off visible aquatic plants, animals, and mud from hull, trailer, intake grate, steering nozzle, etc. Run the engine for 5–10 seconds to blow out excess water and vegetation from internal drive before leaving water access.
  - Sailors: Clean off visible aquatic plants, animals, and mud from the centerboard, bilge board wells, rudder post, trailer, and other equipment before leaving water access.
- **DRAIN** bilge water, engine water, live wells, and any other standing water sources at a location that will not drain directly into ANY state waters.
- **DRY** completely before reuse.

Never transport any aquatic plants on watercraft or equipment (including trailers, anchors, nets, etc.). Fines can be up to \$2,500 for transporting any aquatic plant and up to \$500 for failing to affix the Lake and River Protection Sticker to your motorized craft.

## Trouble by the Bucketful

### Buckets of Trouble

Some individuals are thoughtlessly jeopardizing the future of Maine's unique native fisheries by deliberately introducing new fish they prefer to catch into state waters without regard for the environmental havoc they are inflicting. Illegal stocking may cause irreversible changes to Maine's entire aquatic ecosystem, creating costly issues with limited solutions. Other individuals dump the contents of their bait buckets, unknowingly releasing invasive threats that may be residing in the waters of the bait bucket.



- Empty your bait bucket on land. Never release live bait into a body of water or release other fish and aquatic animals from one body of water into another; it's the law.
- Please help fight this serious problem by remaining observant and reporting those who are committing these illegal acts.
  - Maine law requires you to immediately kill any fish that you decide to keep.
  - It is illegal to transport live fish (other than legal baitfish) without a permit.
  - It is illegal to import any live fish or eggs (including baitfish) into Maine without a permit.
- There is a \$10,000 fine for illegal stocking.
- There is a \$2,000 reward for information leading to a conviction.

If you see or suspect someone is moving live fish, contact the Maine Warden Service immediately at **1-800-ALERT-US** or report the offense at [www.maineogt.org](http://www.maineogt.org).

### Operation Game Thief

Maine Operation Game Thief is a private, non-profit organization that works with the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (MDIFW) and pays rewards to those who turn in poachers.

To report a fish or wildlife violation:

- Call Operation Game Thief at **1-800-ALERT-US (1-800-253-7887)**.
- Fill out a Tip Reporting Form on our website at [www.maineogt.org](http://www.maineogt.org).



## Lookout for Wildlife

A wide variety of animals use the open water of the lake as well as shoreline habitats. Be mindful when you see any wildlife—such as loons and other waterfowl, turtles, otters, and beavers—and slow down to give them a wide berth.

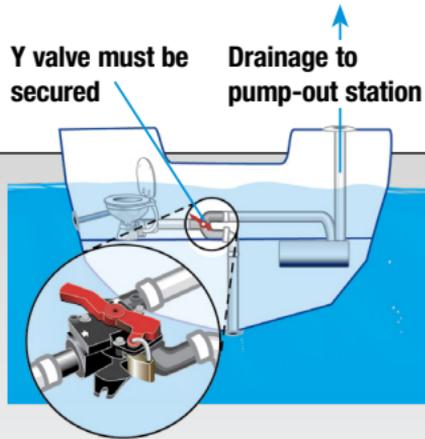


Courtesy of U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

## Discharge of Waste

- If you have a recreational watercraft with permanently installed toilet facilities, it must have an operable marine sanitation device (MSD) on board.
- Watercraft 65 feet or less in length may use a Type I, II, or III MSD. Watercraft more than 65 feet in length must install a Type II or III MSD.
- All installed devices must be USCG-certified and working properly.

Typical Marine Sanitation Device



### Types of MSDs

There are three types of MSDs.

- Types I and II MSDs are usually found on large watercraft. Waste is treated with special chemicals to kill bacteria before the waste is discharged. Types I and II MSDs with Y valves that would direct the waste overboard must be secured so that the valve cannot be opened. This can be done by placing a lock or non-reusable seal on the Y valve or by taking the handle off the Y valve in a closed position.
- Type III MSDs provide no treatment and are either holding tanks or portable toilets. Collected waste should be taken ashore and disposed of in a pump-out station or onshore toilet.

## Discharge of Oil and Other Hazardous Substances

- You are not allowed to discharge oil or hazardous substances into the water.
- You are not allowed to dump oil into the bilge of the watercraft without means for proper disposal.
- You must dispose of oil waste at an approved reception facility. On recreational watercraft, a bucket or bailer is adequate for temporary storage prior to disposing of the oil waste at an approved facility.
- If operating a watercraft on federally controlled waters and your watercraft is 26 feet or longer, you must display a 5 x 8-inch placard made of durable material, fixed in a conspicuous place in the machinery spaces or at the bilge pump control station, stating the Federal Water Pollution Control Act's law.

If your watercraft discharges oil or hazardous substances into the water:

- Immediately call the National Response Center at **1-800-424-8802**.
- Also call the Maine Department of Environmental Protection at **1-800-452-1942**.

## Discharge of Trash

It is illegal to dump refuse, garbage, or plastics into any state or federally controlled waters. In Maine, this includes throwing, dropping, depositing, dumping, or otherwise disposing of litter in any manner or amount into any freshwater lake, river, stream, or tidal or coastal water or onto ice over water.

- You must store trash in a container while on board and place it in a proper receptacle after returning to shore.
- Anyone who violates the littering laws may be fined.
- If operating a watercraft on federally controlled waters and your watercraft is 26 feet or longer, you must display a Garbage Disposal Placard that is at least 4 x 9 inches and notifies passengers and crew about discharge restrictions.

### Remember...

It is illegal to discharge oil, garbage, sanitary waste, or any other hazardous substances into any state or federally controlled waters. You may be fined between \$500 and \$1,000 for each day of violation.

# On the Water

Safe navigation on Maine waterways is everyone's responsibility. All operators are equally responsible for taking action necessary to avoid collisions.

## Encountering Other Watercraft

There are some rules that every operator should follow when encountering other watercraft. It is the responsibility of both operators to take the action needed to avoid a collision. The next page shows what to do when encountering another watercraft.

**To prevent collisions, every operator should follow the three basic rules of navigation.**

- Practice good seamanship.
- Keep a sharp lookout.
- Maintain a safe speed and distance.

## Encountering Watercraft With Limited Maneuverability

- When operating a power-driven watercraft, you must give way to:
  - Any watercraft not under command, such as an anchored or disabled watercraft.
  - Any watercraft restricted in its ability to maneuver, such as a watercraft towing another or laying cable, or one constrained by its draft, such as a large ship in a channel.
  - A watercraft engaged in commercial fishing.
  - A sailboat under sail unless it is overtaking.
- When operating a watercraft under sail, you must give way to:
  - Any watercraft not under command.
  - Any watercraft restricted in its ability to maneuver.
  - A watercraft engaged in commercial fishing.

For encountering laws specific to Maine, refer to "Rules of Operation for Watercraft on Internal Waters."

## Navigation Rules

There are two terms that help explain these rules.

- **Stand-on watercraft:** The watercraft that should maintain its course and speed
- **Give-way watercraft:** The watercraft that must take early and substantial action to avoid collision by stopping, slowing down, or changing course

### Power vs. Power



### Meeting Head-On

**Power vs. Power:** Neither watercraft is the stand-on watercraft. Both watercraft should keep to the starboard (right).

**Power vs. Sail:** The powerboat is the give-way watercraft. The sailboat is the stand-on watercraft.

### Crossing Situations

**Power vs. Power:** The watercraft on the operator's port (left) side is the give-way watercraft. The watercraft on the operator's starboard (right) side is the stand-on watercraft.

**Power vs. Sail:** The powerboat is the give-way watercraft. The sailboat is the stand-on watercraft.

### Overtaking

**Power vs. Power:** The watercraft that is overtaking another watercraft is the give-way watercraft. The watercraft being overtaken is the stand-on watercraft.

**Power vs. Sail:** The watercraft that is overtaking another watercraft is the give-way watercraft. The watercraft being overtaken is the stand-on watercraft.

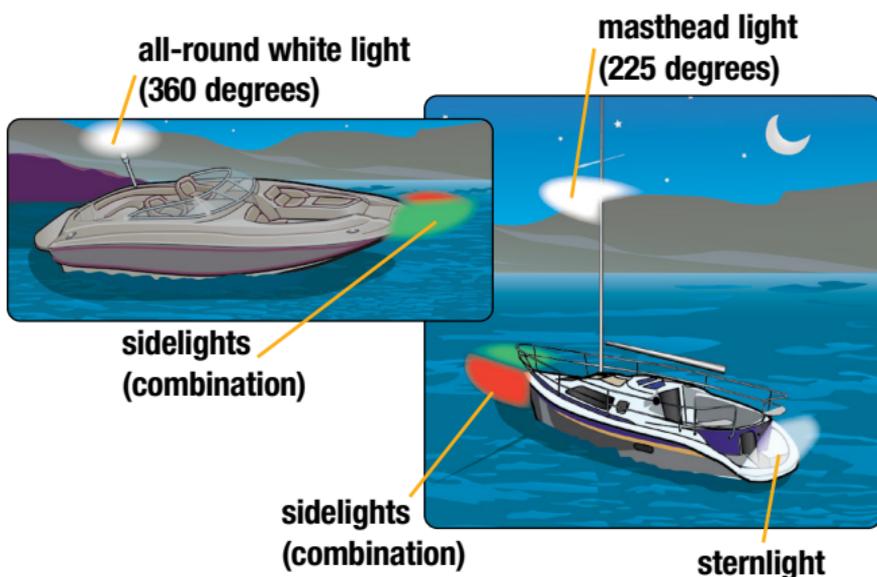
### Power vs. Sail



## Nighttime or Restricted Visibility Navigation

Be on the lookout for the lights of other watercraft when operating at night. Several types of lights serve as navigational aids at night. There are four common navigation lights.

- **Sidelights:** These red and green lights are called sidelights (also called combination lights) because they are visible to another watercraft approaching from the side or head-on. The red light indicates a watercraft's port (left) side; the green indicates a watercraft's starboard (right) side.
- **Sternlight:** This white light is seen from behind or nearly behind the watercraft.
- **Masthead Light:** This white light shines forward and to both sides and is required on all power-driven watercraft. A masthead light must be displayed by all watercraft when under engine power. The absence of this light indicates a sailboat under sail.
- **All-Round White Light:** On power-driven watercraft less than 40 feet in length, this light may be used to combine a masthead light and sternlight into a single white light that can be seen by other watercraft from any direction. This light serves as an anchor light when sidelights are extinguished.



## Encountering Watercraft at Night



When you see only a white light, you are overtaking another watercraft. It is the stand-on watercraft whether it is underway or anchored. You may go around it on either side.



When you see a green and a white light, you are the stand-on watercraft. However, remain alert in case the other watercraft operator does not see you or does not know the navigation rules.



When you see a red and a white light, you must give way to the other watercraft! Slow down and allow the watercraft to pass, or you may turn to the right and pass behind the other watercraft.

## U.S. Aids to Navigation System (ATON)

Buoys and markers are the “traffic signals” that guide watercraft operators safely along some waterways. They also identify dangerous or controlled areas and give directions and information. As a recreational motorboat or PWC operator, you will need to know the lateral navigation markers and non-lateral markers of the U.S. Aids to Navigation System.

### Lateral Markers

These navigation aids mark the edges of safe water areas; for example, directing travel within a channel. The markers use a combination of colors and numbers, which may appear on either buoys or permanently placed markers.

**Red colors, red lights, and even numbers**

indicate the right side of the channel as a boater enters from the open sea or heads upstream.

**Green colors, green lights,**

**and odd numbers** indicate the left side of the channel as a boater enters from the open sea or heads upstream.

**Red and green colors and/or lights** indicate the preferred (primary) channel. If green is on top, the preferred channel is to the right as a boater enters from the open sea or heads upstream; if red is on top, the preferred channel is to the left.



**Nuns** are red cone-shaped buoys marked with even numbers.

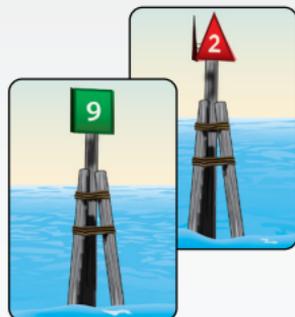


**Cans** are green cylindrical-shaped buoys marked with odd numbers.



**Lighted Buoys** use the lateral marker colors and numbers discussed above; in addition, they have a matching colored light.

**Daymarks** are permanently placed signs attached to structures, such as posts, in the water. Common daymarks are red triangles (equivalent to nuns) and green squares (equivalent to cans). They may be lighted also.





## Red Right Returning

is a reminder of the correct course when returning from open waters or heading upstream.

## Non-Lateral Markers

Non-lateral markers are navigation aids that give information other than the edges of safe water areas. The most common are regulatory markers that are white and use orange markings and black lettering. These markers are found on lakes and rivers.



### Information

Squares indicate where to find food, supplies, repairs, etc., and give directions and other information.

### Controlled

Circles indicate a controlled area such as speed limit, no fishing or anchoring, ski only or no skiing, or "slow, no wake."



