

National Nonprofit Champions Sober Skippers
Sea Tow Foundation Launches Designated Sober Skipper Program

SOUTHOLD, N.Y. – The Sea Tow Foundation has announced the launch of its seminal Designated Sober Skipper campaign – a program that encourages boaters to choose a Sober Skipper before they leave the dock. By forming alliances with marinas and other organizations nationwide, the New York-based nonprofit challenges boaters throughout Louisiana to champion a cause that promotes safe, fun boating experiences for all.

“We know how much boaters enjoy their time on the water,” said Gail R. Kulp, the Foundation’s executive director, “and we want to remind them that having fun and being responsible work hand-in-hand. Our goal is simple – to ensure everyone makes it home safely. That’s why it’s so important that whoever is in the captain’s chair stays sober at all times.”

In several states – including Texas, Massachusetts, Louisiana and others – even a first-time Boating Under the Influence offense can result not only in fines and prison time but can also affect the offender’s automobile driving privileges. That’s just another reason why it’s so important to always stay sober while at the helm of a boat, Kulp said, especially considering how alcohol affects boaters in particular.

“Many boaters don’t realize that the way alcohol affects the body while out on the water is often more dramatic than it might be back ashore,” she added.

This has led to alcohol being a leading contributing factor in fatal boating accidents, [according to the United States Coast Guard](#).

“When you’re out on a boat, sun, wind, noise and constant motion can lead to lowering your coordination much faster than it would on land,” Kulp said. “It may only take one drink for disorientation to set in. That’s why designating a Sober Skipper before you leave the dock is so important.”

Boaters can visit participating marinas or go online to get on board. Visit [SoberSkipper.com](#) for more information.

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The Sea Tow Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to the education and promotion of safe boating practices. Sea Tow Founder Capt. Joe Frohnhoefer established the Foundation in 2007 with a focus on safe boating practices that result in fun on the water. After his passing in 2015, Captain Joe’s legacy continues as the Foundation brings attention to the number of preventable boating-related accidents, injuries, and deaths, and directly addresses prevention methods through education and awareness. More than 450 life jacket loaner stands are now

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available across the United States, and the Foundation's Designated Sober Skipper program continues to grow. For more information, please visit BoatingSafety.com.

Get on board to help spread the Sober Skipper message! Find social media posts like the ones below and a calendar of suggested dates to share them on SoberSkipper.com.

Facebook Post:

Your hand on the helm puts lives in your hands. @SeaTowFoundation and @USCoastguard remind you to be or designate a Sober Skipper before you leave the dock this holiday week and every time you go boating. Get on board at <http://www.soberskipper.com/>. #getonboard #soberskipper #seatowfoundation #uscg #safeboating

Tweet:

Your hand on the helm puts lives in your hands. @SeaTowFdn and @USCG remind you to designate a Sober Skipper before you leave the dock. Get on board at <http://www.soberskipper.com/>. #getonboard #soberskipper #seatowfoundation #uscg #safeboating



Facebook Post:

Get everyone on board to make happy Fourth of July memories on the water! @SeaTowFoundation and @USCoastguard remind you to be or designate a Sober Skipper before you leave the dock. Get on board at <http://www.soberskipper.com/>. #getonboard #soberskipper #seatowfoundation #uscg #safeboating

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