



# Boating Advisory

## Safety Tips for Labor Day Weekend

Holiday weekends often mean increased use of Dana Point Harbor's waterways – and that means an increased need for safety awareness from all boaters.

As always, OC Sheriff's Department Harbor Patrol will continue to enforce all boating laws in an effort to keep everyone safe, but boaters are also encouraged to pay extra attention to others on the water and adhere to the following safety tips.

- Wear your life jacket.; nine out of ten drowning victims did not.
- Do not drink and operate a boat. Alcohol can affect people much more rapidly on the water due to the boat's movement, vibration, noise, glare, sun, and wind. Make sure a designated operator refrains from drinking alcohol so they can safely operate the boat.
- Check to make sure navigation lights are functioning properly before leaving the dock and use them at all times at night, whether the boat is moving or anchored.
- Do not overload your boat with people or equipment; adhere to the capacity plate on the boat indicating the maximum weight capacity or the maximum number of people that the boat can safely carry.
- Every boater operating a vessel should be knowledgeable of California Boating Laws. These laws can be found at <http://www.dbw.ca.gov/pubs/ABC>.

Labor Day weekend is one of the most congested on the water. Please be sure to exercise caution while boating.