### Exclusion

Crossed diamonds indicate areas off limits to all watercraft such as swimming areas, dams, and spillways.

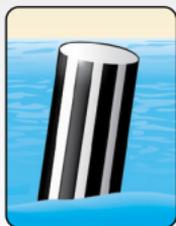
### Danger

Diamonds warn of dangers such as rocks, shoals, construction, dams, or stumps. Always proceed with caution.



## Other Non-Lateral Markers

**Safe Water Markers** are white with red vertical stripes and mark mid-channels or fairways. They may be passed on either side.



**Inland Waters Obstruction Markers** are white with black vertical stripes and indicate an obstruction to navigation. You should not pass between these buoys and the nearest shore.

## Mooring Buoy

Mooring buoys are white with a blue horizontal band and are found in marinas and other areas where watercraft are allowed to anchor.

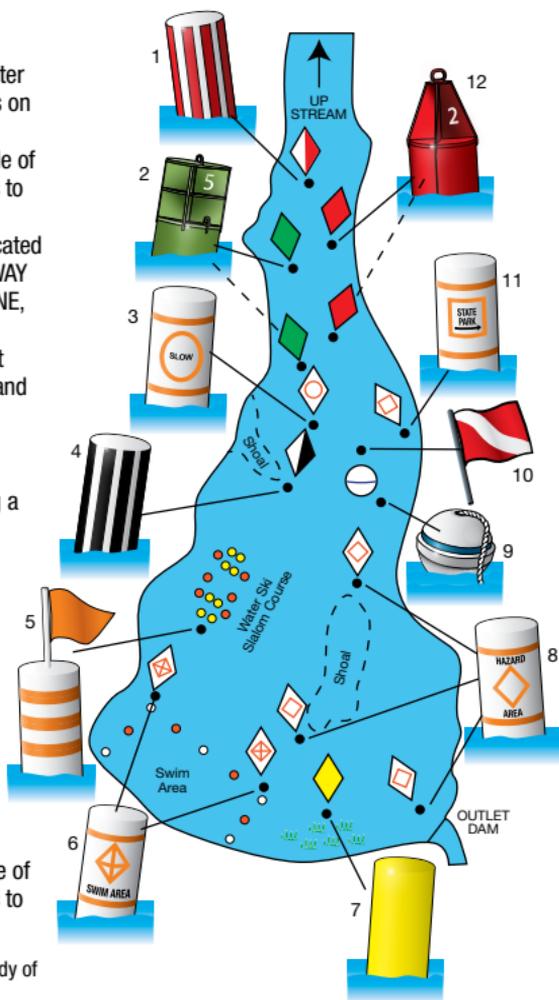


## Nautical Charts

Nautical charts, such as the one shown here, contain important information.

- Safe Water Marker:** Marks center of channel. Watercraft may pass on either side.
- Green Can Buoy:** Marks left side of channel. Watercraft should pass to the right of buoy.\*
- Control!** Type of control is indicated within the circle such as HEADWAY SPEED ONLY, SAFETY SLOW ZONE, etc.
- Obstruction Marker:** Watercraft should not pass between buoy and nearest shore.
- Race Course Marker**
- No Boats!** Diamond with cross indicates areas where operating a watercraft is prohibited.
- Milfoil Area**
- Danger!** Warns of rocks, reefs, dams, or other hazards.
- Mooring Buoy:** Shows where watercraft are allowed to anchor.
- Divers Flag!** Stay at least 100 feet away.
- Information!** Tells distances, locations, or other official information.
- Red Nun Buoy:** Marks right side of channel. Watercraft should pass to left of buoy.\*

\* When entering a channel from main body of water or proceeding upstream.



## Weather Emergencies

Weather can change very rapidly and create unexpected situations for watercraft operators. Even meteorologists have trouble predicting rapid weather changes. You should always monitor weather developments. One way is to tune a VHF radio to the frequencies listed under “VHF Frequencies Broadcasting NOAA Weather Reports.”

### What to Do if Caught in Severe Weather

#### ■ Prepare the watercraft to handle severe weather.

- Slow down, but keep enough power to maintain headway and steering.
- Close all hatches, windows, and doors to reduce the chance of swamping.
- Stow any unnecessary gear.
- Turn on your watercraft’s navigation lights. If there is fog, sound your fog horn.
- Keep bilges free of water. Be prepared to remove water by bailing.
- If there is lightning, disconnect all electrical equipment. Stay as clear of metal objects as possible.

#### ■ Prepare your passengers for severe weather.

- Have everyone put on a U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)–approved personal flotation device (PFD). If passengers are already wearing their PFDs, make sure they are secured properly.
- Have your passengers sit on the watercraft floor close to the centerline for their safety and to make the watercraft more stable.

#### ■ Decide whether to go to shore or ride out the storm.

- If possible, head for the nearest shore that is safe to approach. If already caught in a storm, it may be best to ride it out in open water rather than try to approach the shore in heavy wind and waves.
- Head the bow into the waves at a 45-degree angle. PWC should head directly into the waves.

- If the engine stops, drop a “sea anchor” on a line off the bow to keep the bow headed into the wind and reduce drifting while you ride out the storm. In an emergency, a bucket will work as a “sea anchor.”
- If the sea anchor is not sufficient, anchor using your conventional anchor to prevent your watercraft from drifting into dangerous areas.

### VHF Frequencies Broadcasting NOAA Weather Reports

162.400 MHz	162.450 MHz	162.500 MHz	162.550 MHz
162.425 MHz	162.475 MHz	162.525 MHz	

These are the most commonly used VHF channels on United States waters.

**Channel 6** Intership safety communications.

**Channel 9** Communications between watercraft (commercial and recreational), and ship to coast (calling channel in designated USCG districts).

**Channel 13** Navigational use by commercial, military, and recreational watercraft at bridges, locks, and harbors.

**Channel 16** Distress and safety calls to USCG and others, and to initiate calls to other watercraft; often called the “hailing” channel. (Some regions use other channels as the hailing channel.) When hailing, contact the other watercraft, quickly agree to another channel, and then switch to that channel to continue conversation.

**Channel 22** Communications between the USCG and the maritime public, both recreational and commercial. Severe weather warnings, hazards to navigation, and other safety warnings are broadcast on this channel.

**Channels 24–28** Public telephone calls (to marine operator).

**Channels 68, 69, and 71** Recreational watercraft radio channels and ship to coast.

**Channel 70** Digital selective calling “alert channel.”

## Other Watercraft Emergencies

A safe watercraft operator knows how to prevent and respond to other emergencies related to the operation of watercraft.

### Falling Overboard

#### ■ To prevent persons from falling overboard:

- Don't sit on the gunwale, bow, seat backs, motor cover, or any other area not designed for seating.
- Don't sit on pedestal seats when underway at greater than idle speed.
- Don't stand up in or lean out from the watercraft.
- Don't move about the watercraft when underway.

#### ■ If someone on your watercraft falls overboard:

- Reduce speed, and toss the victim a throwable device.
- Turn your watercraft around and slowly pull alongside the victim, approaching the victim from downwind or into the current, whichever is stronger.
- Turn off the engine. Pull the victim on board over the stern, keeping the weight in the watercraft balanced.

### Capsizing or Swamping

#### ■ To reduce the risk of capsizing or swamping:

- Don't overload your watercraft. Balance the load.
- Slow your watercraft appropriately when turning.
- Secure the anchor line to the bow, never to the stern.
- Don't operate your watercraft in rough water or in bad weather.

#### ■ If you capsize or swamp your watercraft, or if you have fallen overboard and can't get back in:

- Stay with the watercraft.
- Try to reboard or climb onto it in order to get as much of your body out of the cold water as possible.

#### ■ If the watercraft sinks or floats away, don't panic.

- If wearing a PFD, remain calm and await help.
- If you aren't wearing a PFD, look around for one or for other buoyant items to use as a flotation device.
- In cold water, float rather than tread.

## Hypothermia

### ■ If you are operating a watercraft in cold water:

- Dress in several layers of clothing under your PFD or wear a wetsuit or drysuit.
- Learn to recognize the symptoms of hypothermia. Symptoms begin with shivering and bluish lips and nails, and progress to a coma and, ultimately, death.

### ■ To reduce the effects of hypothermia:

- Put on a PFD if not wearing one. It helps you to float without excessive movement and insulates your body.
- Get as much of your body out of the water as possible.
- Don't take your clothes off unless necessary—clothes can help you float and provide insulation.
- Don't thrash or move about. Excess motion consumes energy and increases loss of body heat.
- Draw your knees to your chest and your arms to your sides, protecting the major areas of heat loss.
- If others are in the water with you, huddle together with your arms around their shoulders.

## Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

Carbon monoxide is an invisible, odorless, tasteless gas that can be deadly. To prevent carbon monoxide poisoning, keep air flowing through the watercraft and take extreme caution when running a generator at a dock or at anchor.

- Whenever people are using a swim platform or are in the water close to the stern, turn off all gasoline-powered generators with transom exhaust ports.
- Swimmers should never enter the cavity between the swim platform and the stern of the watercraft.
- When operating a watercraft, be careful running downwind as exhaust gases may blow back on board. On cabin cruisers, be aware that exhaust gases can blow back into the stern when traveling into the wind.



# Personal Watercraft

Although a personal watercraft (PWC) is considered an inboard watercraft and comes under the same rules and requirements of any other watercraft, there are specific considerations for the PWC operator.

## Steering and Stopping a PWC

- PWC are propelled by drawing water into a pump and then forcing it out under pressure through a steering nozzle at the back of the unit. This “jet” of pressurized water is directed by the steering control—when the steering control is turned, the steering nozzle turns in the same direction. For example, if the steering control is turned right, the nozzle turns right and the jet of water pushes the back of the watercraft to the left, which causes the PWC to turn right.

steering control



steering nozzle

### **Remember—no power means no steering control...**

Most PWC and other jet-drive watercraft must have power in order to maintain control. If you allow the engine on a PWC or other jet-propelled watercraft to return to idle or shut off during operation, you may lose all steering control. Many PWC will continue in the direction they were headed before the engine was shut off, no matter which way the steering control is turned. New PWC allow for off-throttle steering.

- **Most PWC do not have brakes.** Always allow plenty of room for stopping. Just because you release the throttle or shut off the engine does not mean you will stop immediately. Even PWC that have a braking system do not stop immediately.

## Engine Cut-Off Switch (ECOS)

- Most PWC and any other watercraft come equipped by the manufacturer with an important device called an emergency engine cut-off switch (ECOS). If properly worn, this is a safety device that is designed to shut off the engine if the operator is thrown from the proper operating position. A new USCG rule requires that operators of vessels that are less than 26 feet in length and equipped with an ECOS device must use it at all times when on federal waters.

- A lanyard is attached to the ECOS and the operator's wrist or personal flotation device (PFD). The ECOS shuts off the engine if the operator falls off the PWC or out of the powerboat. If your watercraft does not come equipped with an ECOS, you should have one installed.
- In many states, it is illegal to ride your PWC without attaching the lanyard properly between the switch and yourself.



### Remember...

Beginning April 2021, a new federal rule requires operators of recreational vessels less than 26 feet in length to use the ECOS if the vessel is equipped with such a device. Operators must use the ECOS whenever the vessel is operating on plane or above displacement speed.

Though an ECOS is not required on Maine's inland waters if their boat is equipped with one, MDIFW highly encourages the operator to wear it. For more information on this federal requirement, visit

[www.uscgboating.org/recreational-boaters/engine-cut-off-switch-faq.php](http://www.uscgboating.org/recreational-boaters/engine-cut-off-switch-faq.php).

## Reboarding a Capsized PWC

After a fall, the PWC could be overturned completely. You should be familiar with the proper procedure to right the PWC and to reboard from the rear of the craft.

- Most manufacturers have placed a decal at the rear or bottom of the craft that indicates the direction to roll your PWC to return it to an upright position. If no decal exists, check your owner's manual or ask the dealer. If you roll it over the wrong way, you could damage your PWC.
- Practice reboarding with someone else around to make sure you can handle it alone. Don't ride your PWC if you are very tired because reboarding would be difficult. Also, avoid riding where there are strong currents or winds, which could hamper your reboarding efforts.



## Courtesy When Encountering Other Watercraft

- Jumping the wake of a passing watercraft, or riding too close to another PWC or any other watercraft, creates risks and is restricted or even prohibited in some states. The watercraft making the wake may block the PWC operator's view of oncoming traffic and also conceal the PWC operator from approaching watercraft. See "Unlawful Operation" for specific information on unlawful operation in Maine.
- Excessive noise from PWC often makes them unwelcome with other watercraft operators and people on shore. Be a courteous PWC operator.
  - Vary your operating area, and do not keep repeating the same maneuver.
  - Avoid congregating with other PWC operators near shore, which increases annoying noise levels.
  - Avoid making excessive noise near residential and camping areas, particularly early in the morning.
  - Avoid maneuvers that cause the engine exhaust to lift out of the water because that increases noise levels.
  - Do not modify your engine exhaust system if it increases the noise. Improperly modified exhausts will not make your PWC faster and may raise the noise to an illegal level.

