

Kenai Peninsula Borough  
Alaska  
Proclamation

Recreational boating is fun and enjoyable, and we on the Kenai Peninsula are fortunate that we have sufficient resources to accommodate the wide variety of pleasure boating demands. For nearly 90 million Americans, boating continues to be a popular recreational activity. From coast to coast, and everywhere in between, people are taking to the water and enjoying time together boating, sailing, paddling, and fishing. During National Safe Boating Week, the U.S. Coast Guard and its federal, state, and local safe boating partners encourage all boaters to explore and enjoy America's beautiful waters responsibly.

Safe boating begins with preparation. The Coast Guard estimates that human error accounts for 70 percent of all boating accidents and that a life jacket could prevent more than 80 percent of boating fatalities. Through basic boating safety procedures – carrying lifesaving emergency distress and communications equipment, wearing life jackets, attending safe boating courses, participating in free boat safety checks, and staying sober when navigating – we can help ensure boaters on America's coastal, inland, and offshore waters stay safe throughout the season.

We observe National Safe Boating Week to bring attention to important life-saving tips for recreational boaters so that they can have a safer, more fun experience out on the water throughout the entire year.

**WHEREAS**, on average, 650 people die each year in boating-related accidents in the U.S.; approximately 80% of these are fatalities caused by drowning; and

**WHEREAS**, the vast majority of these accidents are caused by human error or poor judgment and not by the boat, equipment, or environmental factors; and

**WHEREAS**, a significant number of boaters who lose their lives by drowning each year would be alive today had they worn their life jackets; and

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Charlie Pierce, Mayor of the Kenai Peninsula Borough, do hereby proclaim May 19-25, 2018 as:

**National Safe Boating Week**

on the Kenai Peninsula and urge all those who boat to start the year-round effort to practice safe boating habits, "Boat Smart, Boat Safe, and Wear a Life Jacket."



Charlie Pierce  
Mayor

