

# New Hampshire Department of Safety



**Division of State Police**  
**Marine Patrol**

# Who We Are

The Marine Patrol is a unit of the Department of Safety, Division of State Police, Field Operations Bureau, and is the primary agency responsible for enforcing New Hampshire's boating laws.





# Who We Are



The Bureau is composed of full-time and part-time Police officers, who are all dedicated to promoting and ensuring safe boating upon New Hampshire's waters.

# What We Do

The Marine Patrol is generally responsible for the following activities:

Enforcement of State boating laws and administrative rules.

Enforcement of State criminal laws

Investigation of all boating accidents and drownings



# What We Do





# What We Do

Installation and maintenance of approximately 5,000 marine navigational aids State wide

Inspection of commercial vessels

Testing of commercial vessel operators

Providing security on the seacoast



# Boating In NH



Officers patrol approximately 300 bodies of water

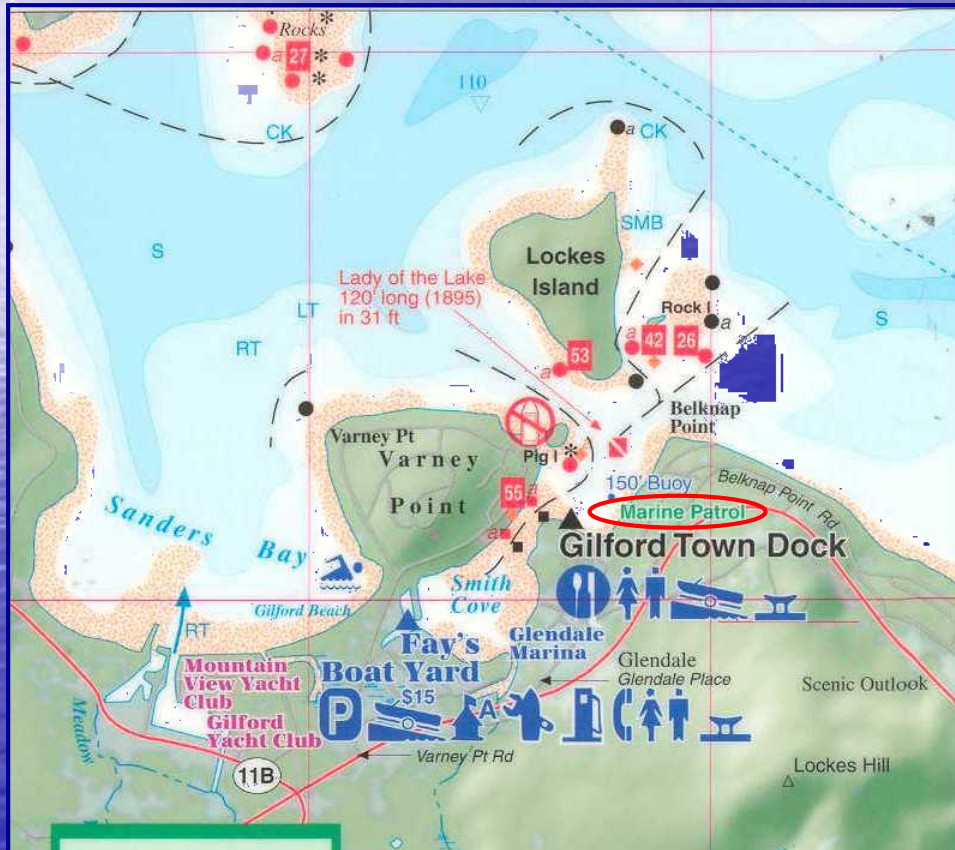
This does not include out of state boaters who come to NH with their own boats

# Where We Operate



Marine Patrol has enforcement authority on all bodies of water having 10 or more acres, including lakes, ponds, rivers, and the ocean.





Marine Patrol Headquarters is located in Gilford, although officers are assigned to patrol areas throughout the state.

# Homeland Security





# When We Operate



The Marine Patrol operates 365 days per year, with the primary operational period running from May through October.