## Environmental Considerations

When operating your PWC, consider the effect you may have on the environment.

- Make sure that the water you operate in is at least 30 inches deep. Riding in shallow water can cause bottom sediments or aquatic vegetation to be sucked into the pump, damaging your PWC and the environment.
- Avoid causing erosion by operating at slow speed and by not creating a wake when operating near shore or in narrow streams or rivers. See "Unlawful Operation" for specific speed and distance information in Maine.
- Do not dock or beach your PWC in reeds and grasses. This could damage fragile environments.



- Take extra care when fueling your PWC in or near the water. Oil and gasoline spills are very detrimental to the aquatic environment. Fuel on land if possible.
- Never use your PWC to disturb, chase, or harass wildlife.

## Other PWC Considerations

- Remember that everyone on board a PWC must wear a PFD.
- Keep hands, feet, loose clothing, and hair away from the pump intake area. Before cleaning debris away from the pump intake, be sure to shut off the engine.
- Keep everyone clear of the steering nozzle unless the PWC is shut off. The water jet can cause severe injuries.
- Frequently inspect your PWC's electrical systems (e.g., starter and engine gauge connections) to ensure there is no potential for electrical spark. Gas fumes could collect in the engine compartment and an explosion could occur. After fueling, sniff the engine compartment for any evidence of gas fumes.
- Never exceed the manufacturer's recommended capacity for your PWC.
- Know your limits, and ride according to your abilities.



PWC operators must obey laws that apply to other watercraft as well as obey additional requirements that apply specifically to the operation of PWC.

## Requirements Specific to PWC

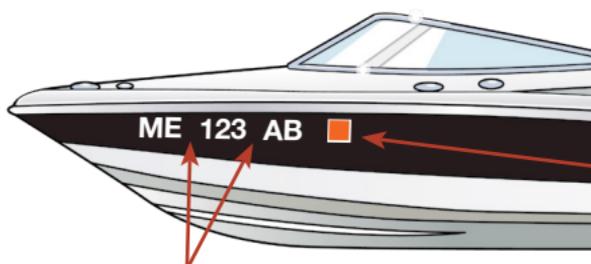
- *Everyone* on board a PWC must *wear* a USCG–approved wearable, non-inflatable PFD at all times.
- PWC may not be operated between sunset and sunrise, even with navigation lights.
- There are age restrictions on operators of PWC (see “Who May Operate a Watercraft”).
- If a person under 18 years of age is operating a PWC, the parent or guardian of the operator is responsible for the operator's actions.

# Before Going Out

All operators are required to obey laws that regulate your motorboat's registration and operation.

## Registering Your Motorboat

- You must have a Maine registration and validation stickers to operate your motorboat legally on public waters in Maine. The only exceptions are:
  - Motorboats owned by the United States government, a state, or a state's subdivision that are used for government purposes and identified as government-owned motorboats.
  - Motorboats documented with the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG).
  - A ship's lifeboat.
  - For motorboats registered in another state or country using Maine internal waters for less than 60 consecutive days, here are the requirements.
    - Maine registration and validation stickers are not required.
    - A valid Lake and River Protection Sticker is required. See "Schedule of Fees" for more information.
  - Motorboats used exclusively for racing purposes and displaying a motorboat number from a racing association.
  - Motorboats participating in a department-permitted boating event, such as a regatta, race, boat, or water-ski exhibition.
- *The registration must be on board and available for inspection by an enforcement officer whenever the motorboat is being operated. The only exception to this requirement is for a motorboat less than 26 feet long that is leased or rented to a person for non-commercial purposes. In this case:*
  - *The registration card may be retained on shore by the owner of the motorboat **and...***
  - *The person leasing or renting the motorboat must carry the lease agreement on board. The agreement must show the motorboat's registration number, the time period for the lease, and the signature of the motorboat's owner or his or her representative.*



**Spaces should appear here.**

### Registration/ Invasive Plant Sticker



- The registration number and validation stickers must be displayed as follows.
  - Number must be painted, applied as a decal, or otherwise affixed to both sides of the bow.
  - Number must read from left to right on both sides of the bow.
  - Number must be in at least 3-inch-high **BLOCK** letters.
  - Number's color must contrast sharply with its background.
  - Letters must be separated from the numbers by a space: **ME 123 AB.**
  - No other numbers may be displayed on either side of the bow.
  - Sticker must be affixed on both sides of the bow, three inches to the right of and directly in line with the number.
- If your watercraft requires registration, it is illegal to operate it or allow others to operate your watercraft unless it is registered and numbered as described above.

## Annual Excise Tax

- Owners of any watercraft located in Maine, including documented watercraft, must pay their annual excise tax.
  - Maine residents pay the tax to the town where they reside.
  - Non-residents or corporations pay the tax to the Maine town where the watercraft is principally moored, docked, or located.

- These watercraft are not required to pay the excise tax:
  - A lifeboat or raft carried by another watercraft
  - A watercraft that is for sale by a dealer
  - A commercial watercraft that has no established base of operation in Maine
  - A watercraft that is not in Maine for more than 75 days
  - A manually propelled watercraft 20 feet or less in length
  - A watercraft exempt from property tax
- Proof that the excise tax has been paid must be submitted with the registration application or renewal.
- Any watercraft exempt from registration but required to pay annual excise tax must display a sticker that shows the excise tax has been paid.

## Where to Register

- **Initial Registration:** The Inland Fisheries & Wildlife Office in Augusta is the central office for watercraft registration. Many Maine municipal tax collectors or town clerks are Recreational Vehicle Registration Agents for the Inland Fisheries & Wildlife Office.
  - To register a watercraft at the Augusta office or in a town other than your town of legal residence, you must first pay your annual excise tax in your town of residence. Be sure you have a receipt that shows the annual excise tax has been paid, or your watercraft cannot be registered at another location.
  - For applications or agent information, call **207-287-8000**.
- **Renewals:** Watercraft registrations may be renewed online if your town is part of the program. Visit the website at [www5.informe.org/online/boat](http://www5.informe.org/online/boat).

## Registration Questions?

Call the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife (MDIFW) at **207-287-8000**.

## Other Facts About Registering and Transferring Ownership

- Registration is valid for one year and expires on December 31 of the year when it was issued.
- When a registered watercraft is sold, follow this procedure.
  - The seller must remove and destroy the watercraft's validation stickers and notify the MDIFW of the transfer of ownership within 10 days of the transaction.
  - The validation sticker is not transferable. The new owner must register the watercraft and pay the registration fee.
- If you transfer ownership of your watercraft and purchase a new watercraft, you may apply for a transfer registration.
  - You must turn in your old registration when you apply for the transfer.
  - The registration is valid until December 31 of the current year.
- All motorboats operating on Maine internal waters must display the Lake and River Protection Sticker. This sticker shows that your motorboat complies with the Preserve Maine Waters program.
  - For motorboats registered in Maine, this sticker is part of the validation sticker and must be displayed on both sides of the motorboat.
  - Owners of motorboats not registered in Maine must purchase separate Lake and River Protection Stickers.
    - The stickers must be affixed to both sides of the bow, three inches to the right of the registration sticker and immediately to the right of the motorboat's validation sticker.
    - The stickers are non-transferable.
    - The stickers may be purchased from most Registration Agents or from the MDIFW main office in Augusta. The fee is \$45.
  - Motorboats operating *only* in territorial waters do not need to display a Lake and River Protection Sticker.

## Schedule of Fees\*

### Motorboat Registration Fees

Horsepower Rating	Inland Waters**	Tidal Waters
10 hp or less	\$30	\$15
Greater than 10 hp, less than or equal to 50 hp	\$35	\$20
Greater than 50 hp, less than or equal to 115 hp	\$41	\$26
Greater than 115 hp	\$49	\$34
Personal watercraft	\$49	\$34

\*Fees do not include agent fee.

\*\*Includes a \$15 fee for the control and prevention of invasive species.

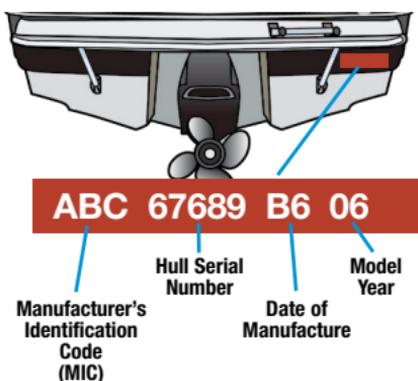
### Lake and River Protection Sticker Fees

If motorboat is:	Fee
Registered in Maine	Included in motorboat registration fee
Not registered in Maine	\$45

- The owner of a registered watercraft must notify the MDIFW within 10 days if:
  - He or she changes address.
  - The watercraft is stolen, recovered, destroyed, abandoned, or permanently removed from Maine.
- If you lose or destroy your registration or stickers, you must obtain a duplicate from a Registration Agent or from the MDIFW main office in Augusta.
- Larger recreational watercraft owned by U.S. citizens may (at the option of the owner) be documented by the USCG. Call the USCG at **1-800-799-8362** for more information.

## Hull Identification Number (HIN)

- The Hull Identification Number (HIN) is a unique 12-digit number assigned by the manufacturer to watercraft built after 1972.
- These numbers:
  - Distinguish one watercraft from another.
  - Are engraved in the fiberglass or on a metal plate permanently attached to the transom.
- You should write down your HIN and put it in a place separate from your watercraft in case warranty problems arise or your watercraft is stolen.



## Who May Operate a Watercraft

- **A person under 12 years of age** may not operate a motorboat propelled by machinery of more than 10 horsepower *unless* under the immediate supervision of a person in the motorboat who is at least 16 years of age.
- To operate a personal watercraft (PWC), the following restrictions apply.
  - **No one under 16 years of age** may operate a PWC.
  - **Persons 16 and 17 years of age** may operate a PWC *only if* they:
    - Have successfully completed an approved safety education course and carry on board proof of age and course completion *or...*
    - Are accompanied on board by a person 18 years of age or older.

## Permitted Watercraft Events

Permits for regattas, races, motorboat exhibitions, or water-skiing exhibitions to be held on Maine state waters must be obtained by submitting an application to the Commissioner of the MDIFW at least 15 days prior to the event. If the event is being held on federally controlled waters, a permit from the USCG is required also. Learn about requirements and permit process at [www.mefishwildlife.com/watercraftevents](http://www.mefishwildlife.com/watercraftevents).

## Local Regulations

Many waterways in Maine have special regulations such as prohibitions on operating PWC.

- Be sure to check for local regulations before you go boating.
- See “Watercraft Restrictions on Internal Waters” for horsepower restrictions on inland waters in Maine.

## License to Carry Passengers for Hire

- Watercraft operators carrying passengers for hire on state waters must have successfully completed a boater safety education course approved by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) (except licensed Maine guides and those who have a valid federal operator’s license). “Carrying passengers for hire” means receiving remuneration to carry passengers in a motorboat from one predetermined point to another predetermined point on inland waters.
- Operators carrying passengers for hire on federally controlled waters (see “Federally Controlled Waters”) must obtain a license from the USCG.

## Enforcement

Maine game wardens, Maine Marine Patrol officers, local harbor masters, and other law enforcement officers enforce the watercraft laws of Maine. USCG officers also patrol and have enforcement authority on federally controlled waters.

- Game wardens and other law enforcement officers have the authority to stop and board your watercraft in order to check that you are complying with state and federal laws.
- It is illegal to refuse to follow the directive of a person with law enforcement authority. An operator who has received a visual or audible signal from a law enforcement officer must bring his or her watercraft to a stop.



