

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION

SAFE BOATING WEEK
MAY 16-22, 2026

WHEREAS, there were a total of 10,389 boats registered in 2025 in the state of North Dakota; and

WHEREAS, Safe Boating Week is observed in North Dakota and nationally 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 year; and

WHEREAS, because boating safety education can mean the difference between survival and fatality, every boater should enroll in and complete a boater safety education course; and

WHEREAS, marking paddle craft with "if found, please call" stickers, filing a float plan, and carrying a mirror and flashlight may improve your chances of survival and reduce the response time in an emergency; and

WHEREAS, on average, 650 people die each year in boating-related accidents in the United States, and 75% 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

WHEREAS, North Dakotans who boat are encouraged to practice safe boating habits, such as filing a float plan, carrying proper survival equipment such as an emergency whistle, mirror and flashlight, wearing a life jacket at all times and always boating sober.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim
May 16-22, 2026, SAFE BOATING WEEK in the State of North Dakota.




Kelly Armstrong
GOVERNOR

ATTEST: 
Michael Howe
SECRETARY OF STATE