

Florida Boating Safety Card – Test Study Guide

The motor on a PWC is running. Which part of the PWC can cause severe internal injuries?

**Answer: steering nozzle**

Vessel operators involved in a reportable boating accident must report the accident by the quickest means possible to:

**Answer: the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Division of Law Enforcement, the sheriff of the county where the accident occurred, the police department of the municipality in which the accident occurred**

It is illegal to operate which of the following while impaired due to alcohol and/or drugs?

**Answer: any size vessel, personal watercraft, water skis**

A boat's capacity plate gives the maximum weight and/or number of people the boat can carry safely in certain weather conditions. What are these conditions?

**Answer: good weather**

When you see a red flag or buoy with a white diagonal stripe (divers-down symbol), you must:

**Answer: slow to idle speed if you must come within 100 feet of the flag in a channel --AND-- slow to idle speed when operating within 300 feet of the flag in open water**

Operators required to have a Boating Safety Education ID Card must carry it along with a \_\_\_\_\_ on board.

**Answer: photographic identification card**

What is the main function of an engine cut-off switch?

**Answer: to shut off the engine if the operator is thrown overboard**

Your boat capsizes but remains afloat. What should you do?

**Answer: Hang onto the boat or climb onto it.**

What is the proper way to use a fire extinguisher?

**Answer: Aim at the base of the flames. Sweep side to side.**

When boating in shallow areas or seagrass beds, you see a mud trail in your wake where your boat has churned up the bottom. If you see this trail, you should:

**Answer: stop your vessel and pole or walk it out of the area**

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What do lateral markers indicate?

**Answer: the edges of safe water areas**

You see a white buoy with orange bands and an orange diamond. What should you do?

**Answer: Stay at least 700 feet away from it.**

In addition to an all-round white light, which light or lights must power-driven vessels less than 65.6 feet (20 meters) long exhibit when underway between sunset and sunrise?

**Answer: red and green sidelights**

A powerboat is about to cross paths with a sailboat under sail. What should the powerboat do?

**Answer: Do whatever is necessary to stay clear of the sailboat.**

What should the operator of a give-way vessel do to avoid colliding with a stand-on vessel?

**Answer: Take early and substantial action to stay well clear.**

According to Florida regulations regarding obstructions to navigation, it is illegal to attach your vessel to which of the following?

**Answer: a lateral buoy or non-lateral marker**

Children under \_\_\_\_\_ years of age must wear a life jacket while on a boat less than 26 feet in length while underway.

**Answer: 6**

Which statement about PFDs is true?

**Answer: PFDs are difficult to put on in the water.**

What is your primary responsibility when other boats are in your area?

**Answer: to keep a proper lookout and avoid a collision**

Which of the following is legal when operating a PWC?

**Answer: attaching the lanyard of a lanyard-type engine cut-off switch to the operator's PFD**

In Florida, which of these is NOT legal on a PWC?

**Answer: wearing an inflatable PFD**

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Florida law prohibits anyone under the age of \_\_\_\_\_ from operating a personal watercraft (PWC):

**Answer: 14**

You are operating a PWC. What will happen if you shut off the engine?

**Answer: You will keep going in the same direction with no steering control.**

Which part of a PWC is dangerous to your hands, feet, and hair?

**Answer: drive shaft**

Which of these is the most common cause of fatal boating accidents in Florida?

**Answer: bad weather**

If involved in a boating accident causing serious bodily injury or death while boating under the influence, the operator has committed a \_\_\_\_\_.

**Answer: felony**

What should you do to avoid colliding with another boat?

**Answer: Look in all directions before making any turn.**

What is the important safety information found on a boat's capacity plate?

**Answer: maximum weight and/or number of people the boat can carry safely**

In Florida, what does the state divers-down symbol look like?

**Answer: red with white diagonal stripe**

Florida law requires a person born on or after January 1, 1988, who is operating a boat powered by a motor of 10 horsepower or greater on Florida waters to:

**Answer: successfully complete an approved boating safety course and to obtain and have on board a Florida Boating Safety Education ID Card and photographic ID card**

What is the purpose of a lanyard attached to an engine cut-off switch?

**Answer: to shut off the engine if the operator falls overboard**

What is most likely to cause someone to fall overboard?

**Answer: standing up in a boat**

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What should you do if the motor on your boat catches fire?

**Answer: Shut off the fuel supply if possible.**

When traveling in known manatee corridors or habitat areas, boaters should be aware and use caution. You should:

**Answer: observe all regulatory zones, stay in designated marked channels, not discard fishing lines, hooks, or nets in the water**

What does a red cone-shaped buoy mark?