# Equipment & Requirements

## Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs)

- All watercraft—including canoes, kayaks, and stand-up paddleboards (SUPs)—must have at least one USCG–approved wearable personal flotation device (PFD), sometimes known as a life jacket, for each person on board.
- In addition, one USCG–approved throwable device must be on board watercraft 16 feet or longer (except canoes, kayaks, or SUPs).
- Besides being USCG–approved, all PFDs must be:
  - *In good and serviceable condition.*
  - *Readily accessible*, which means you are able to put the PFD on quickly in an emergency.
  - *Of the proper size for the intended wearer.* Sizing for PFDs is based on body weight and chest size.
  - Used in accordance with the manufacturer’s label.
- Children 10 years of age or younger must *wear* a USCG–approved PFD at all times while on board a watercraft unless the watercraft is docked, anchored, or moored.
- The following persons must *wear* a USCG–approved PFD.
  - Each person on board a PWC must *wear* a PFD. (PFD cannot be of inflatable design.)
  - Anyone canoeing/kayaking on the Saco River between Hiram Dam and the Atlantic Ocean from January 1 to June 1 must *wear* a PFD.
  - Anyone on board a watercraft on the Penobscot River between the gorge and the head of Big Eddy must *wear* a PFD.
  - Anyone on board a watercraft on the Kennebec River between Harris Station and Turtle Island, at the foot of Black Brook Rapids must *wear* a PFD.
- Anyone being towed behind a watercraft must *wear* a USCG–approved PFD, but it cannot be an inflatable PFD.
- These watercraft are exempt from PFD requirements.
  - Licensed canoes owned by a summer camp and used for teaching by a camp counselor at least 18 years old while within 500 feet of the camp’s shoreline
  - Log rafts with no more than two persons on board and used on ponds, lakes, or inland waters less than 50 acres in area
  - Float tubes whether or not being used for fishing

- These persons are exempt from the PFD requirements.
  - Persons on board a watercraft of the United States operated by foreign competitors while practicing for, or racing in competition, provided there is on board the watercraft one of the sponsoring foreign country's acceptable flotation devices for each competitor on board
  - Persons within territorial waters while utilizing a beach toy or surfboard in the narrow limits of a swimming, surfing, or bathing area
  - Persons within inland waters while utilizing a beach toy or surfboard in the narrow limits of a swimming area, such as a state park swimming area that is roped off and/or has buoys designating the area.
  - Persons actively engaged in competitive racing or training while in racing sculls, racing canoes, and racing kayaks that are recognized by national racing associations for use in competitive racing

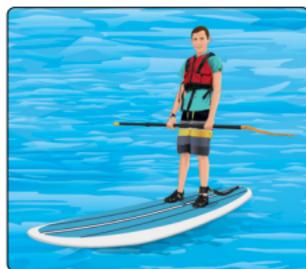
## Specifically for Stand-Up Paddleboards (SUPs)

The use of SUPs is growing in popularity in Maine. All paddleboards are SUPs. The USCG classifies SUPs as watercraft.

### Requirements for SUPs

When using an SUP, certain requirements apply.

- SUP users must comply with recreational watercraft laws and rules.
- SUPs must have:
  - A PFD for each person on board the watercraft.
  - A sound-producing device such as a whistle.
  - Navigation lights when used between sunset and sunrise—this may be a flashlight or a headlamp with a white light.
  - Visual distress signals when used on territorial waters between sunset and sunrise.





### Wearable Offshore Life Jackets

These vests are geared for rough or remote waters where rescue may take a while. They provide the most buoyancy, are excellent for flotation, and will turn most unconscious persons face up in the water.



### Wearable Near-Shore Vests

These vests are good for calm waters when quick rescue is likely. Wearable near-shore vests may not turn some unconscious wearers face up in the water.



### Wearable Flotation Aids

These vests or full-sleeved jackets are good for calm waters when quick rescue is likely. They are not recommended for rough waters because they will not turn most unconscious persons face up. *To be acceptable, inflatable PFDs must be worn.*



### Throwable Devices

These cushions and ring buoys are designed to be thrown to someone in trouble. Because a throwable device is not designed to be worn, it is neither for rough waters nor for persons who are unable to hold onto it.



### Wearable Special-Use Devices

These vests, deck suits, hybrid PFDs, and others are designed for specific activities, such as windsurfing, kayaking, or water-skiing. *To be acceptable, wearable special-use devices must be used in accordance with their labels.*

## Specifically for Skiing

Watercraft operators towing a person on water skis, a surfboard, or any other device have additional laws.

### Requirements for Towing Skiers

- All persons being towed behind a watercraft on water skis, surfboards, or any other device must *wear* a PFD, which cannot be of inflatable design. **Exception:** Performers engaged in exhibitions or tournaments authorized by the MDIFW do not need to comply with this requirement. Please review MDIFW rules for trick water-skiing exemptions.
- It is illegal for motorboat operators to tow persons on water skis, a surfboard, or any other device between one-half hour after sunset and one-half hour before sunrise. If the towing watercraft is a PWC, it may tow between sunrise and sunset only.
- Every watercraft towing a person(s) on water skis, a surfboard, or any other device must have on board, in addition to the watercraft operator, a responsible person at least 12 years of age in a position to observe the towed person(s) continuously. **Exception:** Watercraft operating within a regulation slalom course and that are equipped with rear-view wide-angle mirrors are exempt from this requirement.
- It is illegal to operate any watercraft in a reckless manner. Specifically, it is illegal to operate a watercraft towing a person(s) on any device:
  - Within 200 feet of any shoreline, including islands, unless operating in a manner that does not endanger any person or property while picking up or dropping off a person on water skis, surfboard, or other device.
  - In a way that causes the device or the person on the device to move within 200 feet of any shoreline, including islands.

A person may not operate a watercraft if its capacity would be exceeded by the persons in the watercraft plus the persons being towed. If towing a person with a PWC, the PWC should be rated to carry at least three people—the operator, the observer, and the person being towed.

## Navigation Lights

The required navigation lights must be displayed between sunset and sunrise and during periods of restricted visibility.

### Power-Driven Watercraft When Underway

■ **If less than 40 feet long**, these watercraft must exhibit the lights as shown in illustration 1. Remember, power-driven watercraft include sailboats operating under engine power.

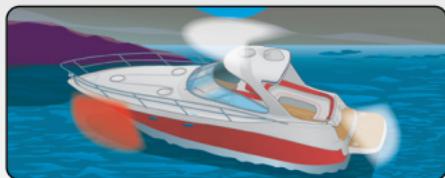
The required lights are:

- Red and green sidelights visible from a distance of at least one mile away on a dark, clear night.
- An all-round white light or masthead light. These lights must be visible from a distance of at least two miles away on a dark, clear night. The all-round white light (or the masthead light) must be placed as nearly as practical at the watercraft's stern.

#### 1. Power-Driven Watercraft Less Than 40 Feet



The masthead light must be placed on or near the watercraft's stern.



- **If between 40 feet and 64 feet long**, these watercraft must exhibit red and green sidelights and a masthead light. Remember, power-driven watercraft include sailboats operating under engine power. The required lights are:
  - Red and green sidelights visible from a distance of at least two miles away on a dark, clear night.
  - A masthead light visible from a distance of at least five miles away on a dark, clear night.

## Unpowered Sailing Watercraft When Underway

All unpowered sailing watercraft must exhibit sidelights and a stern light when underway.

- **If less than 65 feet long**, these watercraft must exhibit the lights as shown in illustration 2.
  - These watercraft can combine the required sidelights and stern light by carrying one lantern at or near the top of the mast where it can best be seen.
  - Additionally, these watercraft may exhibit two all-around lights at or near the top of the mast in a vertical line. In this arrangement, the top light should be red and the lower light should be green. These lights cannot be shown if the combined lantern is used.
- **If less than 23 feet long**, these watercraft should:
  - If practical, exhibit the same lights as required for unpowered sailing watercraft less than 65 feet in length.
  - If not practical, have ready at hand at least one lantern or flashlight shining a white light.

### 2. Unpowered Sailing Watercraft Less Than 65 Feet



An alternative to the sidelights and sternlight is a combined lantern, which must be exhibited near the top of the mast.

## Manually Propelled Watercraft

- All manually propelled watercraft that are paddled, poled, or rowed must have ready at hand one lantern or flashlight shining a white light as in illustration 3.
- Any watercraft under oars may exhibit the same lights as required for unpowered sailing watercraft less than 65 feet in length. If not practical, follow the requirement for all manually propelled watercraft.

### 3. Manually Propelled Watercraft



Watercraft operators should never leave shore without a flashlight or lantern. Even if you plan to return before dark, unforeseen developments might delay your return past nightfall.

## All Watercraft When Not Underway

- **All watercraft** are required to display a white light visible whenever they are moored or anchored outside a designated mooring area between sunset and sunrise.
- **Exception:** Manually propelled watercraft must have a white-light lantern or flashlight at the ready to prevent a collision.

## Fire Extinguishers

**Effective April 20, 2022**, any non-rechargeable (disposable) fire extinguisher that is older than 12 years should be removed from service. Refer to the date of manufacturing stamped on the bottle; for example, “05” means “2005.”

- All watercraft on federally controlled waters (see “Federally Controlled Waters”) are required to have a Type B USCG–approved fire extinguisher on board if one or more of the following conditions exist.
  - Any inboard engine
  - Double-bottoms that are not sealed to the hull or that are not filled completely with flotation materials
  - Closed living spaces

- Closed compartments where portable fuel tanks may be stored or in which flammable or combustible materials may be stored
- Permanently installed fuel tanks
- On Maine waters, an outboard watercraft less than 26 feet in length that is not carrying passengers for hire is not required to have a fire extinguisher on board if the watercraft is constructed in a way that does not permit the entrapment of explosive or flammable gases or vapors.
- Even if a fire extinguisher is not required on your watercraft, it is recommended that you always carry one on board in case of an emergency.

The following information is **effective April 20, 2022**.

- Vessels that have a **model year** of 2018 and newer may carry only 5-B or 20-B rated fire extinguishers with date stamp.
- Vessels with a model year between 1953 and 2017 may carry either:
  - Unexpired 5-B or 20-B rated fire extinguishers *or...*
  - B-I or B-II rated fire extinguishers that are in good and serviceable condition.

**Model Year** means the period beginning June 1 of a year and ending on July 31 of the following year and being designated by the year in which it ends.

Use this chart to determine the size and quantity required for your watercraft.

Fire Extinguisher Requirements			
Classification	Foam	Carbon Dioxide	Dry Chemical
type & size	minimum gallons	minimum pounds	minimum pounds
5-B	1¼	4	2
20-B	2½	15	10
Length of Watercraft	Without Fixed System	With Fixed System*	
Less than 26 ft.	one 5-B	none	
26 ft. to less than 40 ft.	two 5-B (or one 20-B)	one 5-B	
40 ft. to less than 65 ft.	three 5-B (or one 20-B and one 5-B)	two 5-B (or one 20-B)	
*refers to a permanently installed fire extinguisher system			

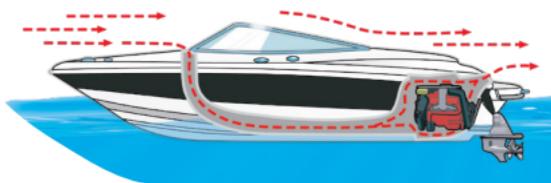
*Note: One 20-B portable fire extinguisher may be substituted for two 5-B portable fire extinguishers. For vessels with a model year between 1953 and 2017, one 20-B/B-II portable fire extinguisher may be substituted for two 5-B/B-I portable fire extinguishers.*

- Approved types of fire extinguishers are identified by the following marking on the label—“Marine Type USCG Approved”—followed by the type and size symbols and the approval number.
- When required by the USCG, fire extinguishers must be on board the vessel and readily accessible—where they can be easily reached. When deciding on a place to store a fire extinguisher, make sure to consider how easy it is to reach in the event of a fire. It is recommended that the fire extinguisher be conspicuously and securely mounted on its intended hanger or bracket.
- Extinguishers must not be expired or appear to have been previously used. They must be maintained in good and serviceable condition. Good and serviceable condition means that the fire extinguisher on board:
  - Is charged and indicates it is charged if the extinguisher has a pressure gauge reading or indicator *and...*
  - Has a pin lock that is firmly in place *and...*
  - Does not show visible signs of significant corrosion or damage *and...*
  - Has a discharge nozzle that is clean and free of obstructions.

## Ventilation Systems

The purpose of ventilation systems is to avoid explosions by removing flammable gases. Properly installed ventilation systems greatly reduce the chance of a life-threatening explosion.

- All gasoline-powered watercraft, constructed in a way that would entrap fumes, must have at least two ventilation ducts fitted with cowls to remove the fumes.
- If your watercraft is equipped with a power ventilation system, turn it on for at least four minutes both after fueling and before starting your engine.
- If your watercraft is not equipped with a power ventilation system (for example, a PWC), open the engine compartment and sniff for gasoline fumes before starting the engine.



## Backfire Flame Arrestors

Because watercraft engines may backfire, all gasoline engines installed in a powerboat (except outboard motors) must have a USCG–approved (comply with SAE J-1928 or UL 1111 standards) backfire flame arrestor on each carburetor.

## Mufflers

Watercraft operators may not hear sound signals or voices if the engine is not adequately muffled.

- All watercraft must be equipped with an effective and suitable muffling device to deaden or muffle the noise of the exhaust. The muffling system must be in good working order and in constant operation.
- It is illegal to alter the muffler if the result is increased noise.
- A watercraft (excluding an airboat) may not be operated if its noise level exceeds:
  - 90 decibels during a stationary sound level test *or...*
  - 75 decibels during an operational test.
- An airboat may not be operated if its noise level exceeds:
  - 90 decibels as measured in a stationary sound level test or between the hours of 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. *or...*
  - 75 decibels during a shoreline test except as needed to achieve headway speed when leaving a boat launch or to move the airboat from a stationary position on a tidal flat *or...*
  - 90 decibels during a shoreline test between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. except as needed to achieve headway speed when leaving a boat launch or to move the airboat from a stationary position on a tidal flat.

## Visual Distress Signals (VDSs)

Visual distress signals (VDSs) are not required on inland waters in Maine, but watercraft operators are encouraged to have them on board as an additional safety measure.

- Watercraft on **federally controlled waters** must be equipped with VDSs that are USCG–approved, in serviceable condition, and readily accessible.
- All watercraft being operated on the ocean between sunset and sunrise, regardless of length or type, are required to carry a VDS that can be used as a night signal.



