



BOATER SAFETY CLASSES

Hudsonville Community Education, in cooperation with the Ottawa County Sheriff's Department, is offering Boater Safety Classes.

Students will learn about the following:

- Legal Requirements
- Accident Prevention Regulations
- Getting Underway
- All About Boats & First Aid
- Navigation Rules
- Local Watercraft

Participants in this one day safety course will acquire a certificate upon successful completion of the class. *Please bring a pen, highlighter, and sack lunch to class.*

Ages: 12 & up

When: Choose one day only
Saturday, March 7, 2009
Saturday, April 4, 2009
Saturday, May 9, 2009

Please see the back of this form to see the age requirements for driving a boat and personal watercraft.

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Where: Ottawa County Sheriff Dept.
3100 Port Sheldon

Cost: \$10.00 per person

2009 BOATER SAFETY CLASSES

Name _____ **Class:** March 7 April 4 May 9

Address _____ **City** _____ **Zip** _____

Phone _____ **Age** _____ **Email** _____

Please return your form and fee to:

Hudsonville Community Education
3886 Van Buren Street
Hudsonville, MI 49426

Questions: 669-7747, ext. 3

Who May Operate a Boat

Those less than 12 years of age:

- * May operate a boat powered by a motor of no more than 6 horsepower (hp) legally without restrictions.
- * May operate a boat powered by a motor of more than 6 hp but no more than 35 hp legally only if they are directly supervised on board by a person at least 16 years of age.
- * May not operate a boat powered by a motor of more than 35 hp legally under any conditions.

Those 12 to 15 years of age:

- * May operate a boat powered by a motor of no more than 6 hp legally without restrictions.
- * May operate a boat powered by a motor of more than 6 hp legally only if they:
 - a.) Have passed a boating safety course approved by the Department of Natural Resources and have on board their boating safety certificate or ...
 - b.) Are accompanied on board by a person at least 16 years of age.

Those 16 years of age or older may operate any boat on the waters of Michigan. Note: See "Who May Operate a Personal Watercraft (PWC)" below.

Who May Operate a Personal Watercraft (PWC)

Those less than 12 years of age:

- * No one under the age of 12 years may operate a PWC legally.

Those 12 and 13 years of age may operate a PWC legally *only* if:

- * He or she obtained a boating safety certificate prior to January 1, 1999, or ...
- * All of the following conditions are satisfied:
 - a.) The operator is accompanied solely by his or her parent or legal guardian and ...
 - b.) Both the operator and the parent or legal guardian have obtained a boating safety certificate and ...
 - c.) The PWC is equipped with a lanyard-type ignition safety switch and the parent or legal guardian has the lanyard attached to his or her person, clothing, or PFD and...
 - d.) The PWC is designed to carry at least two persons.

Those 14 years of age or older:

- * A person born after December 31, 1978, may operate a PWC legally only if he or she has obtained a boating safety certificate.
- * Those born on December 31, 1978, or earlier may operate a PWC legally without restrictions.