

L2 Auxiliary Leadership Link

The Digest of Coast Guard Auxiliary Activity

To: All Auxiliaries

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Recreational boating sees thousands of accidents yearly, causing injuries, fatalities, and property damage. While the overall accidents and fatalities decreased from 1991 to 2019, the decline halted between 2010 and 2019. Collisions are common accidents, but fatalities often result from unexpected entry into the water, linked to alcohol, hazardous conditions, inattention, and inexperience.

Although the U.S. Coast Guard doesn't consider life jacket wear and education as independent factors, most fatalities involve individuals without life jackets and proper education. Open motorboats contribute to half of all fatalities, and when combined with kayaks, canoes, and personal watercraft (PWCs), they make up three-quarters of all fatalities.

This highlights the need for comprehensive boating education covering essential knowledge, vessel-specific information, and practical experience to enhance safety.

This issue of RBS: Job One is posted and available here: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/14HjjYpa4AFqAuxSXv8htn4KIVIO0fKsw/view?usp=sharing>