

Louisiana Required Equipment Checklist

	PWCs	Boats Less Than 16 Ft.	Boats 16 Ft. To Less Than 26 Ft.
Registration on Board	✓	✓	✓
Validation Decals Displayed	✓	✓	✓
PFDs: Type I, II, or III	✓ 1	✓ 2, 4, 6	✓ 2, 6
PFD: Type IV			✓
Engine Cut Off Device	✓	5	5
Type B Fire Extinguishers	✓	✓	✓
Navigation Lights	3	✓	✓
Horn, Whistle, or Bell			✓
Daytime Visual Distress Signals			✓ 8
Nighttime Visual Distress Signals	3	8	8
Backfire Flame Arrestor	✓	7	7
Ventilation System	✓	✓	✓
Muffler/Underwater Exhaust	✓	✓	✓

1. Those on personal watercraft (PWC) must wear a USCG–approved Type I, II, III, or V personal flotation device (PFD) at all times.
2. Children 16 years of age and younger must wear a USCG–approved Type I, II, or III PFD while underway on a vessel less than 26 feet long.
3. Certain items are not applicable to PWCs because PWCs are not allowed to operate between sunset and sunrise.
4. All persons onboard a motorboat less than 16 feet which is being propelled by a hand tiller outboard motor are required to wear a USCG–approved Type I, II, III, or V PFD while the motorboat is underway.
5. A motorboat less than 26 feet with a hand tiller outboard motor in excess of ten horsepower designed to have or having an engine cut-off switch must have the engine cut-off switch link attached to the operator, the operator's clothing, or if worn, the operator's PFD, while the motor is running and the vessel is underway.
6. Persons engaged in water sports, which includes but is not limited to water skiing, being towed on a tube, wake boarding, wake surfing, etc., must wear a USCG–approved Type I, II, III, or V PFD. An inflatable PFD does not meet the requirements.
7. Required on inboards and stern drives only.
8. Required on federally controlled waters (offshore, tidal coastal areas).

BOATER EDUCATION

All persons born after January 1, 1984 are required to complete a NASBLA–approved boating education course to operate a motorboat over ten horsepower and carry proof of such when operating the motorboat. A motorboat may be operated if any person on board or participating in any boating activity from the motorboat is over the age of eighteen and, if required to have completed a boating safety course, has completed the required boating safety course.

TO REPORT MISSING/OVERDUE BOATERS, REPORT A BOAT CRASH INCIDENT, OR REPORT VIOLATIONS, PLEASE CALL 1-800-442-2511.

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES



Region 1

Minden Office
9961 Hwy 80
Minden, LA 71055
318-371-3049

Region 2

Monroe Office
368 Century Link Dr
Monroe, LA 71203
318-362-3102

Region 3

Alexandria Office
1995 Shreveport Hwy
Pineville, LA 71360
318-487-5634

Region 4

Opelousas Office
5652 Highway 182
Opelousas, LA 70570
337-948-0257

Region 5

Lake Charles Office
1213 N Lakeshore Dr
Lake Charles, LA 70601
337-491-2580

Region 6

Thibodaux Office
1102 Highway 3185
Thibodaux, LA 70301
985-447-0821

Region 7

Baton Rouge Office
2000 Quail Dr
Baton Rouge, LA 70808
225-765-2999

Mail:

P O Box 98000
Baton Rouge, LA 70898

Region 8

New Orleans Office
Region 8 Enforcement
2021 Lakeshore Drive
Suite 204
New Orleans, LA 70122
504-284-2023

**Boating Accident Assistance or
Operation Game Thief:**
call 1-800-442-2511 ext 0

For information on boating
education courses, classroom
or online visit:
www.wlf.louisiana.gov
and select Boating Information.

Visit our website: www.wlf.louisiana.gov

Everything you need to know about boating in Louisiana!

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