

KNOW THE SAFE BOATING RULES

KOOTENAI COUNTY CODE Title 6 Chapter 2



KOOTENAI COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE
(208) 446-1300

KOOTENAI COUNTY
PARKS AND WATERWAYS
(208) 446-1275

BASIC RULES

It shall be unlawful for any person to operate any type of vessel or watercraft on the public waters within Kootenai County, Idaho in a negligent manner. IDAHO law requires that any operator of a vessel involved in an accident or collision, report the accident or collision to the Sheriff's Department immediately; provided that property damage exceeds \$1500.00 or there is death or personal injury or persons missing.

Children age fourteen and under must wear an approved life jacket when they are aboard a vessel 19 feet long or less when the vessel is underway or under power. This applies to manually propelled boats as well as motorboats.

SPEED RESTRICTIONS

Speed limits for all public waterways except the Coeur d'Alene and Spokane Rivers, and Lower Twin Lakes are as follows:

- ◆ **5 MPH, a NO WAKE ZONE**, within (200') two hundred feet of shoreline or any dock, pier, breakwater, or any person in the water.
- ◆ **50 MPH** during daylight hours
- ◆ **15 MPH**, or less, within (100') one hundred feet of any other vessel.
- ◆ **20 MPH**, or less, at night unless otherwise restricted.

Speed limits for Coeur d'Alene River, the Spokane River, and Lower Twin Lakes are as follows:

- ◆ **5 MPH, NO WAKE ZONE**, within one hundred feet (100') of shoreline, dock, pier, breakwater, or person in the water, and
- ◆ **35 MPH**, or less, during the day, unless regulated otherwise.
- ◆ **15MPH** within 50' of another vessel
- ◆ **20 MPH**, or less, at night.

Personal Watercraft, canoes, kayaks, and inflatables are subject to boating laws and ordinances.

ADULT SUPERVISION AGE RESTRICTIONS

Adult supervision is defined as having a person age (18) or older on or in the vessel. Adult supervision is as follows:

- ◆ Under age 10, adult supervision is required for any motor-driven vessel.
- ◆ It is unlawful for a person under the age of 14 to operate a vessel without adult supervision if the vessel is powered by a motor greater than 15 horsepower.
- ◆ Age/Horsepower restrictions also apply to the operation of **PERSONAL WATERCRAFT**.

For information about boating safety classes, contact the Kootenai County Sheriff's Recreation Safety Section at 446-2250, the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation at 769-1511, or the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and/or local Power Squadrons in your area.

USE OF COUNTY DOCKS AND RAMPS

-**Parking and/or mooring** at a county facility is limited to **48 hours** within any **72 hour** period or as posted at each location.

-**"Power Loading"** the driving of vessels on or off of trailers is **PROHIBITED** at all public launches.

-**Commercial Use** or activity at any County facility is allowed by Commercial Use permit only.

-**A FEE** is required to launch a vessel with a trailer at any designated County owned boat launch. The daily fee is \$5 for vessels registered in Idaho and \$10 for vessels registered out-of-state.

An **annual pass sticker** can be purchased instead of paying a daily launch fee: \$25 for vessels registered in Idaho; \$50 for vessels registered out-of-state.

Penalties: The violation of any provision of this ordinance shall be an infraction, and may be punished by a fine of not more than \$100.00.

*November 2014
Kootenai County Parks and Waterways*

IDAHO VESSEL EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

Personal Flotation Devices (PFD)

One Type I, Type II, Type III, or Type V U.S.C.G. approved flotation device is required for each person on board. Plus, at least one Type IV U.S.C.G. approved throwable flotation device for vessels over 16 feet in length.

Fire Extinguishers

- ◆ Vessels less than 26': (1) Type B-I Fire Extinguisher
- ◆ Vessels 26' to less than 40': (2) Type B-I or (1) Type B-II or (1) Type B-I & (1) B-I fixed system.
- ◆ Vessels 40' to 65': (3) Type B-I or (1) B-II and (1) Type B-I & (2) B-I or (1) B-II fixed system.

Backfire Flame Arrestor: Required for all inboard carbureted engines.

