Stand Up Paddleboards
Fact Sheet

Stand Up Paddleboards in Maine

Stand up paddle boarding is a popular recreational water sport in Maine. The U.S. Coast Guard classifies stand up paddleboards as vessels and they meet Maine's boating rule under the definition of a recreational watercraft.

We have created this handout to provide additional information about how to stay safe and follow the laws while participating in the sport. Please note that this is not a complete guide to laws pertaining to stand up paddleboards. Please find additional information on Maine's boating laws by visiting mefishwildlife.com/laws

What You Need to Know

1) Stand up paddleboards are considered watercraft.
2) A person utilizing a standup paddleboard must carry at least one Coast Guard approved PFD (a type I, II, or III) for each person aboard.
3) Children 10 years of age or younger must wear a Type I, II, or III Personal Flotation Device at all times on a standup paddleboard as is required for all watercraft.
4) Anyone who is hired to take a paddleboarder out on the water in Maine must be a licensed recreational guide on inland waters or a licensed sea kayak guide on coastal waters.