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Bodies of water, including lakes, often elicit fond memories of fun times spent under the sun.

Safety should always be a priority when spending time on the water, especially when participating in water sports, including swimming and water skiing – even late in the season.

Though drowning incidents are not as prevalent in the United States as they are elsewhere in the world, the popularity of water sports underscores the importance of revisiting the various ways to stay safe when out on the water.

• Take water sports lessons. The carefree nature of spring and summer can make it easy for water sports enthusiasts to forgo lessons before trying their hands at water skiing and wakeboarding.

But such lessons can teach people techniques that can keep them safe on the water. Courses teach everything from how to get up and out of the water to how to properly handle a tow rope.

They also can teach boaters how to navigate waters while towing skiers, tubers and wakeboarders.

• Learn hand signals and go over them before

• CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



#### **LAKE LIVING** Fall 2023

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**above:** Water sports make the warmer months of the year even more fun. Safety should always be the utmost priority for anyone involved in such activities.

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## End of season might be a good time to snag a deal for next year's boating

Just as all boats are not created equal, all boat accessories are not created equal, either. Take pontoon boats and pontoon boat accessories, for example. They're designed for a completely different day of fun on the water than, say, a fishing boat and its accessories, or a sailboat and its accessories.

Pontoon boats are all about sharing fun in the sun with family and friends. Pontoons are stable and wide with lots of seating and places to put a cooler full of snacks and drinks. They can make a terrific platform for early-morning or sunset cruises, or for a romantic dinner on board. Pontoon boats can also be great for watersports like

wakeboarding, water skiing and more.

Cool pontoon boat accessories add to these experiences in lots of ways. Discover Boating offers a look at seven great pontoon boat accessories that can help you take the fun quotient up a notch or two.

#### **Under-deck lighting**

If you like to be out on the water at sunrise, sunset or during the nighttime hours when the moon is high in the sky, then under-deck lights are not only a cool pontoon boat accessory, but also a must-have pontoon boat accessory.

There are a number of different brands and manufacturers that offer under-deck lighting, and many even come with plastic mounting channels and adhesive strips for easy installation. The strips of lighting are made to be cut, in order to achieve a perfect-size fit, and they're of course waterproof. They light up the boat either at anchor or in motion.

#### **Boat grill and mount**

Who doesn't enjoy a good cookout?

Now, try having one on board your boat. There are a variety of marine-use grills available on today's market, and many even include special mounting or bracket systems—giving pontoon boat owners a way to mount their grill of choice over the boat's side and away from the people on board (you know, just in case you "overchar" a burger and the smoke gets a little, shall we say, excessive).

These kinds of mounting systems can attach to the pontoon boat's rail, keeping all the rest of the space on board free for coolers full of whatever you want to cook.

#### **Bar tray**

To help keep everything organized during chow time, it's often a good idea to invest in a bar serving tray. Many of these portable trays can attach to a standard 1.25-inch pontoon square channel, and they're built to hold bottles of soda, cups, straws, plates of food and more.

Don't forget, if you're utilizing your bar tray for some ice-cold adult beverages, you'll want to make sure you designate a

Pontoon boat accessories can add to your boating experience, especially since this style of boat tends to draw large crowds or include the family, including four-legged members. From bars to grills to watersport towers, a day out on the lake is more enjoyable when you're outfitted for fun.

sober skipper in advance who can handle the safe operation of the boat.

#### **Aluminum pontoon boat ramp**

Getting in and out of the boat can be harder for some people than others—and for kids with little legs, as well as dogs with even littler legs. Enter the solution: a portable aluminum boat ramp.

This kind of product creates an easy-access platform for people to embark or disembark the pontoon boat, and some can even hold up to 600 pounds at a time. Most use universal mounting brackets, which are made specifically to fit most pontoon-boat models.

#### Watersports tow bar tower

For pontoon boat owners who want to do tow sports like wakeboard, water skiing or tubing, installing a tow bar tower can be a game-changer. These bars are often available in black or polished aluminum, and come with mounting equipment.

