



SUMMER BOATING SAFETY TIPS FROM FDNY

You should be physically able to handle any situation and mentally clear while operating a boat or spending time on the water.

HAVE A PLAN:

Make sure that you know your surroundings and never go out on the water alone. Have proper look-outs to mind other vessels, debris in the water, and obstructions.

Create a plan before you leave and share it with someone on shore so if you are out in a boat and overdue, then family or friends know to search.

LEAVE PREPARED:

Bring a Marine VHF radio, so that in case of emergency you can contact the U.S. Coast Guard and FDNY. It may take time for first responders to reach your boat.

Knowing and performing CPR may save a family member or friend's life. Carry a First Aid Kit, gloves, a warming blanket, and CPR Mask.

Keep a carbon-monoxide detector on your boat. A colorless, odorless, and tasteless flammable gas, carbon-monoxide is toxic and if exposed then you can become feint, ill or lose consciousness.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY ON THE WATER:

Use your radio to call "MAYDAY, MAYDAY, MAYDAY" across VHF/FM Channel 16; this is a dedicated distress and calling channel the Coast Guard monitors at all times.

If your situation is not a distress, simply say "Coast Guard."

Always make sure that you can provide:

1. Your location or position
2. Number of people on board
3. Exact nature of the problem

Remember: FDNY Marine Operations monitor VHF/FM channel 16 and Department vessels can provide emergency assistance including medical assistance, dewatering, hazmat, and firefighting. For non-emergency situations FDNY can be reached on VHF/FM channel 17.