



# KITSAP COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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For immediate release:  
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Wednesday, April 14, 2010

## Boating Education Class

**Kitsap County, Wash.** – It's early spring, but we know that warmer temperatures will soon be here and the local waters of Puget Sound will again draw large numbers of recreational boaters.

Beginning Jan. 1, 2010 any boat operator, 30 years of age or younger, must have a mandatory Boater Education Card in their possession when operating a recreational power vessel of 15 horsepower or greater while on Washington's waterways.

Boaters are encouraged to attend a Boating Education Class as soon as possible, and not wait until they are contacted by a marine patrol law enforcement officer to think about obtaining this required training and card.

The Kitsap County Sheriff's Office Marine Services Unit is offering two opportunities to attend the mandatory boating education class.

Classes are eight hours of instruction that covers basic boating knowledge, to include: rules of the nautical road, vessel equipment, boat trailers, launching, emergencies, navigation aides & lights and terminology.

Successful completion of the class includes passing a 75 point examination. Once the Boating Education Card is obtained, it is good for life.

### Class Schedules

#### **Class #1:**

Date & times: Saturday, April 17, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Location: Long Lake Community Center (Bob Oke Community Room), 5448 Long Lake Road SE, in South Kitsap. Class attendees are encouraged to bring their lunch.

Fee: \$10 to cover the cost of the Boating Education Card.

**Class #2:**

Dates & times: Wednesday, April 28 & Thursday, April 29, 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. each night.

Location: Island Lake Community Center (John Horsley Community Room), 1087 NW Island Lake Road, in Central Kitsap.

Fee: \$10 to cover the cost of the Boating Education Card.

**RSVP to:**

Deputy Chad Miller, #81

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E-mail: [cmiller@co.kitsap.wa.us](mailto:cmiller@co.kitsap.wa.us)

The below chart is a phase-in schedule for obtaining the mandatory Boating Education Card. The card requirement was started Jan. 1, 2008 and is being phased-in through 2014. Boaters born before Jan. 1, 1955 are exempt from this law.

<b>Year (Jan. 1)</b>	<b>Age group</b>
2010	30 years and younger
2011	35 years and younger
2012	40 years and younger
2013	50 years and younger
2014	59 years and younger
After 2014	Card is required for any boater born on or after Jan. 1, 1955

For information about the Boating Safety Education Program, call (360) 902-8844, or visit online at: [www.parks.wa.gov/boating](http://www.parks.wa.gov/boating)

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