Mufflers: Boats built before 01/01/95 must not exceed 90 decibels. Boats built after the above date cannot exceed 88 decibels using the stationary test as outlined in SAE J2005. Cutouts and bypasses are also prohibited.

Ventilation: Required on all enclosed engines & fuel tank compartment on gas powered boats. Ventilation ducts must be at least 2" in diameter. Intake ducts must extend midway to the bilge or below carburetor; exhaust ducting must extend from the lower bilge to the open air. Vessel built after 1982 must have powered exhaust blowers installed.

Whistles, Horns & Bells: All vessels must carry some means of producing an efficient sound signal. Vessels **39'4" or longer** must have one of the following: a power-horn, power-whistle, or bell. If vessel is less than 39'4", your sound signal should be capable of a 4 to 6 second blast audible for ½ mile.

Lights: White all around (360°) or white masthead & stern light. Green – Starboard light; Red – Port side light. All lights are required to be on when vessel is underway from sunset to sunrise. White light only is required when at anchor between sunset and sunrise.

For various vessel sizes and lighting arrangements, see Idaho Boating Laws or Federal Vessels Requirement Brochures.

Boating Sanitation

Untreated sewage is a pollutant that can lead to illness. Please dispose of your waste properly at one of the many public pump-out stations. **Pend Oreille Lake:** Hudson Bay Marina. **Lake Coeur d'Alene:** Third Street Mooring Docks, Eleventh Street Marina, Carlin Bay, Harrison Public Docks, Black Rock Marina and Conkling Park Marina. There are privately owned pump-outs also available at Templin's Marina, Silver Beach Resort and Coeur d'Alene Resort/Boardwalk Marina.

Facility Reservations:

You can make reservations at several County facilities. *Kootenai County Reservations* are available for the following facilities:

- Hauser Park – shelter and moorage docks.
- Harrison Public Docks – moorage docks.
- Mowry State Park – two shelters.
- Carlin Public Docks – moorage docks.
- Loff's Bay – public docks.

To obtain Reservation Application forms, please contact Kootenai County Parks and Waterways at (208) 446-1275, or visit our website at www.kcpws.com.

Kootenai County Facility Rules and Regulations

Boat Camping is allowed at any facility which does not have restricted hours of operation. Boat camping is defined as the act of sleeping overnight in or on a vessel attached or moored to a public dock, pier, mooring buoy, or other designated structure.

Camping is not allowed on any County docks, and at all County owned or managed facilities except Mowry State Park on Lake Coeur d'Alene. Camping is defined as the act of physically placing any type of personal belonging on or above the ground, or on or above a concrete slab, pier, dock, picnic table, bench, or other structure, in order for one or more persons to rest, nap, or sleep overnight.

Picnicking is allowed with certain restrictions at any facility. No person shall engage in picnicking in any manner that restricts the access required under the American with Disabilities Act of 1990 – a minimum of 36" on an easement, sidewalk, or pathway, or on a public boat launch ramp, pier, or moorage dock. Picnicking is defined as the physical act of setting up and/or using personal belongings that provide seating, and eating surface, food preparation, cooking, shade, or the dispensing or storage of food and beverages

Riding Bicycles on County docks is not allowed at any facility.

Littering is not allowed at any County facility. We have a "**Pack It In, Pack It Out**" policy. Please take all your litter with you when you leave.

Dogs must be on a leash or other similar item of restraint not more than 10' in length at all times.

Fires are permitted in fire rings and barbecue grills. It is prohibited to leave a fire unattended at any time.

Firearms cannot be discharged at any time

Fireworks are not permitted in any form.

Alcoholic Beverages are not allowed at Hauser Park/Beach/Docks, McGuire Park/Beach, and Mica Boater's Park/Docks.

Restricted Hours of Operation. The following facilities are closed from 10:00 p.m. until 5:00 a.m.: Fernan Park, East Fernan Launch, Greensferry Park and Boat Launch, Rodkey Drive, and McGuire Park. Upper Twin Lakes is closed from 11:00 p.m. until 4:00 a.m. Neachen Bay public launch is closed from 10:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m.

Moorage at all County mooring buoys, located in Aberdeen Bay, Loff's Bay and Beauty Bay, shall be limited to 48 hours within any 72 hour period.

All vessels 30' in length or longer shall use stern moorage whenever available.