

# UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY 2023 PROGRAM VISITATION WORKSHOP



## NATIONAL DIRECTORATE OF VESSEL EXAMINATION AND RECREATIONAL BOATING SAFETY PROGRAM VISITATION



# WELCOME

- **Workshop Objectives**
  - Discuss certification topics
  - Review issues from 2022
  - Clarify topics of concern



# MISSION STATEMENT

To further recreational boating safety, save the lives and reduce property damage by preventative measures that maximize the safe use and enjoyment of America's waterways by the public.



# PADDLECRAFT

Why do we need to emphasize paddlescraft safety?



Fastest growing segment of recreational boating!



# AUXPAD INFORMATION

## Paddlecraft Safety & AUXPAD

Paddlesport participation has grown dramatically in recent years. Low entry cost, easy storage, less maintenance and flexibility are some of the reasons many people have decided to become paddlers, compared to power or sailing craft.

Paddlesports are on the rise, setting a records for the number of participants. About 22 million Americans — 7.4 percent of the population — enjoy paddling.

Kayaking, Stand Up Paddleboarding and kayak fishing have grown dramatically. Between 90,000 and 105,000 canoes and 350,000 kayaks are sold annually, according to industry figures.





# AUXPAD



Photo: Courtesy 5SR – FI 16-7

## Fastest growing segment of recreational boating!

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Homeland Security  
**United States  
Coast Guard  
Auxiliary**





# AUXPAD

AUXPAD is the Auxiliary's program to promote paddlecraft safety ashore and afloat. Operators are as safety ambassadors to the paddling community, where they promote safety on the water through vessel safety checks, public education, and program visits.

More Information can be found at:

<http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=B-DEPT&category=auxpad>

National Facebook Page:

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary - Paddlecraft Safety Division

<https://www.facebook.com/auxpad/>

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# KEY PERSONNEL

- **Members with paddlecraft experience**
- **Additionally, members who:**
  - **have paddlecraft training, e.g. ACA or scouting.**
  - **have paddlecraft instructor experience.**
  - **are ACA instructors.**
  - **work at a business that sells paddlecraft.**





# KEY PERSONNEL

- have a desire to learn about paddlecraft.
- have a desire to help build this new program.



# STORES

- Many sold at non-traditional outlets such as:
  - farm and ranch supply outlets
  - dry goods stores
  - temporary “portable” curbside or on-beach stores
  - large variety stores

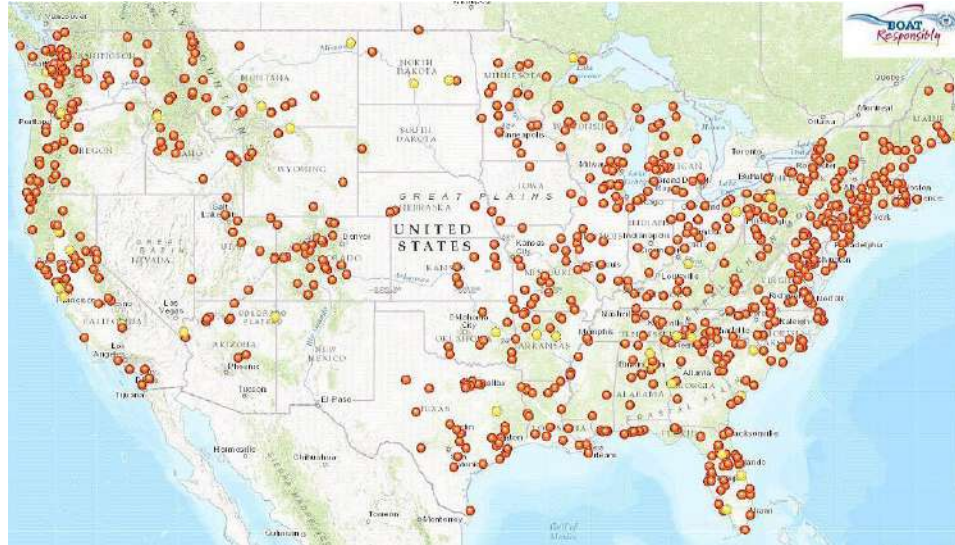


# PADDLER DEATHS

Most common reason  
for known death?

Drowning

83% of people that  
drowned were NOT  
wearing a lifejacket.



