

PBWOA BOATING SAFETY CLASS

Sunday May 16, 2010

8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Portage Yacht Club

8930 Dexter Pinckney Rd. on Portage Lake

This year we are again offering our Boating Safety Class. This is your opportunity to become certified in the safe operation of a powerboat and other types of boating. This course covers all aspects of boating.

You will learn Seamanship, Navigation, Boat Handling, Kayaking and Water Safety.

This course is as important for adults as it is for your youngster.

Playing it safe around water is good training for everyone.

You will be issued your Boating Safety Certificate (BSC) provided that you pass the written test given that day by the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Department.

If you were born before December 31, 1978, then you are not required to have a Boating Safety Certificate. This rule is correct. You can be 30 years old and you need a BSC. Why you say? Because most PWC accidents are caused by drivers between the age of 20 to 40 and most don't have a BSC.

Currently, if you are 14 years old, you can operate a Personal Watercraft, if you have your BSC. This law has been changed and on Oct 1, 2011 the age has been raised to 16 years. If you get stopped on your Personal Watercraft without your BSC, you could be issued a ticket.

Why are these regulations in place and being enforced? Personal Watercraft accidents account for over 70% of all boating accidents! As a parent, you should make sure that your child not only has been properly educated as to the safe operations of a PWC and other watercraft but also has been made aware of how to be safe in and around the water.

Watercraft Owner Responsibility: The law presumes that the personal watercraft is being operated with the knowledge and consent of the owner. If a member of the owner's immediate family such as your son, daughter, spouse, father, mother, brother, or sister drives it or when your kids bring over a friend to go jet skiing, you better make sure they know the unique properties of the vehicle and have a BSC on them. It is your responsibility with any operation of a watercraft by a minor that the owner of the vehicle has the proper training. You can be held liable for all damages.

Please register ASAP by calling the

PBWOA Hot Line at 734 878 6770

We serve our members first before opening the class to the public.

We generally have around 50 attendees.

It's a Great Class

All done in one day and you get a nice lunch prepared by the Portage Yacht Club.

The \$5.00 fee covers only part of the costs.

So call the **PBWOA Hot Line at 734 878 6770**. Give the answering machine your name, phone number and the number of people that plan to attend; then mark your calendar for **Sunday May 16, 2010 at 8 A.M. Portage Yacht Club. Please bring \$5.00 to cover the cost of the lunch served. You will be able to obtain your BSC that day if you pass the written test.**