- Most watercraft being operated on the ocean are required to carry VDSs that can be used as a daytime signal, exceptions are:
  - Watercraft that are less than 16 feet in length.
  - Non-motorized open sailboats that are less than 26 feet in length.
  - Manually propelled watercraft.
  - Watercraft competing in any organized marine parade, regatta, race, or similar event on coastal waters.
- If pyrotechnic VDSs are used, a minimum of three must be carried in the watercraft.
- It is prohibited to display VDSs while on the water unless assistance is required to prevent immediate or potential danger to persons on board.

VDSs are classified as day signals (visible in bright sunlight), night signals (visible at night), or both day and night signals. VDSs are either pyrotechnic (smoke and flames) or non-pyrotechnic (non-combustible).



### Day

Handheld Orange Smoke (Pyrotechnic)  
 Floating Orange Smoke (Pyrotechnic)  
 Orange Flag (Non-Pyrotechnic)

### Night

Electric Light (Non-Pyrotechnic)

### Day and Night

Red Meteor (Pyrotechnic)  
 Red Flare (Pyrotechnic)

### Federally Controlled Waters

Watercraft must observe federal requirements on these waters:

- Coastal waters
- The Great Lakes
- Territorial seas
- Waters that are two miles wide or wider and are connected directly to one of the above



### Arm Signal

Although this signal does not meet VDS equipment requirements, wave your arms to summon help if you do not have other distress signals on board.

## Sound-Producing Devices

All watercraft must have an efficient whistle and/or other sound-producing device that can produce a blast that lasts at least two seconds. It is essential in periods of reduced visibility or whenever a watercraft operator needs to signal his or her intentions or position.

Length of Watercraft	Type of Device
Less than 40 feet no bell required	Whistle or horn capable of making efficient sound signal
40 feet to less than 65 feet no bell required	Whistle audible for 1/2 mile (12 dB)
65 feet to 330 feet bell required	Gong and whistle audible for 1 mile (130 dB)

## Diver-Down Flags

The USCG requires recreational watercraft engaged in diving, scuba diving, or snorkeling on federally controlled waters (i.e., the ocean) to display the Alfa diver-down flag.



**Divers Flag**

A rectangular red flag with a white diagonal stripe can be attached to a watercraft, float, or buoy.



**Alfa Flag**

A blue-and-white International Code Flag A (or Alfa flag) must be displayed on watercraft on federally controlled waters.

# On the Water

## Unlawful Operation

Maine law states that these dangerous operating practices are illegal.

- **Reckless Operation** of a watercraft, water ski, surfboard, or similar device is operating in a manner that recklessly creates a substantial risk of serious bodily injury to another person. For example, weaving your watercraft through congested waterway traffic is illegal, reckless operation.
- **Operating to Endanger** is operating a watercraft, water ski, surfboard, or similar device in a manner that endangers any person or property.
- **Imprudent Operation of a Watercraft** is engaging in prolonged circling, informal racing, wake jumping, or other types of continued and repeated activities that harass another person while operating on Maine waters.
- **Operating Within a Bathing Area** is operating a motorboat in an area that is marked or buoyed for bathing (swimming).
- **Improper Speed or Distance** is not keeping a proper speed and distance while operating a watercraft.
  - You may not operate at a rate of speed that is not reasonable and prudent for existing conditions.
    - Operators must regulate their speed to avoid endangering, injuring, or unnecessarily inconveniencing another watercraft and its occupants, whether anchored or underway.
    - Operators must also consider the effect of their watercraft's wake on waterfront piers, floats, other property, or shorelines.
  - You may not operate a watercraft at greater than “**headway speed**” while:
    - Within 200 feet of any shoreline, including islands.
    - Within a marina or an approved anchorage in coastal or inland waters.

“**Headway Speed**” means the slowest speed at which it is still possible to maintain steering and control of the watercraft.

**Exception:** Watercraft may operate at greater than headway speed in the areas stated while actively fishing or while following a direct course to pick up or drop off skiers.

- **Operating to Molest Wildlife** is chasing, molesting, harassing, driving, or herding wildlife with your watercraft, unless allowed during the open season on that species.
- **Unlawfully Permitting Operation** is negligently permitting another person to operate your watercraft in violation of Maine law.

## Rules of Operation for Watercraft on Internal Waters

In order to prevent the collision of watercraft, the following rules apply to the operation of all watercraft in relation to each other on the internal waters of this state.

1. When watercraft are approaching each other head-on, or nearly so, each watercraft shall direct their courses to the right and pass on the port side of each other and at a distance and speed so that the wake of each will not endanger the other.
2. When a watercraft desires to pass another watercraft on either side in the same direction, the overtaking watercraft shall keep clear of the overtaken watercraft and shall not pass until it is safe to do so, and then at such speed and distance so as not to endanger the overtaken watercraft. The overtaken watercraft has the right-of-way until the overtaking watercraft has safely passed.
3. When watercraft approach each other at right angles or obliquely, the watercraft approaching on the starboard (right) side has the right-of-way and the other watercraft, which has such watercraft on its right side shall keep out of the way of the other by directing her course to starboard so as to cross the stern of the other watercraft, or stop and reverse if necessary to avoid collision.
4. Watercraft under sail alone or being propelled by oars or paddles have the right-of-way over watercraft propelled by machinery, except when overtaking as described in 2.
5. In narrow channels, streams, and thoroughfares, every watercraft shall keep to the right of the middle of the channel in the direction which it is traveling when it is safe and practicable to do so.

6. It shall be the duty of every operator to abide by these rules. However, where immediate danger exists, the operator shall, if necessary, depart from these rules to the extent necessary to avoid collision.

## Steering and Sailing Rules

### Rule 1: Application

Rules in this section apply to any condition of visibility.

### Rule 2: Lookout

Every watercraft shall at all times maintain a proper lookout by sight and hearing as well as by all available means appropriate in the prevailing circumstances and conditions so as to make a full appraisal of the situation and of the risk of collision.

### Rule 3: Safe Speed

Every watercraft shall at all times proceed at a safe speed so that the operator can take proper and effective action to avoid collision and be stopped within a distance appropriate to the prevailing circumstances and conditions. In determining a safe speed, the following factors shall be among those taken into account.

1. By all watercraft:
  - a. the state of visibility;
  - b. the traffic density including concentrations of any watercraft on the water;
  - c. the manageability of the watercraft with special reference to stopping distance and turning ability in the prevailing conditions;
  - d. at night, the presence of background light such as from shore lights or from backscatter from her own lights;
  - e. the state of wind, water, weather, and current and the proximity of navigational hazards;
  - f. the draft in relation to the available depth of water.
2. Additionally, by watercraft with operational radar:
  - a. the characteristics, efficiency, and limitations of the radar equipment;
  - b. any constraints imposed by the radar range scale in use;
  - c. the effect on radar detection of the sea state, weather, and other sources of interference;

- d. the possibility that small watercraft, ice, and other floating objects may not be detected by radar at an adequate range;
- e. the number, location, and movement of watercrafts detected by radar;
- f. the more exact assessment of the visibility that may be possible when radar is used to determine the range of watercraft or other objects in the vicinity.

#### **Rule 4: Risk of Collision**

1. Every watercraft shall use all available means appropriate to the prevailing circumstances and conditions to determine if risk of collision exists. If there is any doubt, such risk shall be deemed to exist.
2. Proper use shall be made of radar equipment if fitted and operational, including long-range scanning to obtain early warning of risk of collision and radar plotting or equivalent systematic observation of detected objects.
3. Assumptions shall not be made on the basis of scanty information, especially scanty radar information.
4. In determining if risk of collision exists, the following considerations shall be among those taken into account.
  - a. Such risk shall be deemed to exist if the course or compass bearing of an approaching watercraft does not appreciably change.
  - b. Such risk may sometimes exist even when an appreciable course or bearing change is evident, particularly when approaching a very large watercraft or a tow or when approaching a watercraft at close range.

#### **Rule 5: Action to Avoid Collision**

1. Any action shall be taken in accordance with the rules of this part and, if the circumstances of the case admit, be positive, made in ample time, and with due regard to the observance of good seamanship.
2. Any alteration of course and/or speed to avoid collision shall, if the circumstances of the case admit, be large enough to be readily apparent to another watercraft observing visually or by radar; a succession of small alterations of course and/or speed should be avoided.

3. If there is sufficient space, alteration of course alone may be the most effective action to avoid a close-quarters situation provided that it is made in good time, is substantial, and does not result in another close-quarters situation.
4. Action taken to avoid collision with another watercraft shall be such as to result in passing at a safe distance. The effectiveness of the action shall be carefully checked until the other watercraft is finally past and clear.

## Obstructing Navigation

It is illegal to:

- Operate any watercraft in such a way that it will interfere unnecessarily with the safe navigation of other watercraft.
- Anchor a watercraft in the traveled portion of a river or channel in a way that will prevent or interfere with any other watercraft passing through the same area.
- Moor or attach a watercraft to a buoy (other than a mooring buoy), beacon, light, or any other navigational aid placed on public waters by proper authorities.
- Move, displace, tamper with, damage, or destroy any navigational aid.
- Obstruct a pier, wharf, watercraft ramp, or access to any facility.

## Homeland Security Restrictions

- Do not approach within 100 yards and slow to minimum speed within 500 yards of any U.S. Naval watercraft. If you need to pass within 100 yards of a U.S. Naval watercraft for safe passage, you must contact the watercraft or the USCG escort watercraft on VHF-FM channel 16.
- Observe and avoid all security zones. Avoid commercial port operation areas, especially those that involve military, cruise line, or petroleum facilities.
- Observe and avoid other restricted areas near dams, power plants, etc. Do not stop or anchor beneath bridges or in the channel.
- Keep a sharp eye out for anything out of the ordinary and report it to the closest authority.

## Alcohol and Drugs

- Maine law prohibits anyone from operating or attempting to operate a watercraft:
  - While under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs or a combination of liquor and drugs *or...*
  - While having 0.08% or more by weight of alcohol in his or her blood if 21 years of age or older *or...*
  - While having any amount of alcohol in his or her blood if under 21 years of age.
- Anyone operating or attempting to operate a watercraft while intoxicated is guilty of a criminal violation. Penalties include a fine, imprisonment, or both a fine and imprisonment.
- By operating a watercraft on Maine waters, you must complete a blood-alcohol test if requested by a law enforcement officer when:
  - The officer has probable cause to believe that you operated or attempted to operate a watercraft while under the influence of intoxicating liquor *or...*
  - You were operating a watercraft involved in an accident that resulted in the death of a person.

## Watercraft Accidents

- An operator involved in a watercraft accident must:
  - Stop his or her watercraft *immediately* at the scene of the accident *and...*
  - Assist anyone injured or in danger from the accident, unless doing so would seriously endanger his or her own watercraft or passengers *and...*
  - Give his or her name, address, and watercraft identification to anyone injured and to the owner of any property damaged by the accident.
- Watercraft operators involved in an accident must report the accident to the nearest law enforcement officer by the quickest possible means if the accident has caused:
  - Injury to or death of any person *or...*
  - Disappearance of any person under circumstances that indicate the possibility of death or injury.
- Accidents also must be reported in writing to the Commissioner of the MDIFW, using a watercraft accident report form. Report forms are available online at [www.maine.gov/ifw](http://www.maine.gov/ifw).

- The operator must report the accident in writing within 24 hours if a person dies, disappears under circumstances that indicate the possibility of death or injury, loses consciousness, receives medical treatment, or is disabled for more than 24 hours.
- The operator must report the accident in writing within 72 hours if damage to the watercraft or other property exceeds \$2,000.

## Definitions

The terms used in this handbook are defined in the Maine's Revised Statute as follows.

**Airmobile** - any vehicle propelled by mechanical power that is designed to travel upon a cushion of air on or within two feet of the water or land surface of the earth.

**Aquatic Plant** - a vascular plant species that requires a permanently flooded freshwater habitat.

**Bow (Fore)** - the forward half of the watercraft.

**Inland Waters** - all waters within the state of Maine above the rise and fall of the tide and wholly or partially within the territorial limits of the state.

**Invasive Aquatic Plant** - a species of aquatic plant as described in Title 38, section 410-N.

**Motorboat** - any watercraft, including airmobile, equipped with propulsion machinery of any type, whether or not the machinery is the principal source of propulsion, is permanently or temporarily attached, or is available for propulsion on the watercraft.

**Operate** - when referring to watercraft of any type or description, to use that watercraft in any manner on the waters specified, whether or not the watercraft is underway.

**Operator** - the person who is in control or in charge of a watercraft while it is in use.

**Personal Watercraft (PWC)** - any motorized watercraft that is 14 feet or less in hull length as manufactured; has as its primary source of propulsion an inboard motor powering a jet pump; and is capable of carrying one or more persons in a sitting, standing, or kneeling position.

- Personal watercraft includes, but is not limited to, a jet ski, wet bike, surf jet, miniature speedboat, and hovercraft.
- Personal watercraft also includes motorized watercraft whose operation is controlled by a water skier.

