4. Operator will be required to make a written report of the accident on a form provided by the Wildlife Resources Commission if the accident results in any one or more of the following:
   a) Loss of life;
   b) A person is injured and requires medical treatment beyond first aid;
   c) Actual physical damage to property (including vessels) in excess of $2,000.00;
   d) A person disappears from the vessel under circumstances that indicate death or injury.

Reports in death, disappearance and injury cases must be submitted within 48 hours; reports in other cases are required within 10 days. When the operator of a vessel cannot submit the accident report, the owner shall submit the report.

The purpose of the accident report is to provide statistical information as to the causes, frequency and location of serious boating accidents, and in transmittal of information as required by GS. 75A-11 of the North Carolina Boating Safety Act which further provides that the required accident reports “shall not be admissible as evidence.”

**LITTERING**

It is a misdemeanor to place, throw, deposit or discharge into the inland public waters of this State any litter, raw sewage, bottles, cans, papers, or other liquid or solid materials which render the waters unsightly, noxious, or otherwise unwholesome so as to be detrimental to the public health or welfare or to the enjoyment and safety of the water for recreational purposes.

**UNIFORM WATERWAY MARKERS**

The Uniform Waterway Marking System (United States Aids to Navigation) has been adopted for use on the public waters of North Carolina.

The system is designed to facilitate water traffic by the use of standardized signs and markers in the same way that motor traffic is regulated on the nation’s highways. It is incumbent on all boaters to familiarize themselves with the system and the meaning of the various signs and markers.
Navigational Aids

**ALL-RED BUOY** indicates vessels should pass between it and its companion, an all-green buoy. Keep red buoy on starboard (right) side when proceeding up stream or when entering a channel from the main body of water. Red buoys are used opposite, or in plain sight of, an all-green buoy to mark the edge of a well-defined channel. Numbers, when used, will be white and even. May have conical top. Also, called a nun buoy.

**ALL-GREEN BUOY** indicates vessels should pass between it and its companion, an all-red buoy. Keep green buoy on port (left) side when proceeding upstream, or when entering a channel from the main body of water.

Regulatory Markers

**DIAMOND SHAPE WITH CROSS** means *Boats Keep Out.*

**DIAMOND SHAPE** warns of Danger. Wording appearing in diamond includes ROCK, DAM, SNAG, DREDGE, WING-DAM, FERRY CABLE, MARINE CONSTRUCTION, WRECK, etc.
**CIRCLE** means area controlled “as indicated”. Wording that may appear in circle includes SLOW-NO WAKE, NO SKI, NO SWIM, NO SCUBA, NO PROP BOATS, SKI ONLY, FISHING ONLY, SKIN DIVING ONLY, etc.

**RECTANGLE** gives names, distances, arrows indicating directions, availability of gas, oil, groceries, marine repairs, etc.

**MOORING BUOY** has no navigational or regulatory significance. Blue band is halfway between top and water line. Used as an anchoring aid. May bear ownership identification. Lighting is normally optional, but lighting may be required depending upon location in waterway.

**DIVER’S FLAG** indicates presence of a diver. To be flown from vessel or float. Flag has been adopted by Under Water Society of America. Boaters are warned to keep away from flag area to avoid submerged divers. The diver’s flag is not a part of the Uniform Waterway Marking System (United States Aids to Navigation) but should be used by divers and recognized by boaters.