



## Alcohol and Boating

In Wisconsin alone, there have been 18 boating fatalities since the beginning of August. Although some accidents are still under investigation, DNR officers have said that speed and alcohol appear to be factors in many of the fatalities. According to the US Coast Guard, alcohol use is involved in 17% of recreational boating fatalities in the US. We know that alcohol use can impair a driver's judgment, coordination, vision and reaction time. The same holds true for boaters. In fact, boaters may risk even greater impairment. Factors common in boating-sun, wind, noise, vibration and movement-can also cause fatigue that further inhibits a boater's judgment and reaction time. Boating under the influence (BUI) is illegal in all 50 states and the Coast Guard also enforces federal BUI laws. BUI laws apply to all boats, from canoes to large ships.

While alcohol use by the operator of a boat is dangerous, alcohol use by boat passengers is just as hazardous. Along with impaired judgment and physical performance, inner ear disturbances caused by alcohol can make it very difficult for a person who falls into the water to distinguish up from down. Alcohol may also create a sensation of warmth, increasing hypothermia risk for someone in cold water. Visit the [US Coast Guard's Boating Safety Resource Center](#) for more.

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## News & Updates

A PRIDE2012 reminder: conference will take place April 4-6, 2012 in Toledo, Ohio. Please keep in mind that these dates are a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

## From the Training Team

Awww nuts! It's here! School is back in session, and there are so many people hanging out after school! Remember that you are the people you hang out with. Since school is back in session, parties will be starting back up and others will be making some poor choices. Please be careful that you are not one of the people who go to a party like that to make friends. Even if you don't drink, you still are who you hang out with.

-Ben Schultz

## Choosing Challenge & Talent Show Music

With the school year underway, some teams are beginning to brainstorm ideas for pieces to perform at conference. While PRIDE has no intention of dictating what music your team can or cannot use in its programs, we do ask that all conference presentations follow a basic set of guidelines. As your team plans, please keep the following in mind:

- Avoid music by artists who have negative reputations-known drug users, publicity or arrests related to drug use or violence, etc.
- Check the lyrics to the whole song, even if you are only using a small part.
- Avoid songs with lyrics that are sexually suggestive or provocative; that glorify or promote drug use, drinking, violence or other unhealthy behaviors; and that are offensive or disrespectful.

It can be difficult to stay up-to-date on new songs and the artists producing them. Consider assigning a team member or two to help check lyrics and artists. You can also try typing the artist's name into a search engine and seeing what news stories come up. And feel free to send song ideas to the PRIDE office so we can help you check.

## Conference Facts

22. To announce last year's Showcase winners before the end of the event, scores were tallied as they came in by one staff member, radioed up to the offices on the second floor by another staff member and recorded by a third staff member in the office. A staff person printed and framed the awards as soon as the category was complete, and then other staff ran the awards back downstairs where they were announced by the Trainers.