- Personal watercraft does not include a motorized watercraft that does not have a horsepower rating greater than 15 horsepower and does not generate an unreasonable amount of noise.

**Stern (Aft)** - the rear half of the watercraft.

**Territorial Waters** - all waters of the State of Maine within the rise and fall of the tide seaward to the three-nautical-mile line as shown on the most recently published Federal Government nautical chart.

**Use** - when referring to watercraft, to operate, navigate, or employ.

**Watercraft** - any type of watercraft, boat, canoe, or craft used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on water other than a seaplane.

- This includes motors, electronic and mechanical equipment, and other machinery, whether permanently or temporarily attached, and which are customarily used in the operations of the watercraft.

- Watercraft does not include a watercraft, boat, canoe or craft located and intended to be permanently docked in one location and not used as a means of transportation on water.

**Water Safety Zone** - the area of water within 200 feet of any shoreline, whether the shoreline of the mainland or of an island.

### Here is a list of abbreviations used in this handbook.

**HIN** - Hull Identification Number

**LUPC** - Land Use Planning Commission

**MDIFW** - Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

**MSD** - Marine sanitation device

**PFD** - Personal flotation device

**PWC** - Personal watercraft

**SUP** - Stand-up paddleboard

**USCG** - U.S. Coast Guard

**VDS** - Visual distress signal

## Watercraft Restrictions on Internal Waters

The Commissioner of MDIFW may adopt rules governing the horsepower of motors used to propel watercraft on all internal waters of this state. For information on this process, please contact the department's main office in Augusta at **207-287-5202**. No person except officers empowered to enforce this regulation and in the line of duty or representatives of a governmental agency while conducting authorized studies on these waters shall operate motorboats propelled by machinery in excess of the horsepower limitations listed below.

The Land Use Planning Commission (LUPC, Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry) has adopted rules prohibiting the use of personal watercraft (PWC) on some of the waters within their jurisdiction. LUPC will be listed after the watercraft restriction on any waters affected by this rule. For more information on waters within LUPC's jurisdiction, please call **207-287-2631**.

Throughout this section, there are two additional acronyms that you may find next to certain locations indicating where that body of water may be found.

■ ANP: Acadia National Park

■ BSP: Baxter State Park

**Abol Pond**, T2 R9 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats or outboard motors prohibited. (BSP)

**Adams Pond**, Boothbay, Lincoln Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Adams Pond**, Bridgton, Cumberland Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Alford Lake**, Hope, Waldo Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Allagash Lake**, T8 R14 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Allagash Wilderness Waterway**

A. From the south end of Telos Lake to the north end of Chamberlain Lake, the use of all models of personal watercraft (PWC),

hovercraft, airboats, racing boats, and pontoon boats is prohibited.

- B. From Lock Dam Stream, where it enters Eagle Lake north to Twin Brook Rapids, only canoes without motor or motors not exceeding 10 horsepower may be used on the watercourse.
- C. On Allagash Lake and Allagash Stream to the red posts at the entrance of Chamberlain Lake, all watercraft are prohibited except canoes without motors.
- D. Except on Telos and Chamberlain Lakes, the use of inflatable watercraft is prohibited.
- E. Water skiing or other activities in which individuals are towed behind watercraft are prohibited.

**Alligator Lake**, T34 MD, Hancock Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Alligator Pond**, TA R11 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Androscoggin Lake**, Wayne and Leeds, Kennebec and Androscoggin Cty - PWC prohibited.

### **Arnold Brook Recreation**

**Watershed Lake**, Presque Isle, Aroostook Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Attean Pond**, Attean Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Aunt Betty Pond**, Mt. Desert Island, Hancock Cty - Motorboats with internal combustion engines prohibited. (ANP)

**Aziscohos Pond**, Magalloway, Oxford Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Back, Jewett, Little Mud, Middle, and Mud Ponds (Five Kezar Ponds)**, located singly or jointly in Waterford, Stoneham, and Lovell, Oxford Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Baker Pond**, Bowdoin College Grant West, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Bald Mountain Pond**, Bald Mountain Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Barrett Pond**, Holeb Twp., Somerset Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Basin Pond**, Mt. Katahdin Twp., Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats or outboard motors prohibited. (BSP)

**Basin Ponds #1 and #2**, Mt. Katahdin Twp., Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats or outboard motors prohibited. (BSP)

**Baxter State Park, Upper and Lower Tongues**, T2 R9 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats prohibited except on Webster and Matagamom lakes. (BSP)

**Bay Pond, West**, T7 SD, Hancock Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Beals (Crystal) Pond**, Turner, Androscoggin Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Bean Pond**, T02 R12 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Bean Pond, Lower**, Rainbow Twp., Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Bean Pond, Middle**, Rainbow Twp., Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Bean Pond, Upper**, Rainbow Twp., Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Bear Pond**, Rainbow Twp., Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Bear Pond**, T6 R15 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Bear Brook Pond**, Mt. Desert Island, Hancock Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Bearce Lake**, Baring (Moosehorn NWR), Washington Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Beattie Pond**, Beattie Twp., Franklin Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Beaver Pond**, Bridgton, Cumberland Cty - Motorboats with internal combustion engines prohibited.

**Beaver Pond**, Denmark, Oxford Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Beaver Pond**, Magalloway Plt., Oxford Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Beaver Pond**, Shawtown Twp., Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Beaver Pond**, T3 R11 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Beaver Pond, Big**, Rainbow Twp., Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Beaver Pond, Little North**, T3 R11 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Beaver Pond, Little South**, Rainbow Twp., Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Benjamin Pond**, Attean Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Benson Pond, Big**, T7 R9 NWP, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Berry Pond, Little**, Johnson Mountain Twp., Somerset Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Big Brook from Burt Garrity Road to and including Big Brook Lake**, in T13 R10 WELS and T14 R10 WELS, Aroostook Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Big Pond**, Phippsburg, Sagadahoc Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Billfish Pond**, Trout Brook Twp., Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats prohibited. (BSP)

**Birch Harbor Pond**, Winter Harbor, Hancock Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Birch Ridge Pond #1**, TA R11 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Black Lake**, Fort Kent, Aroostook Cty - Motorboats with more than 6 horsepower prohibited.

**Black Lake**, T15 R9 WELS, Aroostook Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Black Pond, Little**, T15 R9 WELS, Aroostook Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Black River, Little**, tributary to the St. John River in Aroostook Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited from June 1 to September 15.

**Blanchard Pond**, Alder Stream Twp., Franklin Cty - Motorboats prohibited. (Penobscot Nation Tribal Lands)

**Bluff Pond**, Frenchtown, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Bluffer Pond**, T8 R11 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Blood Pond**, T2 R13 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Boardway Pond, Big**, TA R11 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Bog Lake**, Northfield, Washington Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Bogus Meadow**, T7 SD, Hancock Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Boston Pond**, Denmark, Oxford Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Boulder Pond**, T5 R7 BKP, Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Bowlin Pond, Little**, T5 R7 WELS, Penobscot Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Boyd Pond**, Bristol, Lincoln Cty - Motorboats with more than 6 horsepower prohibited.

**Brackett Pond**, Blanchard Plt., Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Bradley Pond**, Lovell, Oxford Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Branch Lake, South**, Seboeis Plt. T2 R8 NWP, Penobscot Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Branch Pond, Middle**, Waterboro and Alfred, York Cty - PWC prohibited. Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Branch Pond, Middle**, T5 R9 NWP, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Brandy Pond**, Naples, Cumberland Cty - PWC prohibited between sunset and 9:00 a.m. and may not be operated without a visible decal affixed to the PWC identifying the rental agent.

**Breakneck Pond, Upper**, Mt. Desert, Hancock Cty - Motorboats prohibited. (ANP)

**Brayley Pond**, T7 R10 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Bryant Pond (aka Christopher Lake)**, Greenwood and Woodstock, Oxford Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Bubble Pond**, Mt. Desert Island, Hancock Cty - Motorboats with internal combustion engines prohibited. (ANP)

**Buck Pond**, Rainbow Twp., Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Cape Horn Pond**, Prentiss Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Caribou Pond, Big**, T7 R10 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Carry Pond, East**, Carrying Place Twp., Aroostook Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Caucomgomoc Lake**, T6 R14 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Caverly Pond (Round Pond)**, T2 R9 WELS, Penobscot Cty - Motorboats prohibited. (BSP)

**Cedar Pond**, Holeb Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Cedar Pond**, TB R10 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Celia Pond**, T3 R10 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats or outboard motors prohibited. (BSP)

**Center Pond**, Phippsburg, Sagadahoc Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Chain of Ponds**, Chain of Ponds Twp., Franklin Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Chairback Pond, East and West,** T7 R9 NWP, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Chase Stream Pond,** Misery Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Chesuncook Lake,** T3 R12 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Chesuncook Pond,** T3 R11 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Christopher Lake (aka Bryant Pond)** - see Bryant Pond (aka Christopher Lake).

**Churchill Lake,** T9 R12 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Clay Pond,** Fryeburg, Oxford Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Clayton Pond,** T6 R17 WELS, Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Clear Lake,** T10 R11 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Clear Pond,** Lowelltown Twp., Franklin Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Clearwater Pond,** Prentiss Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Clearwater Pond,** Attean Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Cliff Lake,** T9 R12 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Clifford Lake,** T26 ED BPP and T27 ED BPP, Washington Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Clifford Pond,** Rainbow Twp., Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Clish Pond,** T5 R20 WELS, Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Cobbosseecontee Lake, Little,** Winthrop, Kennebec Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Cold Rain Pond,** Naples, Cumberland Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Coleman Pond,** Lincolnville, Waldo Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Concord Pond and Little Concord Pond,** Woodstock, Oxford Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Conic Lake,** Baring (Moosehorn NWR), Washington Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Cox Pond,** South Berwick, York Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Cranberry Pond,** Bowdoin College Grant West, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Crosby Pond,** Coburn Gore, Franklin Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Crystal (Beals) Pond** - see Beals (Crystal) Pond.

**Crystal Lake,** Washington, Knox Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Cupsuptic Lake,** Adamstown Twp., Oxford Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Currier Pond, First and Second,** T9 R11 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Cushman Pond,** Lovell, Oxford Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Daicey Pond**, T3 R10 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats prohibited. (BSP)

**Daisey Pond**, T2 R10 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Deboullie Lake**, T15 R9 WELS, Aroostook Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Debsconeag Lake**, T2 R10 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Debsconeag Lake, First**, T2 R10 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Debsconeag Lake, Third**, T1 R10 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Debsconeag Pond, Sixth**, T1 R11 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Deep Pond**, T4 R9 WELS, Penobscot Cty - Motorboats prohibited. (BSP)

**Deer Pond**, T3 R10 WELS, Penobscot Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Dingley Pond, Little and Upper**, T4 R5 NBKP, Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Dipper Pond**, Pittston Academy Grant, Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Dixon Pond**, Pierce Pond Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Donnell Pond**, T9 SD, Hancock Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Doughnut Pond**, Rainbow Twp. Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Draper Pond**, T4 R9 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats prohibited. (BSP)

**Draper Pond**, T3 R10, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats prohibited. (BSP)

**Dubois Pond**, Prentiss, Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Durgin Pond**, T2 R6 BKP EKR, Somerset Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Dwelley Pond**, Nesourdnahunk Twp., Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Eagle Lake, Big**, Eagle Lake, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Eagle Lake**, Mt. Desert Island, Hancock Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited. (ANP)

**Echo Lake**, Mt. Desert, Hancock Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited. (ANP)

**Eddy Pond**, Sandy River Plt., Franklin Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Elbow Pond**, T3 R10 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats prohibited. (BSP)

**Eli Pond and/or Little Pond**, Sanford, Wells, York Cty - Motorboats with more than 6 horsepower prohibited.

**Enchanted Pond**, Upper Enchanted Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Enchanted Pond, Little**, Upper Enchanted Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Fahi Pond**, Embden, Somerset Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Farrington Pond**, Lovell, Oxford Cty - Motorboats with more than 6 horsepower prohibited.

**Fawn Pond**, Mt. Desert, Hancock Cty - Motorboats prohibited. (ANP)

**Fish Pond**, Hope, Knox Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Fish Pond, Big**, Holeb Twp., Somerset Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Five Kezar Ponds (Back, Jewett, Little Mud, Middle, and Mud)** - see Back, Jewett, Little Mud, Middle, and Mud Ponds (Five Kezar Ponds).

**Flagstaff Lake**, Dead River Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Fogg Pond**, Bowdoin College Grant, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Foley Pond, Little**, Comstock Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Foss Pond**, Kingsbury Plt., Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats with more than 6 horsepower prohibited.

**Foster (Ingalls) Pond**, Bridgton, Cumberland Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Foss and Knowlton Ponds**, T2 and T3 R10 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats prohibited. (BSP)

**Fowler Pond**, T3 R11 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Fowler Pond, Little**, T5 R9 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats or outboard motors prohibited. (BSP)

**Fowler Pond, Lower**, T5 R9 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats or outboard motors prohibited. (BSP)

**Fowler Pond, Middle**, Trout Brook Twp., Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats or outboard motors prohibited. (BSP)

**Frost Pond, Little**, T3 R12 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Fry Pan Pond**, T2 R5 BKP EKR, Somerset Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Fulton Lake**, Northfield, Washington Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Furlong Pond**, Greenwood, Oxford Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Gardner Lake**, T15 R9 WELS, Aroostook Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Garland Pond**, Sebec and Dover-Foxcroft, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats with internal combustion engines prohibited.

