



PUBLIC INFORMATION RELEASE

STEVE KEANE, SHERIFF

**7122 W. Okanogan, Bldg. A, Kennewick, Washington 99336
Kennewick 735-6555 * Prosser 786-5605**

DATE OF NOTIFICATION: March 26, 2015

TYPE OF EVENT: Boater Education Course

LOCATION OF EVENT: Richland Yacht Club, 350 Columbia Point Drive

DATE / TIME OF EVENT: 8:00am – 5:00pm, Saturday, April 18, 2015 and
8:00am – 5:00pm, Saturday, May 2, 2015

NARRATIVE OF EVENT:

The Benton County Sheriff's Department will offer two separate boater education classes for Washington boaters 12 years of age and older.

Each eight hour course will provide boaters the basics of safe boating that all recreational boaters should know. These courses were developed specifically for the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission and are taught by Sheriff's Department Marine Patrol Deputies who are certified by the Parks Department as course instructors.

The *Adventures in Boating Washington, A Course on Responsible Boating* manual and exam will be provided at each class. Pre-registration is required by April 10, 2015, and may be done in person at the Benton County Sheriff's Office located at 7122 W. Okanogan Place, Kennewick WA (inside the Benton County Justice Center), or by phone at (509) 735-6555 extension 3858. There is no charge for the course.

In **2015**, boat operators 60 years old and younger will be required to carry a boater education card when operating a boat on Washington's waterways. The law applies to operators of motorboats of 15 horsepower or greater. Cards cost \$10.00 and are good for a lifetime.

OFFICER MAKING REPORT: Deputy Tom Morton
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