Patrols are conducted in all weather and water conditions, and at all times of the day or night, depending upon enforcement requirements.





# Marine Patrol Officer Duties

A seasonal Marine Patrol Officer may be called upon to perform any or all of the following duties:

Patrol assigned areas using state patrol boats

Respond to emergencies and other calls for service

Enforce state boating and criminal laws

Investigate all boating accidents and drownings

Conduct inspections of commercial vessels and test commercial boat operators

Conduct criminal investigation and generate cases for prosecution

Interact with other law enforcement agencies: PR, Warrants, investigations and joint tasks



# Life Jackets (PFD's)

**All vessels must be** equipped with USCG-approved life jackets, also known as, personal flotation devices (PFDs)

- Quantity and type of PFD required depends upon:
  - Length of vessel
  - Number of people onboard and/or being towed



# 5 TYPES of LIFE JACKETS



- **Type I: Offshore Life Jackets**

- For rough or remote waters where rescue may take awhile
- Excellent for flotation -- will turn most unconscious persons face up in water
- 2 sizes-Adult (over 90 lbs) and Child (up to 90 lbs)
- All have reflectors and are reversible.

# 5 TYPES of LIFE JACKETS

## Type II: Near-Shore Vests

- Good for calm waters and fast rescues
- May lack capacity to turn unconscious wearers face up





# 5 TYPES of LIFE JACKETS

- **Type III: Flotation Aids**

- Good for calm waters and fast rescues
- Will not turn a person face up
- Some designed to inflate when you enter water



# 5 TYPES of LIFE JACKETS

## Type IV: Throwable Devices

Cushions or ring buoys designed to be thrown to someone in trouble

Not for long hours in rough waters, non-swimmers or the unconscious





# 5 TYPES of LIFE JACKETS



- **Type V: Special-Use Devices**

- Designed for specific activities such as kayaking or water skiing
- Some designed to inflate when you enter water
- To be legal, Type V PFDs *must be* worn and used in accordance with their label