**Gauntlet Pond**, TB R10 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Goose Pond, Upper**, Shapleigh, York Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Gordon Pond**, Upper Enchanted Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Gould Pond**, Rainbow Twp., Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Granger Pond**, Denmark, Oxford Cty - Motorboats with more than 6 horsepower prohibited.

**Grassy Pond**, T3 R10 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Great Works Pond**, Edmunds Twp., Washington Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Green Mountain Pond**, T6 R6 WELS, Penobscot Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Hadlock Pond, Upper and Lower**, Mt. Desert Island, Hancock Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited. (ANP)

**Hafey Pond**, T18 R11 WELS, Aroostook Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Hale Pond**, Alder Brook Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Haley Pond**, Rangeley Twp. and Dallas Plt., Franklin Cty - Motorboats with more than 6 horsepower prohibited.

**Halfmoon Pond**, Bar Harbor, Hancock Cty - Motorboats prohibited. (ANP)

**Hall Pond**, Prentiss Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Hall Pond**, T5 R7 BKP, Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Hamilton Pond**, Bar Harbor, Hancock Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Harbor Pond, West**, Boothbay Harbor, Lincoln Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Harriman Pond**, Dedham, Hancock Cty - Motorboats with more than 6 horsepower prohibited.

**Harrington Pond**, T3 R11 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Hathorn Pond and Hathorn Pond Little**, T4 R8 WELS, Penobscot Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Heald Pond**, Lovell, Oxford Cty - Motorboats with more than 6 horsepower prohibited.

**Hedgehog Pond**, T1 R11 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Helen Pond**, Pierce Pond Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Hicks Pond**, Greenwood, Oxford Cty - PWC prohibited.

**High Pond**, Pierce Pond Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**High Pond**, Trout Brook Twp., Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Highland Lake (Woods Pond)**, Bridgton, Cumberland Cty - PWC may not be operated without a visible decal affixed to the PWC identifying the rental agent.

**Hobart Bog**, Edmunds Twp., Washington Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Hobbs Pond**, Hope, Knox Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Hobbs Pond (Little Pennessewassee)**, Norway, Oxford Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Hodgdon Pond**, Tremont and Mt. Desert, Hancock Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited. (ANP)

**Holbrook Pond**, Rainbow Twp., Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Holt Pond**, Naples, Bridgton, Cumberland Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Hooper Pond (Little Sabattus)**, Greene, Androscoggin Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Horserace Ponds**, Rainbow Twp., Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Horseshoe Lake**, Northfield, Washington Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Horseshoe Pond**, Attean Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Horseshoe Pond**, Denmark, Oxford Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Horseshoe Pond**, Stoneham and Lovell, Oxford Cty - Motorboats with more than 6 horsepower prohibited.

**Horseshoe Pond**, T16 R9 WELS, Aroostook Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Houston Pond, Little**, Katahdin Iron Works, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Hudson Pond**, T6 R10 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats prohibited. (BSP)

**Hudson Pond, Upper**, T11 R10 WELS, Aroostook Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Hurd Pond, Little**, T2 R10 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Indian Pond**, Greenwood, Oxford Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Ingalls (Foster) Pond** - see Foster (Ingalls) Pond.

**Ireland Pond**, T7 R8 WELS, Penobscot Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Ironbound Pond**, Alder Brook Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Jackson Pond #1 and #2**, T3 R11 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Jerry Pond**, so called, situated within the boundaries, or having a shoreline abutting, the incorporated municipality of Millinocket and the unincorporated townships being T1 R7 and TA R7, Penobscot Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Jerry Pond**, T5 R7 WELS, Penobscot Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Jewett, Back, Little Mud, Middle, and Mud Ponds (Five Kezar Ponds)** - see Back, Jewett, Little Mud, Middle, and Mud Ponds (Five Kezar Ponds).

**Jim Pond**, Jim Pond Twp., Franklin Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Jo-Mary Lake, Lower and Upper**, T1 R10 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Jones Pond**, Wyman Twp., Franklin Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Jordan Pond**, Mt. Desert Island, Hancock Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited. (ANP)

**Juniper Knee Pond**, Elliottsville Twp., Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Katahdin Lake**, T3 R8 WELS, Penobscot Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Keewaydin Lake**, Stoneham, Oxford Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Kelly Pond**, T2 R12 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Kennebago Lake, Little**, T3 R4 WELS, Franklin Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Kennebago Lake and Kennebago River**, Davis and Stetsontown Twp., Franklin Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Kidney Pond**, T3 R10 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats prohibited. (BSP)

**Knickerbocker Pond**, Boothbay, Lincoln Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Knight Pond**, Northport, Waldo Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Lake St. George**, Liberty, Waldo Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Lake Wood**, Mt. Desert Island, Hancock Cty - Internal combustion engines prohibited. (ANP)

**Lane Brook Pond**, T6 R06 WELS, Penobscot Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Lane Pond**, Comstock Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Lang Pond and Lang Pond, Little**, Parlin Pond Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Lard Pond**, Turner, Androscoggin Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Ledge Pond**, Sandy River Pft., Franklin Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Lermond Pond**, Union and Hope, Knox Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Levenseller Pond**, Searsmont, Waldo Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Lily Pond**, Edgecomb, Lincoln Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Lily Pond**, New Gloucester, Cumberland Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Lily Pad Pond**, T3 R10 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats prohibited. (BSP)

**Line Pond**, T5 R20 WELS, Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Little Berry Pond** - see Berry Pond, Little.

**Little Kennebago Lake** - see Kennebago Lake, Little.

**Little Mud**, Back, Jewett, Middle, and Mud Ponds (Five Kezar Ponds) - see Back, Jewett, Little Mud, Middle, and Mud Ponds (Five Kezar Ponds).

**Little Pennessewassee (Hobbs Pond)** - see Hobbs Pond (Little Pennessewassee).

**Little Pond and/or Ell Pond** - see Ell Pond and/or Little Pond.

**Little Pond**, Damariscotta, Lincoln Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Little Pond**, Denmark, Oxford Cty - Motorboats with more than 6 horsepower prohibited.

**Little Sabattus (Hooper Pond)** - see Hooper Pond (Little Sabattus).

**Lobster Lake**, Lobster Twp., Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Logan Pond #2**, T2 R9 WELS,  
Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited.  
(LUPC)

**Lone Jack Pond**, T2 R6 BKP  
WKR, Somerset Cty - Motorboats  
prohibited.

**Long Bog**, Holeb Twp., Somerset Cty,  
PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Long Lake**, Naples, Bridgton, and  
Harrison, Cumberland Cty - PWC may  
not be operated without a visible  
decal affixed to the PWC identifying  
the rental agent.

**Long Lake**, T12 R13 WELS,  
Aroostook Cty - PWC prohibited.  
(LUPC)

**Long Pond**, Attean Twp., Somerset  
Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Long Pond**, Denmark, Oxford  
Cty - Motorboats with more than 6  
horsepower prohibited.

**Long Pond**, Forsythe Twp., Somerset  
Cty - Motorboats with more than 10  
horsepower prohibited.

**Long Pond**, Mt. Desert, Southwest  
Harbor, Hancock Cty - PWC  
prohibited.

**Long Pond**, Trout Brook Twp.,  
Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats  
prohibited.

**Long Pond and/or Martin Pond**,  
The Forks Plt., Somerset Cty -  
Motorboats prohibited.

**Long Pond**, Twp. E and Twp. D,  
Franklin Cty - Motorboats with more  
than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Long Pond, Little**, Mt. Desert,  
Hancock Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Loon Lake**, Rangeley and Dallas  
Twp., Franklin Cty - Motorboats  
prohibited.

**Loon Pond**, T1 R11 WELS,  
Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited.  
(LUPC)

**Loon Pond**, Attean Twp., Somerset  
Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Lost Pond**, T3 R10 WELS,  
Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats  
prohibited. (BSP)

**Lost Pond**, Attean Twp., Somerset  
Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Lt. Gordon Manuel WMA**,  
Hodgdon, Aroostook Cty - Motorboats  
prohibited from January 1 - June  
30; from July 1 - December 31,  
motorboats with more than 6  
horsepower prohibited.

**Machias Lake, Third**, T42 MD BPP,  
Washington Cty - PWC prohibited.  
(LUPC)

**Mainstream Pond**, Harmony,  
Somerset Cty - Motorboats with more  
than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Marble Pond**, T5 R8 WELS,  
Penobscot Cty - PWC prohibited.  
(LUPC)

**Martin Pond and/or Long Pond**,  
The Forks Plt., Somerset Cty -  
Motorboats prohibited.

**Mary Petuche Pond**, Prentiss Twp.,  
Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited.  
(LUPC)

**Mathews Pond**, T8 R10 WELS,  
Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited.  
(LUPC)

**McKenna Pond**, T3 R11 WELS,  
Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited.  
(LUPC)

**McKenney Pond**, Holeb Twp., Somerset Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**McKenney Pond**, Upper Enchanted Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Meduxnekeag River, South Branch**, Hodgdon - Motorboats prohibited until July 1; after July 1, motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Meetinghouse Pond**, Phippsburg, Sagadahoc Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Megunticook Lake**, Camden and Hope, Lincolnville, Knox and Waldo Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Merrymeeting Bay**, Sagadahoc Cty - Motorboats shall not operate at a speed in excess of 10 miles per hour, except within the confines of buoyed channels.

**Messer Pond**, T5 R8 WELS, Penobscot Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Middle, Back, Jewett, Little Mud, and Mud Ponds (Five Kezar Ponds)** - see Back, Jewett, Little Mud, Middle, and Mud Ponds (Five Kezar Ponds).

**Midway Pond**, Sandy River Plt., Franklin Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Millimagassett Lake**, T7 R8 WELS, Penobscot Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Minister Lake, Little**, T2 R10 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Minister Pond, Big**, T2 R10 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Moccasin Pond**, T14 R8 WELS, Aroostook Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Moose Pond**, Otisfield, Oxford Cty - PWC prohibited. Motorboats with more than 5 horsepower prohibited.

**Moose Pond, Big and Little**, T3 R5 NBP EKR, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Mooseleuk Lake**, T10 R9 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Mooselookmeguntic Lake**, Richardstontown Twp., Oxford Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Moulton Pond**, Dedham, Hancock Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Mount Blue Pond**, Avon, Franklin Cty - Motorboats with internal combustion engines prohibited.

**Mountain Catcher Pond**, T6 R8 WELS, Penobscot Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Mountain Pond**, Beaver Cove Twp., Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Mountain View**, TA R11 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Moxie Long Bog**, Bald Mountain Twp., Somerset Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Moxie Pond**, Twp. D, Franklin Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Mud Pond**, Greenwood, Oxford Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Mud Pond**, Twp. 6 NBPP, Franklin Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Mud, Back, Jewett, Little Mud, and Middle Ponds (Five Kezar Ponds)** - see Back, Jewett, Little Mud, Middle, and Mud Ponds (Five Kezar Ponds).

**Munsungan Lake**, T8 R10 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Murphy Pond**, TA R11 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Murphy Pond, Big**, Rainbow Twp., Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Muscalsea Pond, Big and Little**, Russell Pond Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Musquash Lake, West**, T6 R1 ND BPP, Washington Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Nadeau Lake**, Fort Fairfield, Aroostook Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Nahmakanta Lake**, T1 R11 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Nequasset Pond**, Woolwich, Sagadahoc Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Nesowadnehunk (Sourdnahunk) Lake, Little**, T5 R11 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Nicatous Lake**, T40 MD, T41 MD, T3 ND, Hancock Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Nokomis Pond**, Newport and Palmyra, Penobscot Cty - Motorboats with internal combustion engines prohibited.

**North Pond**, Buckfield, Sumner (within 300 yards of North Pond Dam), Oxford Cty - Motorboats with internal combustion engines prohibited. Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited on rest of pond.

**North Pond**, Greenwood and Woodstock, Oxford Cty - PWC prohibited.

**North Pond**, T14 R9 WELS, Aroostook Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Norton Pond**, Lincolnville, Waldo Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Notch Pond**, Bowdoin College Grant West, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Notch Pond, Big and Little**, Moosehead Junction Twp, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Notched Pond**, Gray and Raymond, Cumberland Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Otter Pond**, Bridgton, Cumberland Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Oversett Pond**, Greenwood, Oxford Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Oxbrook Lake, Upper and Lower**, in the towns of T6 ND, T6 R1, and Talmadge, Washington Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Papoose Pond**, Moosehead Junction Twp, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Passamagamet Lake**, T1 R9 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Penobscot Lake**, Dole Brook Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Perley's Pond**, Denmark, Oxford Cty - Motorboats with more than 6 horsepower prohibited.

**Pickerel Pond**, T32 MD, Hancock Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Pickerel Pond**, Wayne, Kennebec Cty - PWC prohibited. Watercraft may not be operated at greater than headway speed on any area of Pickerel Pond.