## 910 Paddler Deaths 2016-2022

# STATISTICS

## USCG COAST GUARD BOATING STATISTICS

	2020	2021	Totals
<b>Deaths</b>	<b>767</b>	<b>658</b>	<b>-109</b>
<b>Injuries</b>	<b>3,191</b>	<b>2,641</b>	<b>-550</b>
<b>Accidents</b>	<b>5,265</b>	<b>4,439</b>	<b>-826</b>

- Deaths, Injuries and Accidents decreased from 2020
- However, Paddlecraft deaths increased by 14% in 2021



# KEY PERSONNEL

- All members are key to program success!
- RBS Core Four:
  - Program Visitor
  - Vessel Examiner
  - Public Affairs
  - Public Education



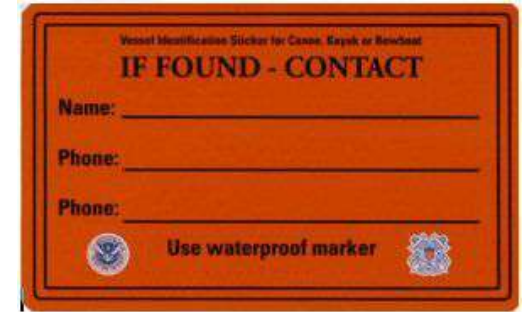
# **PADDLECRAFT MISSION**

- **Extend boating safety outreach.**
- **Promote life jacket wear.**
- **Promote operator compliance with federal and state required safety equipment.**
- **Ensure Paddlecraft operators are well equipped to be in the water.**



# PV BRIEFING TOPICS

- Program Visitors should be addressing paddlecraft issues with partners.
  - Review ANSC 7012A Paddlecraft Vessel Safety Check Form with store manager and employees.
  - Encourage partners to provide orange “If Found...” stickers for each purchase



# Paddle Tip Reflector Kit ANSC3004B

## Paddle Smart, Paddle Safe

### 1 - WEAR A LIFE JACKET

- Everyone, even strong swimmers, needs to be wearing a life jacket at all times. It is extremely difficult to put one on once you fall into the water. Even a light wind can blow any paddlercraft away from you, faster than you can swim.
- Buy (and wear) a comfortable Type I or II life jacket specifically designed for paddlersports.

### 2 - WEAR AN ACTIVITY APPROPRIATE LEASH ON STAND UP PADDLEBOARD

- A leash should be worn to keep your SUP with you when you fall off. Do not wear an ankle leash for surf, swift currents, or conditions where being tied to the board could prove dangerous. It is not a life jacket.

### 3 - PADDLE SOBER AND SMART

- Don't go paddling if you should not be driving. Coast Guard and state BUI laws apply to all vessels. This includes canoes, kayaks, SUPs and rafts.

### 4 - STAY CLEAR OF ALL OTHER VESSELS

- Know the "Rules of the Road" Navigation Rules that govern all boat traffic and stay out of the way of all other vessels.
- Never assume that power boaters can see you. Avoid high-traffic areas whenever possible. Proceed with caution when you can't avoid them. Dress for visibility.

### 5 - DRESS FOR IMMERSION, NOT AIR TEMPERATURE

- Your body loses heat much faster when immersed in cold water than it does when dry.
- Avoid cotton clothing like t-shirts and jeans; they retain water and accelerate cooling when wet. Synthetic fabrics, or wool, are generally a better choice. If the water is very cold ( $< 60^{\circ}$ ), you should wear a wetsuit or drysuit.

### 6 - CHECK THE WEATHER

- Plan for changing weather conditions. Prepare for the worst case.
- Don't forget to check tide, currents, or river levels.

### 7 - CARRY A WHISTLE (AND A LIGHT FOR NIGHT USE)

- Carry a light at night. Consider carrying a distress signal device.

### 8 - CARRY A WATERPROOF VHF RADIO, CELL PHONE ONLY AS BACKUP

- A handheld VHF marine band radio allows you to communicate with the Coast Guard and other boat traffic. Use Channel 16 only for calling and emergencies. The radio should be waterproof, because it's virtually certain to get wet.
- A cell phone, even if in a waterproof case or sealable bag, might not work, so don't rely on it as the primary means of emergency communication.

### 9 - KNOW THE LOCAL HAZARDS

- Check navigation charts before you launch.
- Check with those who have local knowledge of manmade and natural hazards, e.g., low-head dams; sweepers, strainers and undercuts; tides and currents; and rocks and shoals.

### 10 - EDUCATION: GET SOME!

- Take a paddling safety course from the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, American Canoe Association (ACA) or other reputable source.
- Take a boating safety course from the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, U.S. Power Squadrons® or your own state's boating agency.
- Take on-the-water skills training.

These signs are offered by the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, the volunteer component of the U.S. Coast Guard. This is not a substitute for taking a safe boating course.  
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# WHY BECOME A PROGRAM VISITOR?

**You can...**

Question: Rank these in order of importance?

- **Save lives**
- **Make a difference through prevention**
- **Promote recreational boating safety**
- **Answer boater questions**
- **Promote the Coast Guard Auxiliary**
- **Recruit new members**

Answer: Each one is just as important as the next!



# PROGRAM VISITOR RESPONSIBILITIES

- To generate outreach to the recreational boating community.
- Deliver innovative boating safety programs.
- Develop safety partnerships with vendors.
- Ensure information and literature left behind is in good shape, up to date and accurate.



# PROGRAM VISITOR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Enhance relationships with the community.
- Influence safety through public education.
- Distribute safety material to public.
- Answer questions.
- Recruit and train new PV's from within the Aux.



# PROGRAM VISITOR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Establish and enhance working relationships between the public, Partners, the Coast Guard and the Auxiliary.



