



2013 MICHIGAN BOATING & FISHING GUIDE

Dear Friends,

Michigan has more than 11,000 inland lakes and 3,000 miles of bordering lake shoreline. So it is no wonder we are called the Great Lakes State. Boating and fishing are two of the most popular summer pastimes here in Pure Michigan.

This newsletter contains useful information for your boating and fishing expeditions this summer. Look inside for safety tips, and other useful information including legislative updates that concern water recreation.

It is my privilege to serve as your state representative, and I hope you find this newsletter helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns regarding state government.



Sincerely,

Dave Pagel

DAVE PAGEL

State Representative, District 78

WOULD YOU LIKE TO STAY UP TO DATE?

Sign up to receive my e-mail newsletter by visiting

www.RepPagel.com

TOLL-FREE (888) 373-0078

E-MAIL DavePagel@house.mi.gov

FISHING IN MICHIGAN

FISHING LICENSE REQUIREMENTS:

- ▶ Individuals 17 and older must purchase a fishing license. Children under 17 may fish without a license, but are still required to observe all rules and regulations.
- ▶ You must keep your license in your possession when fishing along with the identification used to purchase that license.
- ▶ Fishing licenses are valid from March 1 of a given year to March 31 of the following calendar year.

You can purchase a fishing license online by visiting www.mdnr-elicense.com.

To find access sites by location, available fish species and other factors, visit:
www.mcgi.state.mi.us/mrbis.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Get a free Michigan Boating Handbook online

This handbook is designed to give Michigan boaters the information needed to be safe and responsible. To download, visit:

www.boat-ed.com/michigan/index.html



STATE REP.
**DAVE
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FOR MORE INFO,
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STATE REPRESENTATIVE DAVE PAGEL





THE MARINE SAFETY ACT

Boating is a popular pastime in our state, and the Marine Safety Act that was passed last year has gone into effect. This will help ensure that residents and visitors can safely enjoy our waters.



The changes that have gone into effect are listed below:

- ▶ A vessel operator is required to comply with marine safety equipment requirements of the Department of Natural Resources or face a civil fine of \$100.
 - ▶ A person is required to wear a proper personal flotation device in order to be towed by a vessel.
 - ▶ Laws regarding fleeing and eluding a police or conservation officer have been extended to include criminal penalties to the operator of the vessel.
- ▶ An officer may not stop a vessel solely to determine the number and adequacy of personal flotation devices. New stipulations require officers to have reasonable and stated cause to believe that a watercraft is in violation of marine law in order to stop a boater and inspect the vessel.

PURE MICHIGAN CAMPAIGN CONTINUES TO GROW

The Pure Michigan campaign has made a monumental impact on Michigan's tourism industry, and it has been a great source of economic return for the state. Over the past few years the campaign has continued to grow, and this year is no exception. The 2013 Pure Michigan campaign has already started its national advertising plan for the year and will feature television spots on more than 20 cable stations across the country.

In addition, the Pure Michigan campaign is also expanding its marketing program overseas. The focus will be on offering travel packages to the state and encouraging international travel writers to visit Michigan and spread the word about the multitude of activities Michigan has to offer.

The Pure Michigan campaign is one of the most successful programs in our state and has created countless jobs and strengthened our economy. As we move forward in our budgeting for this year and years to come, we look to the Pure Michigan campaign as an example.

DID YOU KNOW?

MICHIGAN IS RANKED 3RD IN THE NATION FOR THE AMOUNT OF RECREATIONAL BOAT REGISTRATIONS, according to the National Marine Manufacturers Association.

STAY SAFE, STAY AFLOAT

Michigan law requires all watercraft to keep an appropriately sized personal flotation device (PFD) to accommodate each person on board. Sizes are designed to accommodate individuals based on body weight and chest size.

LIFEJACKET REQUIREMENTS:



TYPE II

- ▶ Children less than 6 years of age must wear a Type I or Type II PFD when riding in the open deck area of a boat.



TYPE III

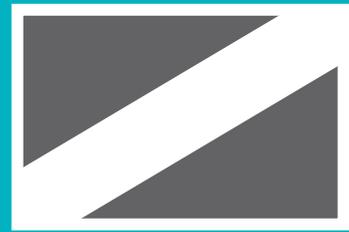
- ▶ Each person 12 years of age or older operating, riding on or being towed behind a personal watercraft (jet ski) must wear a Type I, Type II or Type III PFD (that is not an inflatable device).
- ▶ Each person less than 12 years of age riding or being towed behind a personal watercraft (jet ski) must wear a Type I or Type II PFD.



INVASIVE SPECIES: YOU CAN HELP

Boaters and anglers can help with the efforts to keep our waters clean and free of invasive species by following some basic guidelines, including: Cleaning boats and all other equipment to keep from transporting undesirable diseases and organisms, allowing equipment to fully dry in the sun, not moving fish or fish parts from one body of water to another, and not releasing live bait into any body of water.

For more information on what you can do to help curb the spread of invasive species, visit the state website at www.michigan.gov/deq-anglers-monitoring-network. Keeping our waters clean is a task for which we must all take responsibility.



DIVER DOWN FLAGS

Scuba divers and snorkelers must display a diver down flag to mark their diving area. Divers must stay within 100 feet of the vertical position of their flag. Vessels must remain at least 200 feet away from the flag.



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