# *PFD Requirements (cont.)*

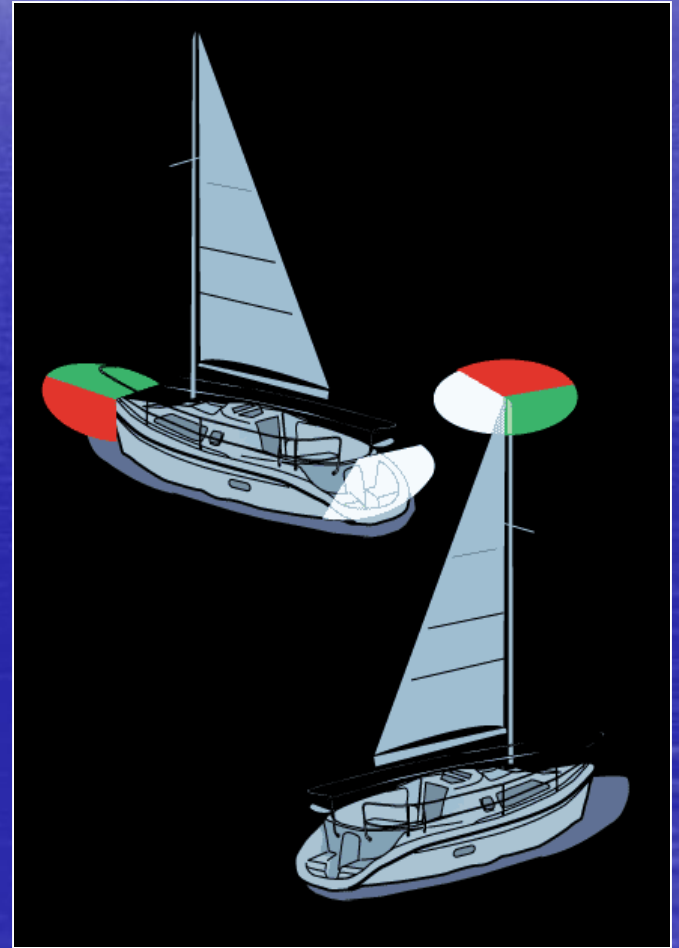
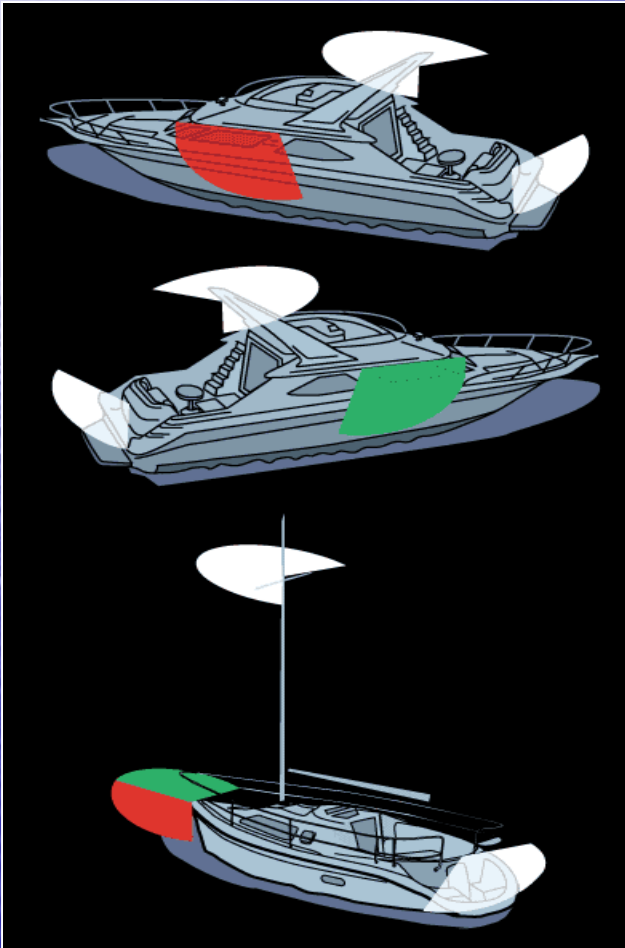
- Vessels 16 ft. in length or longer (except canoes and kayaks) must also carry one USCG-approved Type IV throwable PFD onboard and immediately available.
- Children **12 years of age and younger** must *wear* a USCG-approved life jacket at all times while onboard any vessel unless vessel is completely enclosed by railings at least 3 ft. high and constructed such that a small child cannot fall through. It is ***strongly recommended*** that children of all ages *wear* life jackets



## *PFD Requirements (cont.)*

- Operators of ski craft must *wear* a USCG-approved life jacket
- Each person being towed behind a vessel must *wear* a USCG-approved life jacket.
- All persons using a Stand Up Paddleboard (SUP), must have a PFD available.

# *Navigation Lights*

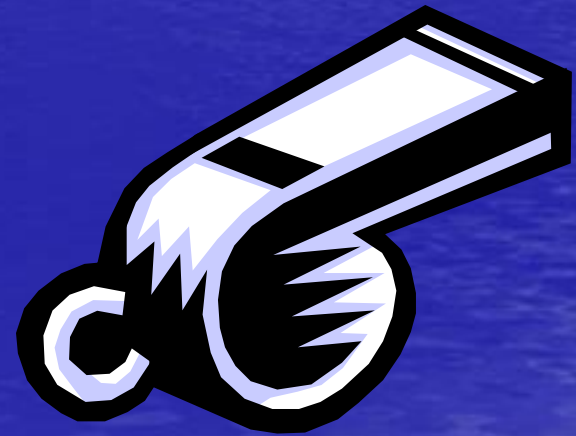




# ***Navigation Lights***

- Vessel operators must make sure that their vessels are equipped with proper navigation lights and use them during the following conditions:
  - When away from dock between sunset and sunrise
  - During periods of restricted visibility such as fog or heavy

