

## A Few Words on Safety:

United States Coast Guard requires the following equipment be on board\*:

**A Personal Flotation Device (life preserver):** Must be available for every person on board a boat. Children under 13 years of age must wear a life preserver at all times. A personal flotation device (PFD) can save your life, but only if you can find it and wear it. There must be one PFD on board for each passenger.

**Sound Signaling Device:** Any boat under 39 feet must carry a whistle, horn, or any other type of sound signals.

**Visual Distress Signals:** The vessel can carry one of the following options: three hand-held red flares; or one hand-held red flare and two parachute flares; or one hand-held orange smoke signal, two floating orange smoke signals and one electrical device.

**Fire Extinguisher:** Fire extinguishers are **recommended** on all powerboats. You should have an extinguisher that is known as B-I or B-II, meaning they are effective against gasoline, oil and grease fires. Extinguishers carrying "A" labels (for fires of ordinary combustible materials) or "C" labels (for electrical fires) are not approved for marine use. You should always keep the extinguisher fully charged.

**\*Note:** In addition to the federal regulations listed above, there are usually state and local laws which are often more stringent. Each boater is responsible for knowing and understanding current boating safety laws. The above federal laws are listed for convenience purposes only. Please contact the Coast Guard and the state and local authorities in your area to obtain current laws and periodic updates.