

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Washington state boasts diverse waterways – including rivers, lakes, bays, inlets, and a dramatic ocean coastline – all of which provide exciting opportunities for recreational boaters; and

WHEREAS, participation in paddle sports is growing dramatically as people discover the excitement of kayaking, canoeing, and paddle boarding as ways in which to enjoy the beauty of Washington; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission's Boating Safety Program is to ensure that boaters have a safe, secure, and enjoyable experience on the water; and

WHEREAS, safety education can minimize the risk of accident or injury to boaters and paddle craft users; and

WHEREAS, paddle craft users can stay safe by taking boater education courses, carrying appropriate safety gear, filing a float plan, avoiding operating a craft while under the influence, carefully assessing weather conditions, and wearing a life jacket; and

WHEREAS, the State Recreational Boating Safety Program joins the United States Coast Guard, as well as state boating partners and organizations, to promote safe boating practices;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim July 22-28, 2024, as

Paddle Safe Week

in Washington, and I urge all people in our state to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 4th day of April, 2024

Handwritten signature of Jay Inslee in blue ink.

Governor Jay Inslee