**Answer: the edge of a channel on a boater's right side when entering from the open sea or heading upstream**

One type of marker is used to warn boaters not to pass between the marker and the shore. What color is this marker?

**Answer: white with black vertical stripes**

Which light or lights are ALL vessels required to display when moored or anchored outside a designated mooring area between sunset and sunrise?

**Answer: white light visible in all directions**

One boat is overtaking another. Which boat should stand on?

**Answer: the boat being overtaken**

What should the operator of a stand-on vessel do when encountering a give-way vessel?

**Answer: Maintain course and speed unless the give-way vessel does not take action.**

When boating in Florida, who has the primary responsibility for the safety of all persons aboard a recreational boat?

**Answer: boat operator**

Under Florida law, what is required for children under 6 years of age while underway on any vessel less than 26 feet in length?

**Answer: They must wear a USCG-approved PFD.**

Which PFDs would be considered readily accessible?

**Answer: PFDs located within easy reach of everyone on board**

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Two boats are operating in the same general area. Who is responsible for maintaining a sharp lookout?

**Answer: the operators of both boats**

In Florida, which of the following vessels may operate only from one half-hour before sunrise to one half-hour after sunset during unrestricted visibility?

**Answer: PWC**

Under Florida law, which persons on board a PWC must wear a PFD (life jacket)?

**Answer: everyone on board**

In Florida, which of the following is one of the legal requirements while operating a PWC?

**Answer: attach the engine cut-off lanyard**

What is needed for steering control on a PWC?

**Answer: power to the jet drive**

What happens when a PWC's steering control is turned to the right?

**Answer: The back of the PWC is pushed to the left, and the PWC turns right.**

What is the best way to reboard a PWC in the water?

**Answer: from the rear of the PWC over the stern**

What is the leading cause of death in boating accidents in Florida?

**Answer: drowning**

Under Florida law, a boater is considered to be under the influence if he or she has a blood or breath alcohol concentration (BAC) of what percentage or greater?

**Answer: 0.08**

What is the best way to avoid overloading your boat?

**Answer: Don't exceed the limits listed on the capacity plate.**

State law requires that scuba divers and snorkelers display a divers-down warning device whenever they are:

**Answer: in the water**

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The Florida Boater Education Temporary Certificate is valid for 90 days from the date of the exam and must be carried on board the vessel along with your:

**Answer: photo identification card**

What piece of equipment on a boat is most important in preventing propeller strike injuries?

**Answer: engine cut-off switch lanyard**

A passenger on your boat falls overboard. What should you do while this person is being pulled back into the boat?

**Answer: Stop the engine.**

What should you do if a fire breaks out in the front of your boat?

**Answer: Put the stern into the wind.**

To protect Florida's waterways from harmful invasive aquatic plants, you should always:

**Answer: clean all aquatic plants (even small fragments) and mud from your boat and trailer before leaving a waterway**

You return from the open sea. You see a red nun buoy. What should you do?

**Answer: Keep the buoy on your starboard (right) side.**

You see a white marker with an orange diamond and black lettering. What does this marker tell you?

**Answer: danger or hazard**

A powerboat is operating at night. Which of these lights must be shown?

**Answer: white masthead light**

A sailboat under sail is about to cross paths with a PWC. What action should be taken?

**Answer: No action is required.**

You encounter another boat. You assess the situation and determine that you are the give-way vessel. What must you do?

**Answer: Take early and substantial action to keep well away.**

When you are in a speed zone posted as "slow speed, minimum wake," your vessel should:

**Answer: be completely settled in the water**

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According to Florida law, PFDs (life jackets) on your vessel should be sized for which person on board?

**Answer: its intended wearer**

Who is required to keep a proper lookout while boating?

**Answer: operator**

When towing someone with a PWC, one of the requirements is?

**Answer: An observer or wide-angle rearview mirror is required.**

In Florida, what is the legal requirement for passengers on a PWC?

**Answer: wear a properly fitting, non-inflatable PFD (life jacket)**

In Florida, what is the minimum legal age required to sign a contract to rent a personal watercraft (PWC)?

**Answer: 18**

What is the most important thing to remember about steering a PWC?

**Answer: You lose all steering control when the engine is idling or shut off.**

You are operating a PWC. You are heading straight toward a dock. You turn the engine off and then turn the steering control hard right. Which way will the PWC go?

**Answer: It will continue straight toward the dock.**