



SHASTA COUNTY

Office of the Sheriff



Tom Bosenko
SHERIFF - CORONER

NEWS RELEASE

Memorial Day Weekend 2019

Memorial Day weekend is upon us with mild weather and with the possibility, of some rain predicted. This three-day weekend should get a lot of citizens outside doing many activities across Shasta County. The Shasta County Sheriff's Office would like to remind citizens while recreating this Memorial Day weekend on the water to be safe and make sure they have the proper safety equipment on their vessels.

- There should be one readily accessible lifejacket (PFD) on board a vessel for every person on the vessel. The lifejacket must be serviceable, proper size and fit and labeled Coast Guard approved. This includes paddle craft users.
- All children under the age of 13 years must wear a lifejacket on board a recreational vessel that is not anchored, moored or beached. This does not apply to a child under 13 years who is on a sailboat and is restrained by a harness tethered to the vessel or on a vessel with an enclosed cabin. The life jacket must be worn outside the cabin.
- There needs to be one immediately accessible type IV throw able floatation device on all recreational vessels over 16 feet.
- A serviceable United States Coast Guard approved marine type fire extinguisher shall be on all recreational vessels required to carry them. Be sure to check the label for mounting requirements. ***There was a recall on Kidde brand fire extinguishers over a year ago* Double-check the fire extinguishers in your boat. For more information, visit <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/kidde-recalls-fire-extinguishers-with-plastic-handles-due-to-failure-to-discharge-and>.**
- A sounding device is required on all vessels.
- A ski flag shall only be displayed whenever a skier is down, a rope or water ski or other water sport device is in the water. Once a skier is up, the flag must be lowered. The ski flag shall not be displayed at any other time.

- Proper navigation lights are required on all vessels, no water skiing and no PWC operations from sunset to sunrise. There is a 15 MPH speed limit on Shasta Lake from ½ hour after sunset to a ½ hour before sunrise.
- All vessel operators need to reduce speed only to maintain steerage when a Law Enforcement or Fire vessel has their blue lights displayed. Refer to Harbors and Navigation code 652.5(d).
- Be aware of the speed limit restrictions on the Sacramento River in the City of Redding. Redding Municipal Code 10.26.40
https://library.municode.com/ca/redding/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=TIT10PUPE_MOWE_VOFAGPR_CH10.26SARIARRE_10.26.040SP
- Be aware of excessive debris and land just under the water's surface on Shasta Lake and other waterways in Shasta County, always maintain a proper look out at all times.
- Beware of Carbon Monoxide around vessels. Make sure to shut off the engine while stopped and/or swimming.
- ***Boat operators between the ages of 16-25 years are required to have a California Boater's Education Card in their possession while operating a recreational vessel.***
- No person between the ages of 12-15 years shall operate a vessel powered by a motor of greater than 15 horsepower, or a vessel that exceeds 30 feet in length and is designed to use wind as its principal source of propulsion, *unless the person is accompanied in the vessel by a person who is at least 18 years of age and who is attentive and supervising the operation of the vessel.*
- Do not drink and drive and maintain a sober driver.

Boating safety information is available for the boating community at the Shasta County Sheriff's Boating Safety Unit Office at Bridge Bay Marina or the main Sheriff's Office building at 300 Park Marina Circle or by visiting www.dbw.ca.gov. The free safety information available are the ABCs of Boating booklet, Boating Under the Influence cards, Carbon Monoxide brochures, water safety activity books for kids and a *Course for Safe Boating*.

The lake water is still cool and river water is even colder. Citizens should take caution when entering the water. Excessive amounts of time in the cold water could lead to medical issues. The Sheriff's Office encourages everyone to wear a lifejacket when on or near the water. The Sheriff's Office hopes everyone has an enjoyable and fun Memorial weekend.

Prepared by:
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