

# 7 BOATING SAFETY HAZARDS



EVERY YEAR, ON AVERAGE, IN THE UNITED STATES THERE ARE...

**74** million Americans that take part in recreational boating.

**4,000** boating accidents.

**2,500** boating accident-related injuries.

**600** deaths in boating accidents.

BY AVOIDING THESE SAFETY HAZARDS, WE CAN PREVENT MOST

## BOATING ACCIDENTS

1. Inexperienced boat operators
2. Lack of operator boating safety instruction
3. Alcohol use
4. Speeding
5. Lack of life jackets
6. Faulty or poorly maintained equipment
7. Improper lookouts.

### HOW CAN WE REDUCE THE CHANCES OF A BOATING ACCIDENT?

- Make sure operators receive safety instruction and gain experience before taking extra passengers on the water.
- Avoid alcohol use, particularly by the operator.
- Make sure that a boat is properly serviced and maintained and that the vessel has enough life jackets for all those aboard.
- Always follow best practices on board, including sitting in designated seats, appointing a lookout, making sure everyone is wearing a life jacket and avoiding excessive speeds.

**INJURED IN A BOATING ACCIDENT?  
CALL: 972.534.2855**

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