

America's Waterway Watch

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America's Waterway Watch is a public outreach program encouraging participants to simply report suspicious activity to the Coast Guard and/or other law enforcement agencies.

As a recreational boater, the United States Coast Guard wants your help in keeping these areas safe and secure. You can do this by participating in its America's Waterway Watch (AWW) program, a nationwide initiative similar to the well known and successful Neighborhood Watch program that asks community members to report suspicious activities to local law enforcement agencies.

As a person who spends time on or near the water, you already know what is normal and what is not. Therefore, you are well suited to notice suspicious activities. These activities possibly indicating threats to our nation's homeland security. As participant in America's Waterway Watch, we urge you to adopt a heightened sense of awareness toward unusual events or individuals you may encounter in or around ports, docks, marinas, riversides, beaches, or waterfront communities. Here are some examples of what you should watch for:

- Unusual operations of a vessel, small boat, or a boat and vehicle on land.
- People taking still photos or video tape of bridges, government vessels, government facility's, power plants, or tanker port facilities
- A person engaged in what looks like surveillance
- Suspicious Conditions or Physical breaches of security

To report suspicious activity: Call the National Response Center at **1-877-24WATCH**. If there is immediate danger to life or property, call **911** or the U.S. Coast Guard on VHF **Channel 16**.

If the activity is a national security issue, do not use the VHF radio. The "bad guys" might also have a radio and would be prewarned.