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Coast Guard  
Auxiliary



# WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A PROGRAM VISITOR AMBASSADOR?

- Authorized to represent the USCG and Auxiliary.
- You are the Coast Guard in the eyes of the public.
- Appropriate uniform and appearance.
- Significant duties and responsibilities.
- **HONOR – RESPECT – DEVOTION TO DUTY**



# PROGRAM VISITATION LOCATIONS

**Q: Where can we conduct a Program Visit?**

**A: Anywhere. This will provide an opportunity to gain a potential new partner.**

**Locations traditionally not visited by the Aux: Grocery Stores, Gas Stations, Donut Shops, Malls.**

**What do all these locations have in common? Foot traffic.**

**What could you post? Upcoming Classes, Auxiliary Open Houses**

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**Recruitment Flyers for the Aux and Active Duty Side!**

# PROGRAM VISIT CRITERIA

- The RBSVP goal is to create lasting relationships with the business community and continuity.
- What constitutes a reportable  
**Onsite interaction**



## How do you report a visit? AuxData II PV Activity Reports



Contact your FC / VFC or FSO-IS for Help Entering Info.



# GENERAL INFORMATION

- Distribution boxes do not belong to individual PVs. Please order to your needs and remember, we are a team, others need these boxes as well.



# GENERAL INFORMATION

- Any PV can make a visit to any Partner.
- Visits should be coordinated with local FSO-PV or SO-PV.
- Uniform requirements:
  - Service Dress Blue or Tropical Blue
  - AWU or ODU
  - District approved dress attire



# TRAIN THE PARTNERS

- Boater education can save lives!
- Sponsoring a VSC station at their place of business is good public relations.
- Participation as a Partner can help to bring in customers.



# DISPLAY MATERIALS

- Your FSO-MA can order display material for you from the ANSC catalog.



AUXILIARY NATIONAL SUPPLY  
CENTER



DESCRIPTIVE LISTING CATALOG  
WITH  
CROSS INDEX  
AND  
REVISION DATES  
FAX: 618-876-1845

ON-LINE SEE: CHIEF DIRECTOR AUXILIARY DIVISION (CG-BSX-1)

<http://www.cgaux.org/members/>  
Visit myCGAUX - <http://my.cgaux.org/>

THE U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY  
PROUD TRADITIONS - WORTHY MISSIONS

JANUARY 2021

Recruiting Flyers – ANSC 3023

U.S. Department of  
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**United States  
Coast Guard  
Auxiliary**



# DISPLAY MATERIALS

- **Many other display materials are available:**
  - **CG boating safety circulars**
  - **State & local handouts**
  - **PE contact information**
  - **PE class schedules**
  - **Federal / State boat regulations**
  - **Locally produced brochures**
  - **VE contact information**
  - **VSC station schedules**

Make sure handouts are current. When conducting a PV, ensure partner has the most up to date brochure / handout. A revision could have happened since the last visit.



# IMPORTANCE OF “ASSIGNMENT TO DUTY”

- Auxiliarists may be covered when assigned to duty.
- Requirements for Assignment to Duty
  - Have a PV Letter of Certification.
  - Activity scheduled with elected officer or FSO-PV.
  - Follow all District procedures.





# PROGRAM VISITOR PARTNERSHIP

- How to increase member participation



# PROGRAM VISITOR RECOGNITION

- Your work is appreciated and recognized.





# EXAMINER PROGRAM MEDAL

- When you certify, you will receive the Examiner Program Medal and Ribbon  
(Certified VEs will receive a 3/16" bronze star)



# ANNUAL SERVICE PERFORMANCE

- After a minimum of 60 PVs and/or VSCs, you receive the Auxiliary Annual Service Performance award.
- Additional awards are given every year for a minimum of 60 PVs VSC are completed.



every  
and/or



# RBS INSIGNIA

- The RBS Insignia
  - Recognizes strong support to RBS programs.
  - Eligibility requires activity (120 points/year) over a minimum of two years.
  - See Chapter 10 of the AUX Manual for details.



# CENTURY CLUB AWARD

- A National V-Directorate award for completing a minimum of 100 Program Visits and/or Vessel Safety Exam in a calendar year.



# PARTNER RECOGNITION

- Recognize Partners who made outstanding contributions to the RBS Program.
- Recommended by the PV.
- The FC prepares and presents the Certificate of Appreciation to the Partner or their representative.



# V-DIRECTORATE STAFF

**Director (DIR-V)**

**Deputy Director (DIR-Vd)**

**Division Chief - Vessel Exams (DVC-VE)**

**Division Chief - Visitation Programs (DVC-VP)**

**Division Chief - Technical Support (DVC-VT)**

**Division Chief - Incentive Programs (DVC-VI)**

**Division Chief - Special Projects (DVC-VS)**

**Division Chief - Communications (DVC-VC)**

**James A. Cortes**

**Thomas A. Niles**

**Craig A. Brown**

**Aaron M. Todd**

**Kirk A. Guttman**

**Mark H. Crary**

**William S. Jefferson**

**Zachary Wilson-Fetrow**