# Sound Producing Device Requirements...





# A vessel on State waters: (Under Engine Power)

## Length of Vessel

## SPD Required

Under 16'

Hand, mouth or power

16' to less than 26'

Hand, mouth or power  
audible for ***½ mile***

26' to less than 40'

Hand or power  
audible for ***1 mile***

40' and longer

Power  
audible for ***1 mile***

# *Fire Extinguishers*

- Every vessel that has a fuel burning engine or motor must have a fire extinguisher(s) onboard.
- Foam, carbon dioxide, dry chemical and halon extinguishers may be used to fight Type B fires.
- Approved fire extinguishers are identified by “Marine Type USCG-approved” on the label, followed by size and type symbols and approval number.



## *Fire Extinguishers (cont.)*

Use this chart to determine the type and quantity of portable ext. required for a vessel:

<u>Length of Motorboat</u>	<u>Without Fixed System</u>	<u>With Fixed System*</u>
Less than 16 ft.	1 B-I	None
16 ft. to less than 26 ft.	1 B-I	None
26 ft. to less than 40 ft.	2 B-I or 1 B-II	1 B-I
40 ft. to less than 65 ft.	3 B-I or 1 B-II and 1 B-I	2 B-I or 1 B-II

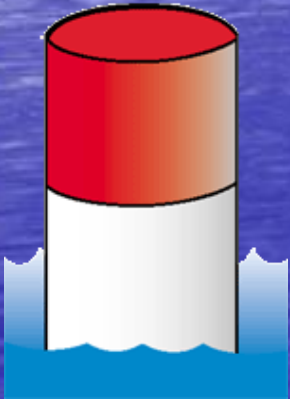
*\*refers to a permanently installed fire extinguisher system*

- Extinguishers should be placed in an accessible area – not near engine or in a compartment.
- The vessel operator should be familiar with the condition and use of the extinguisher.

# Spar Buoys



- *White with Black Top* If heading west or east, go north at this buoy. If heading north or south, go east at this buoy



- *White with Red Top* If heading west or east, go south at this buoy. If heading north or south, go west at this buoy

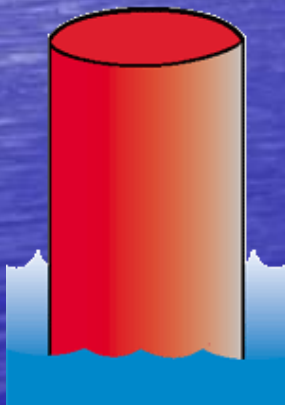


# Spar Buoys

Vessels operating on New Hampshire waters must observe these rules when encountering spar buoys:



- *All Black* Used to mark one side of a well defined channel. Go between it and its companion "all red" spar buoy



- *All Red* Used to mark one side of a well defined channel. Go between it and its companion "all black" spar buoy

# RSA 270-D:1 VI Definition "Headway Speed"

Headway speed: The slowest speed that a boat can be operated and maintain steerage way.





# **RSA 270-D:1 XIII Definition "Water Skiing"**

Water skiing: a person being towed behind a moving motorboat on skis or on aquatic equipment designed for towing an aquaplane or any other device, including bare feet of a person, but excluding a person being towed in another boat or motorboat.

# **RSA 270-D:3 Motorboats Towing Water Skiers and Aquaplanes**

- No more than 2 persons may be towed at the same time on skis. One observer is required.
- Observers must be 13 years or older (not including the operator).
- It is a violation to ski between sunset and sunrise.
- Anyone being towed on water skis must be wearing a PFD unless they have a special permit.



# RSA 270-D:3 Motorboats Towing Water Skiers and Aquaplanes

When towing water skiers, another person must be present who is physically able to assist and observe.

- When towing tubes...2 persons being towed requires 1 observer. 3-6 persons being towed requires 2 observers. 6 is the maximum that can be towed.