**Pierce Pond**, Pierce Pond Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Pinkham Pond**, Alna, Lincoln Cty - Motorboats with internal combustion engines prohibited.

**Pitcher Pond**, Lincolnville, Northport, Waldo Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Pitman Pond**, T2 R10 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Pleasant Lake**, T6 R1 NBPP, Washington Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Pocasset Lake**, Wayne, Kennebec Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Pogy Pond**, T4 R9 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Poland Pond, Upper**, T7 R14 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Polly Pond**, T3 R11 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Portage Lake**, T13 R6 WELS, Aroostook Cty, that portion known as the Floating Island Area, north and westerly of a line beginning at the eastern edge of the marshy peninsula running out from Hutchinson Ridge, running 50 yards outside of the floating islands in a northerly direction to the mouth of Mosquito Brook - Motorboats prohibited.

**Porter Pond**, T3 ND BPP, Hancock Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Quimby Pond**, Rangeley, Franklin Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Rabbit Pond**, Elliotsville Twp., Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Rabbit Pond**, T1 R11 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Rainbow Deadwaters**, Rainbow Twp., Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Rainbow Lake**, Rainbow Twp., Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Rainbow Pond**, T10 SD, Hancock Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Range Pond, Lower**, Poland, Androscoggin Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Range Pond, Middle**, Poland, Androscoggin Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Range Pond, Upper**, Poland, Androscoggin Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Reed Pond, Big and Little**, T8 R10 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Rich Mill Pond**, Standish, Cumberland Cty - Motorboats with more than 6 horsepower prohibited.

**Ripogenus Pond**, T4 R12 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Roach Pond, Fourth**, Shawtown Twp., Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Roach Pond, Seventh**, TA R11 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Roach Pond, Sixth**, Shawtown Twp., Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Robar Pond, Big**, T4 R08 WELS, Penobscot Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Roberts Pond**, T5 R20 WELS, Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Rocky Pond**, T2 R9 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats prohibited. (BSP)

**Rocky Pond**, T3 R8 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats prohibited. (BSP)

**Rocky Pond, Little**, TA R11 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Rocky Pond, Little**, T3 R10 WELS - Motorboats prohibited. (BSP)

**Round Pond (Caverly Pond)** - see Caverly Pond (Round Pond).

**Round Pond, Little**, Eagle Lake, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Round Pond**, Appleton Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Round Pond**, Greenwood, Oxford Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Round Pond**, Mt. Desert Island, Hancock Cty - Motorboats with internal combustion engines prohibited. (ANP)

**Round Pond**, Trout Brook Twp., Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Round Pond**, T1 R6 BKP WKR, Somerset Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Round Pond**, T6 R11 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Round Pond**, T13 R12 WELS, Aroostook Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Russell Pond**, T9 R9 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats prohibited. (BSP)

**Saddleback Lake**, Dallas Plt., Franklin Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Saddleback Pond**, Sandy River Plt., Franklin Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Saint George Lake**, Liberty, Waldo Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Sand Pond**, Embden, Somerset Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Sand Pond**, Limington Twp., York Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Sand Pond**, Sanford, York Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Sandy Stream**, Mt. Kahadin Twp., Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats prohibited. (BSP)

**Saturday Pond**, Otisfield, Oxford Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Sawtelle Pond, Sawtelle Pond, Little**, T7 R8 WELS, Penobscot Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Scarborough Wildlife Management Area**, Scarborough, Cumberland Cty - Motorboats prohibited on that portion of the area upstream of the abandoned railroad right-of-way from March 1 to September 30.

**Scituate Pond**, York, York Cty - Motorboats with internal combustion engines prohibited.

**Scraggly Lake**, T7 R8 WELS, Penobscot Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Seal Cove Pond**, Tremont, Hancock Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited. (ANP)

**Secret Pond**, Elliottsville, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Seawall Pond**, Mt. Desert, Hancock Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited. (ANP)

**Sewall Pond**, Arrowsic, Sagadahoc Cty - Motorboats with internal combustion engines prohibited.

**Shagg Pond**, Woodstock, Oxford Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Silver Lake (Silver Pond)**, Phippsburg, Sagadahoc Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Simpson Pond**, Roque Bluffs, Washington Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Six Ponds #3 and #4**, T4 R4 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats prohibited. (BSP)

**Slaughter Pond**, T3 R11 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Snake Pond**, Johnson Mountain Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Snow's Pond**, situated west of Rt. 153, Dover-Foxcroft, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Snow Mountain Pond**, Alder Stream Twp., Franklin Cty - Motorboats prohibited. (Penobscot Nation Tribal Lands)

**Socatean Pond #1 and #2**, Plymouth Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Somes Pond**, Mt. Desert, Hancock Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Sourdnahunk (Nesowadnehunk) Lake, Little**, - see Nesowadnehunk (Sourdnahunk) Lake.

**South Branch Pond, Lower and Upper**, T5 R9 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats prohibited. (BSP)

**South Pond**, Greenwood, Oxford Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Speck Pond**, Grafton Twp., Oxford Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Spectacle Pond**, Augusta and Vassalboro, Kennebec Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Spencer Lake**, Hobbstown, Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Spencer Pond**, E. Middlesex, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Spicer Pond**, Shapleigh, York Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Spring Lake**, Spring Lake Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Spring Pond**, T7 R10 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Spruce Mountain Pond**, TB R11 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**St. George Lake**, Liberty, Waldo Cty - PWC prohibited.

**St. John Pond, Second**, T4 R17 WELS, Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**St. John Pond, Third**, T4 R17 WELS, Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**St. John Pond, Lower First**, T4 R17 WELS, Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**St. John Pond, Upper First**, T4 R17 WELS, Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Stevens Pond**, Liberty, Waldo Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Stratton Pond**, Rainbow Twp., Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Stump Pond**, T3 R10 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Sunday Pond**, Magalloway Plt., Oxford Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Swift River Pond**, Twp. E, Franklin Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Telos Lake**, T6 R11 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**The Horns Pond**, Wyman Twp., Franklin Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Thompson Lake**, southernmost part, separated from the main body by a causeway known as The Heath, Casco, Cumberland Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Tilden Pond**, T10 SD, Hancock Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Tim Pond**, Tim Pond Twp., Franklin Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Timoney Lake**, Oakfield and Smyrna, Aroostook Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Tobey Pond #1, #2, and #3**, T5 R7 BKP, Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Toddy Pond**, Brooks, Waldo Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Toque Pond**, T2 R9 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats more than 10 horsepower prohibited. (BSP)

**Torsey Lake**, Mt. Vernon and Readfield, Kennebec Cty - PWC prohibited. Watercraft may not be operated at greater than headway speed on any area within 1/2 mile of the boat launch on Desert Pond Road in Mt. Vernon or within 1/2 mile from the boat launch on Old Kents Hill Road in Town of Readfield.

**Tracy Pond**, T3 R10 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats prohibited. (BSP)

**Traveler Pond**, T5 R9 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats prohibited. (BSP)

**Trickey Pond**, Naples, Cumberland Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Tripp Pond**, Poland, Androscoggin Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Trout Lake**, Kossuth Twp., Washington Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Trout Pond**, Bowdoin College Grant West, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Trout Pond**, Lowelltown Twp., Franklin Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Trout Pond**, Mason Twp., Oxford Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Trout Pond**, Stoneham, Oxford Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Trout Pond**, T3 R5 BKP EKR, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Tumbledown Dick Pond**, T1 R11 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Tumbledown Pond**, Twp. 6 ND BPP, Franklin Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Tunk Lake**, T10 SD, Hancock Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Turner Pond and Turner Pond Little**, Forsythe Twp., Somerset Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Turtle Pond**, Lake View Plt., Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Twin (Trout) Pond**, T2 R9 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Twin Ponds #1 and #2**, T4 R9 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Twitchell Pond**, Greenwood, Oxford Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Two Mile Pond**, T16 R13 WELS, Aroostook Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Umsaskis Lake**, T11 R13 WELS, Aroostook Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Unnamed Pond**, Attean Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Unnamed Pond**, Comstock Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Unnamed Pond**, Holeb Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Unnamed Pond**, Parlin Pond, Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Unnamed Pond**, T5 R7 BKP, Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Unnamed Pond**, T6 R15 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Upper Dam Pool**, T4 R1 WELS, Oxford Cty (from gates of dam, downstream or westerly 150 yards) - Motorboats prohibited.

**Virginia Lake**, Stoneham, Oxford Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Wadleigh Pond**, T8 R15 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Walton's Mill Pond**, West Farmington, Franklin Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Wassataquoik Lake**, T4 R10 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats prohibited. (BSP)

**Wassataquoik Lake, Little**, T4 R10 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats or outboard motors prohibited. (BSP)

**Watson Pond**, Rome, Kennebec Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Wat-Tuh Lake**, Phippsburg, Sagadahoc Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Webber Pond**, Bremen, Lincoln Cty - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Weed Pond**, T4 R9 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Welman Pond**, Prentiss Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**West Harbor Pond**, Booth Bay - Motorboats with more than 10 horsepower prohibited.

**Weymouth Pond**, Stoneham, Oxford Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Whitney Pond**, Stoneham, Oxford Cty - PWC prohibited.

**Wiley Pond**, Boothbay, Lincoln Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Wind Pitch Pond**, T3 R10 WELS, Piscataquis Cty - Motorboats prohibited.

**Wing Pond**, Skinner Twp., Franklin Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Witch Hole Pond**, Mt. Desert Island, Hancock Cty - Motorboats with internal combustion engines prohibited. (ANP)

**Woodman Pond**, Rainbow Twp., Piscataquis Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**Woods Pond (Highland Lake)**, see Highland Lake (Woods Pond).

**Wounded Deer Pond**, Prentiss Twp., Somerset Cty - PWC prohibited. (LUPC)

**York Pond**, Eliot, York Cty - Motorboats with internal combustion engines prohibited.

# Maine Required Equipment Checklist



	PWC	Watercraft Less Than 16 Ft.	Watercraft 16 Ft. to Less Than 40 Ft.	Paddlecraft
<b>Boater Education Certificate on Board</b>	✓ 1			
<b>Registration Certificate on Board</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓ 11
<b>Validation/Lake and River Protection Stickers Displayed</b>	✓ 2	✓ 2	✓ 2	✓ 11
<b>Wearable PFDs <sup>3</sup></b>	✓ 4	✓ 5	✓ 5	✓
<b>Throwable Device</b>			✓ 6	✓ 6
<b>Type 5-B Fire Extinguisher</b>	✓	✓ 7	✓ 7	
<b>Backfire Flame Arrestor</b>	✓	✓ 8	✓ 8	
<b>Ventilation System</b>	✓ 8	✓ 8	✓ 8	✓ 8
<b>Muffler</b>	✓	✓	✓	
<b>Sound-Producing Device</b>	✓	✓	✓	
<b>Daytime VDSs</b>			✓ 9	
<b>Nighttime VDSs</b>	10	✓ 9	✓ 9	✓
<b>Navigation Lights</b>	10	✓	✓	✓ 11,12

- Required for operators 16 and 17 years of age or for operators who are accompanied on board by a person 18 years of age or older (see "Who May Operate a Watercraft").
- Watercraft not registered in Maine that are operating on Maine inland waters also must display valid Maine Lake and River Protection Stickers. They must be affixed to both sides of the bow, immediately to the right of the watercraft's validation sticker.
- Throwable devices do not satisfy this requirement. Also, inflatable PFDs must be worn at all times. All PFDs must be readily accessible, in serviceable condition, and of the appropriate size for the intended wearer.
- Every person on board a PWC must wear a USCG-approved PFD at all times.
- Children 10 years old and under must wear a USCG-approved PFD at all times while on board a watercraft unless the watercraft is docked, anchored, or moored. Additional requirements apply on specific waterways (see "Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs)").
- Required in all paddlecraft over 16 feet, except canoes and kayaks.
- Certain outboard-powered watercraft that are not carrying passengers for hire are exempt from this requirement if the watercraft's construction will not permit the entrapment of flammable gases or vapors (see "Fire Extinguishers").
- Required on all gasoline and diesel engines installed in a powerboat (except outboard motors).
- Required only if operating on federally controlled waters (see "Federally Controlled Waters").
- Some items are not applicable to PWC, as they may not be operated between sunset and sunrise (see "Requirements Specific to PWC").
- Required only on paddlecraft that have a motor attached.
- Manually propelled watercraft must have on board a lantern or flashlight showing a white light. The light must be exhibited in time to prevent a collision.

*Other equipment requirements also may apply to your specific watercraft.*

# Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

## Main Office

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## Administrative Regions

Region A – Gray ..... (207) 657-2345  
Region B – Sidney ..... (207) 287-5300  
Region C – Jonesboro ..... (207) 255-2080  
Region D – Strong ..... (207) 778-3322  
Region E – Greenville ..... (207) 695-3756  
Region F – Enfield ..... (207) 794-1003  
Region G – Ashland ..... (207) 435-3231  
Bangor Research Office ..... (207) 941-4440

## To reach a game warden:

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1-800-452-4664

**Bangor**  
1-800-432-7381

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1-800-924-2261

Everything you need to know about  
operating a watercraft in Maine is just a  
click away.

Visit our website at  
[www.maine.gov/ifw](http://www.maine.gov/ifw).

