

PRE-DEPARTURE CHECKLIST

Federally Required Boat Equipment:

- PFD/Lifejackets for Everyone Onboard (Coast Guard Approved)
- Throwable Type IV Device (if boat is over 16 feet in length)
- Fire Extinguisher (fully charged)
- Sound Producing Device
- Visual Distress Signals
- Backfire Flame Control (if the boat has an inboard engine)
- Navigation Lights
- Documentation (Pleasure Craft Operator Card, Registration docs)

Additional Recommended Equipment:

- VHF-FM Marine Radio/ EPIRB/PLB
- Charts of the Area
- Fenders and a Boat Hook
- Manual Bilge Pump or a Bailing Device
- Spare Battery
- Paddles /Oars
- Flashlight and Batteries
- First-Aid Kit
- Mirror (to create a signal by reflecting sunlight off of it)
- Extra Clothing
- Binoculars
- Anchor and Line
- Magnetic Compass
- Mooring Lines and a Heaving Line
- Tool Kit and Spare Parts (fuses, sparks, belts, etc)
- Spare Propeller
- Extra Fuel and Oil
- Search Light
- Sunscreen
- Food and Water
- Cell Phone
- Marine Sanitation Device (if applicable)

Preparation:

- I have enough fuel for the trip - 1/3 out, 1/3 back, 1/3 in reserve
- I have thoroughly checked the condition on my boat, it's engine and fittings
- I have completed a float plan and filed it with a responsible individual on shore
- I have reviewed emergency and safety procedures and practiced the proper techniques
- I have reviewed each passenger's responsibilities before departing
- I have explained the location and correct use of required safety equipment with each passenger