



# PADDLECRAFT



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



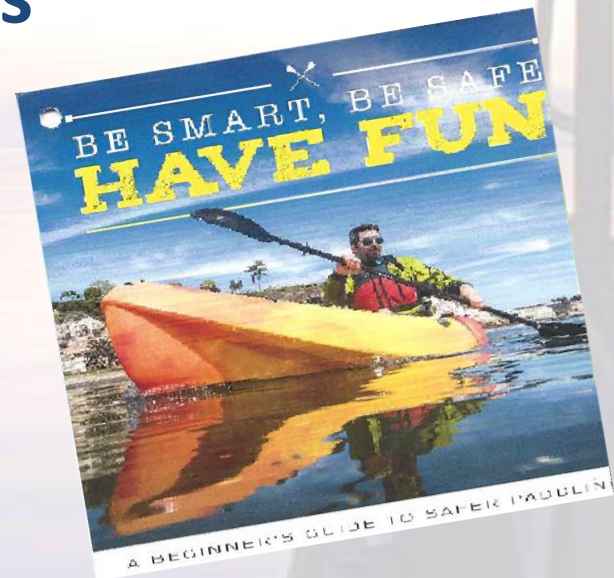
# **PADDLE SMART, BE SAFE**

- **Always wear your life jacket and carry a whistle**
- **Know the rules of the road**
- **File a float plan**
- **Plan for changing weather conditions**
- **Know your limits, plan for immersion**
- **Carry a waterproof VHF radio & cell phone**
- **For safety, always paddle in a group**
- **Carry a tow line & small anchor**
- **Wear proper footwear & high visibility clothing**



# PADDLECRAFT REQUIREMENTS

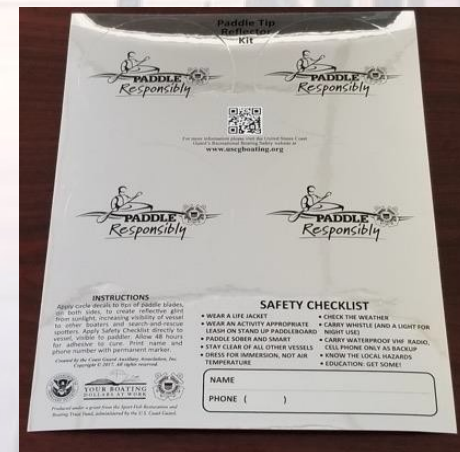
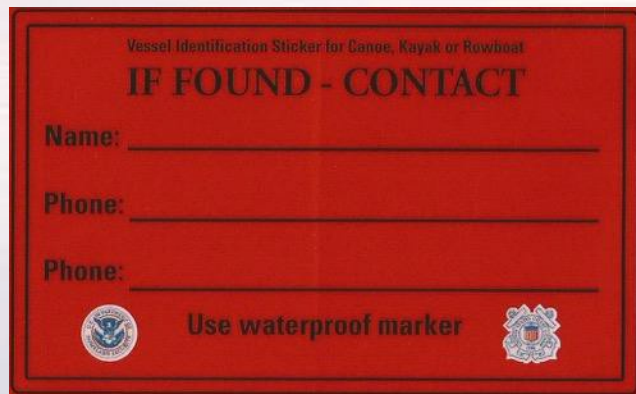
- Boat registration – check state requirements
- Sound device, e.g. whistle, attached to a USCG approved life jacket
- Vessel conditions: as applies, see form 7012A for other requirements





# PADDLECRAFT DECAL AIDS

- “If Found-Contact” sticker popular with paddlers
- Helps law enforcement personnel identify owners of lost paddlecraft
- Offering sticker to paddlers is a great way to start the educational VSC process



# KAYAK SAFETY EQUIPMENT

- Life Jacket
- Whistle
- Paddle Cord/Leash
- Paddle Float
- Bilge Pump
- VHF Radio
- Compass
- GPS
- Anchor
- Lights
- Emergency Kit
- Tow lines



# LIFE JACKET AND WHISTLE

- Life jackets designed to keep you afloat
- Paddlers prefer a cutaway design for life jacket
- Whistles or sound producing device



# STAND-UP PADDLEBOARD IS A VESSEL

The U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) has determined that a stand-up paddleboard is a vessel.



# ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Auxiliary National “V” Department website

<http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=v-dept>

Vessel Safety Checks for Rental Agencies (Liveries)

<http://vdept.cgauw.org/JobAidFiles/Vessel-Exams-For-Rental-Marina-Facilities.pdf>

paddlecraft Vessel Safety Check Addendum

<http://vdept.cgauw.org/JobAidFiles/SUBsVSCManualAddendum.pdf>

B-Directorate Paddlecraft Safety

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

Paddlecraft videos

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5e0WIXgNGDg>

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