



Yes ☐ No ☐

Replaced decal was: Last Year ☐ Outdated ☐ First Time ☐Type: PWC ☐ Open ☐ Cabin ☐ Other ☐

ANSC 7012 (03-25) Previous editions may be used

Brief Explanation of VSC Required Items:

- ☐ **1. NUMBERING:** The boat's registration number must be permanently attached to each side of the forward half of the boat. Characters must be plain, vertical, block style, not less than three (3) inches high, and in a color contrasting with the background. A space or hyphen must separate the letters from the numbers. Place State validation sticker according to State policy. (e.g. **FL 1234 AH** or **FL-4234-AB**)
- ☐ **2. REGISTRATION/DOCUMENTATION:** Proof of Registration or Documentation must be on board and available. Documentation numbers must be permanently marked on a visible part of the interior structure. The documented boat's name and Hailing Port must be displayed on the exterior hull in letters not less than 4 inches in height.
- ☐ **3. PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES (PFDs):** Acceptable PFDs (as known as Life Jackets) must be U.S. Coast Guard approved and in good, serviceable condition. A wearable PFD of suitable size is required for each person on the boat. Children must have properly fitted PFDs designed for children. Wearable PFDs shall be "readily accessible" Boats/rowboats 16 feet or longer, (except canoes and kayaks) must have one Type IV (throwable) device, which shall be "immediately available". PFDs shall NOT be stored in unopened plastic packaging. For Personal Watercraft riders, the PFD must be worn. An impact rating is recommended, but not required.
- ☐ **4. VISUAL DISTRESS SIGNALS:** Recreational boats 16 feet and over used on coastal waters or Great Lakes are required to carry a minimum of either 1) three day and three night pyrotechnic devices., 2) one day non-pyrotechnic device (flag) and one night non-pyrotechnic device (auto SOS light) or 3) a combination of 1) and 2). Recreational boats less than 16 feet on coastal waters or the Great Lakes need only carry night visual distress signals when operating from sunset to sunrise. It is recommended, but not required, that boats operating on inland waters should have some means of signaling a suitable day and night distress signal. The number and type of signals is best judged by considering conditions under which the boat will be operating.

☐ **5. FIRE EXTINGUISHERS:** Fire extinguishers are required if one of the following conditions exist: 1) Inboard engine(s); 2) Double bottom hulls not completely sealed or not completely filled with flotation materials; 3) Closed living space; 4) Closed stowage compartments that contain flammable materials; or 5) Permanently installed fuel tanks. Recreational boats less than 26 feet, and propelled by outboard motors are NOT required to have fire extinguishers unless one or more of the conditions (2-5) listed above applies. *NOTE: Fire extinguishers must be readily accessible and verified as serviceable.*

Fire Extinguisher Type	Vessel Model Year	
	Prior to 2018	2018 and later
5-B:C or larger *	Acceptable	Acceptable
B-I / B-II *	Acceptable	Not Acceptable
Notes:		
* If greater than 12 years from date stamped on bottle, must be replaced in order to count as acceptable. No date stamp or expired = Not acceptable but may be kept on board for emergencies		

Boat model year of 2018 and newer.		
NOTE - may carry only 5-B or 20-B rated fire extinguishers with date stamp		
Length (feet)	Minimum number of 5-B rated portable fire extinguishers required ¹	
	If no fixed fire extinguishing system in machinery space	If fixed fire extinguishing system in machinery space
Under 16	1	0
16 but less than 26	1	0
26 but less than 40	2	1
40 up to 65	3	2
¹ One 20-B rated portable fire extinguisher may be substituted for two 5-B portable fire extinguishers		

Note Vessels model year between 1953 and 2017 may carry either 5-B, 20-B rated extinguishers with date stamp or B-I/II rated fire extinguishers

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☐ **6. VENTILATION:** Boats with gasoline engines in closed compartments, built after 1 August 1980 must have a powered ventilation system. Those built prior to that date must have neutral or powered ventilation. Boats with closed fuel tank compartments built after 1 August 1978 must meet requirements by displaying a "certificate of compliance." Boats built before that date must have either natural or powered ventilation in the fuel tank compartment.

☐ **7. BACKFIRE FLAME ARRESTER:** All gasoline powered inboard/outboard or inboard motor boats must be equipped with an approved backfire flame control device.

☐ **8. SOUND PRODUCING DEVICES:** To comply with Navigation Rules and for distress signaling purposes all boats must carry a sound producing device (whistle, horn, siren, etc.) capable of a 4-second blast audible for ½ mile.

☐ **9. NAVIGATION LIGHTS:** All boats must be able to display navigation lights between sunset and sunrise and in conditions of reduced visibility. Boats 16 feet or more in length must have properly installed, working navigation lights and an all-around anchor light capable of being lit independently from the red/green/white "running lights."

☐ **10. POLLUTION PLACARD:** Boats 26 feet and over with a machinery compartment must display an oily waste "pollution" placard.

☐ **11. MARPOL TRASH PLACARD:** Boats 26 feet and over in length, operating in U.S. navigable waters, must display a "MARPOL" trash placard. Oceangoing boats 40 feet and over must also have a written trash disposal plan available.

☐ **12. MARINE SANITATION DEVICE:** Any installed toilet must be a Coast Guard approved device. Overboard discharge outlets must be capable of being sealed.

☐ **13. NAVIGATION RULES:** Boats 39.4 feet and over, operating on "inland" water rules, must have on board a current copy of Navigation Rules. An electronic version of the Navigation Rules is acceptable.

☐ **14. STATE AND LOCAL REQUIREMENTS:** These requirements must be met before the "Vessel Safety Check" decal can be awarded. A boat must meet the requirements of the state in which it is being examined.

☐ **15. Engine Cut Off Switch (ECOS):** Required on all vessels <26 feet manufactured after 12/2019; must produce lanyard during VSC. All PWCs require self-circling or kill switch mechanisms. If installed a self-circling or kill switch mechanism must be in proper working order.

RECOMMENDED AND DISCUSSION ITEMS: (Not required for the award of the "Vessel Safety Check" decal.) For the very best boaters, we recommend those additional items. Meeting these requirements reflects your concern for Boating Safety.

I. Marine Radio (MMSI/EPIRB/PLB) - Operators should get an MMSI number or update it with contact or vessel information changes. (FCC, BoatUS, US Power Squadrons, Sea Tow, or Shine Micro Inc.) EPIRB or PLB registration is updated with NOAA.

VIII. Over all Vessel Conditions as applies

a. Deck free of hazards and clean bilge - The boat should be free from fire hazards, in good overall condition, with bilges reasonably clean and visible hull structure generally sound. The use of automobile parts on boat engines is not acceptable. The engine horsepower should not exceed that shown on the capacity plate.

b. Electrical Systems - The electrical system should be protected by fuses or manual circuit breakers. Switches and fuse panels should be protected from rain or water spray. Wiring should be in good condition, properly installed and with no exposed areas or deteriorated insulation. Batteries should be secured and the positive terminal (some states require both) covered to prevent accidental arching. Boats with outboard engine(s) are only exempt from this requirement if the battery is part of the outboard engine.

c. Fuel Systems - Portable fuel tanks (normally 7 gallons capacity or less) should be constructed of non-breakable material and free of corrosion and leaks. All vents should be capable of being closed. The tank should be secured and have a vapor-tight, leak-proof cap. Each permanent fuel tank should be properly vented. Discuss fuel management.

d. Galley and Heating Systems - System and fuel tanks should be properly secured with no flammable materials nearby.

****Person in the water *PIW) kit consists of one extra wearable PFD and a throwable type IV PFD with line.**