# RSA 270-D:2 General Rules for Vessel Operation (cont)


VI. All vessels shall maintain headway speed when within 150 feet from:

- Rafts, floats, swimmers
- Permitted swimming areas
- Shore
- Docks
- Mooring fields
- Other vessels



# RSA 270-D:10 I Certificate Required

No person 16 yrs. or older shall operate a vessel with an engine in excess of 25 Hp without a valid certificate of boating safety education



A New Hampshire Safe Boating Certificate for a female, issued on 08/20/2002. The certificate includes personal details like name, address, date of birth, sex, hair color, eye color, and height. It also features the state seal of New Hampshire, the NASBLA logo, and a circular seal with a ship's wheel and the text 'ENJOY • SAFE AND RESPONSIBLE BOATING'.

**New HAMPSHIRE**  
Safe Boating Certificate

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

**Certificate Number:** NH00014544  
**Date Issued:** 08/20/2002  
**DOB:** 12/10/1979  
**Sex:** F  
**Hair Color:** BLN  
**Eye Color:** BLU  
**Hgt:** 5'04"

This is a NASBLA APPROVED Course

ENJOY • SAFE AND RESPONSIBLE BOATING

# **RSA 270-D:12 Exemption**

A person licensed by NH or USCG to  
operate a commercial vessel is exempt  
from the requirements of this section.



# RSA 270-E:4 Exemptions from Registration

Vessels that are exempt from registration:

- Sailboats under 12'
- Rowboats & canoes powered by sail or human power.
- Vessels registered in another state who are using NH waters for not more than 30 CONSECUTIVE days

# RSA 270-E:4 Exemptions from Registration

- Vessels owned or operated by the US government
- Any vessel which has an inboard or outboard motor is NOT exempt from registering.



# Marine Patrol: A Day In The Life





# Marine Patrol: A Day In The Life





# Marine Patrol: A Day In The Life





















# Boat?





# Nice Parking!





# Front View





# Hurricane Island



8:00 AM





When all else fails try backing up.



# Electrical





# Accident?



# Stepped Hulls







2008 6 15



























# TRAINING @ Police Academy

- 200 hour Part Time Police Academy





# TRAINING

- **CLASSROOM TRAINING BEGINS:**  
Marine Law Training- Approx. 100 hours
- **ON THE WATER TRAINING**
- PRACTICAL BOAT OPERATION
- 40 TO 100 HRS TO COMPLETE
- TASKS WITH QUESTIONS + FINAL EXAM

# Boating In NH



		2017	2018	2019	2020
REGISTRATIONS		94,810	95,444	96,006	101,312
ACCIDENTS		50	39	39	65
P/I		18	15	16	24
FATAL		5	5	3	4
DAMAGE		30	25	27	37
CALLS FOR SERVICE		2304	1923	1788	2387
SUMMONS		800	728	711	686
WARNINGS		2187	1769	2039	2042
DE TAGS		135	90	104	74
ARRESTS		51	59	20	29
BOAT ASSISTS		178	140	136	226
WATER RESCUES		54	36	37	77
DROWNINGS		11	12	9	16
TRESPASSING		6	12	15	13
MISSING PERSONS		18	9	5	13
MISSING BOATS		78	104	97	138
AGENCY ASSISTS		32	17	26	17
COMM INSPECTIONS		624	648	668	404
COMM LICENSE EXAMS		570	563	585	153
PERMITS		498	515	597	499
NAV AID CALLS		246	205	187	291
MOORINGS		5412	5348	5428	4644
BOATER EDUCATION					
CLASSES/STUDENTS		164/3171	185/3749	163/3071	25/638
ONLINE STUDENTS		3658	3362	4643	30550
PROCTORED EXAM SESSIONS		151	168	164	9
OFFICERS		35	39	44	41



# Patrol Boats



# Patrol Boats





# Patrol Boats





# Patrol Boats





# Patrol Boats





# Patrol Boats





# Patrol Boats





# Patrol Boats





# Patrol Boats







# Contact Marine Patrol

Marine Patrol Headquarters:

(603) 293-2037      Dispatch

9-1-1              Emergencies or  
violations

<http://www.marinepatrol.nh.gov>

<http://www.boatingeducation.nh.gov>