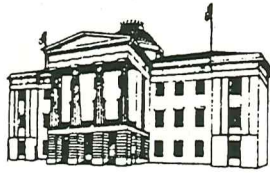


State of North Carolina



BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE
GOVERNOR

SAFE BOATING WEEK

2012

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina is home to more than 5,000 square miles of navigable streams, rivers, lakes and coastal waterways, which are enjoyed by hundreds of thousands of resident boaters and visitors from across our state and nation annually; and

WHEREAS, boaters are drawn to North Carolina waters to fish, swim, water ski, exercise, appreciate nature, enjoy quiet solitude, or relax with family and friends; the State of North Carolina provides free boating access areas to many of these waters, from Murphy to Manteo; and

WHEREAS, citizens and visitors are encouraged to follow water safety regulations and the recommendations of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission and the United States Coast Guard, whose officers enforce boating laws on public waters in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, wearing a proper life vest, filing a float plan before departure and remaining watchful and aware at all times while on the water helps ensure a safe boating experience; and

WHEREAS, the 2010 addition to the North Carolina Boating & Water Safety Statute 75A requires that all boat operators under the age of 26 take an approved boating education course and carry a boating education identification card while operating a vessel; and

WHEREAS, approximately 700 people die each year in boating-related accidents in the United States and approximately 20 of these are in North Carolina; nearly 70% of these fatalities are caused by drowning; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina joins the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, the United States Coast Guard and other interested agencies and organizations in encouraging citizens to practice safe boating habits, including never operating boats while impaired by drugs or alcohol, and in promoting the *On the Road, On the Water, Don't Drink and Drive* campaign during Safe Boating Week and throughout the year;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim May 19-25, 2012, as "SAFE BOATING WEEK" in North Carolina, and urge citizens to be responsible boaters.



BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this eleventh day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand and twelve, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-sixth.