Hooking a towrope to a bar like this, instead of to a cleat on the boat itself, makes for a much more enjoyable towsports experience for the boat skipper and wakeboarder alike.

#### **Arm rests and cupholders**

Pontoon boats are often designed for comfort and functionality, but for owners who want to take their luxury to the next level, adding additional armrests or cupholders can be a minor upgrade with



major benefits.

Some armrests even have built-in cupholders or storage panels, and almost all are made with marine-grade vinyl to protect against mildew and UV, keeping your boat and its accessories looking fresh and new.

#### **Pontoon picnic station**

A fun day out on the water can mean a big mess on the boat. Similar to a bar tray, a "picnic" station is designed to help keep everything in its place. Many of these stations include utensil storage drawers, trashcan storage shelves and recessed drink holders.

Some picnic stations even include specialized countertops for keeping food prep all in one place. And of course, all the latches, hinges and fasteners are made from marine-grade stainless steel on most models.

For more information, visit discoverboating.com.



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There may be nothing more sweet in this big, wide world than gazing upon photos and videos of your kids or grandkids – with smiles a mile wide – holding up what they think is a huge "monster" fish (even if it's just a small sunfish or bluegill), or photos of your family all together enjoying a day of fishing and having fun on the water.

If you love fishing and you want to share it with your family, it's important to put a little planning in up front to help the experience go as smooth as it can to create those lasting memories and those stories that will be told for years of the monsters that were caught, and the big ones that got away.

To help you introduce the ones you love to a lifetime of fishing fun, the folks at Rapala, the legendary lure maker, offer these tips:

#### **Cherish the little wins**

If you have smaller kids or beginners in the family, it's likely they'll be pulling up smaller catches. Though their sunfish might look measly to you, they might think it's a monster! Hint, hint: So should you. Snap a picture to remember the beaming look on their faces and use this opportunity to show them how to conserve fish for future generations.

#### Let them guide you

When and where it's safe, let the kids "co-pilot" with you by operating your boat's trolling motor and guiding you to the perfect spot. Kids want to experience what the adults do. Operating a trolling motor will give them experience in positioning the boat and learning how to approach a spot.

#### **Include your partner**

Families come in all shapes and sizes nowadays. Use fishing as an opportunity to gather in the great outdoors and share some precious time together. Involve your partner or spouse, uncles and aunts, grandparents and close friends who feel like family. A day on or near the water can be a great way for a family to get away from our always-on digital world.

#### **Use good quality gear**

Don't skimp on cheap fishing gear. If your low-quality fishing gear breaks or malfunctions, it could ruin the moment. Good gear doesn't cost a fortune. Choose gear with a lot of positive reviews and fishing lures, like Rapala lures, which are well-known for catching fish. Similarly, be prepared for accidents that happen and

practice patience if a rod tip gets broken, a fishing rod falls into the water, or a fishing lure gets stuck high up in a tree. Stuff happens.

#### Safety first

Being in or around water means safety comes first. Make sure everyone has lifejackets, stays hydrated, and that you brief the kids on hook and water safety before handing over the rod. Remember to check the weather ahead of time so you can bundle up if it's a crisp morning, and bring sunscreen and hats if the sun is blazing.

#### **Bring a scale**

Practice catch-weigh-photo-release to get the family in the swing of things. You can even have a competition to see who had the heaviest catch! Weigh the fish caught with a Rapala scale, perfect for taking photos that display just how hefty your catch is.

#### Don't forget the snacks!

Make everyone's day and keep spirits high by bringing special treats along for the ride. Ask each family member their

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#### **SAFETY REMINDERS**

• CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

getting in the water. The National Safety Council emphasizes the importance of basic hand signals, which can be used to help boaters communicate with the people they're towing.

Hand signals are vital because water sports tend to be noisy, so nonverbal communication may be the only way boaters can communicate with the people they're towing.

Signals can be used to communicate anything from directions of turns to speed requests to the condition of the person being towed

A list of hand signals can be found online at boaterexam.com/safety/safety-common-hand-signals.aspx.

- Inspect tow lines. The NSC advises inspecting tow lines prior to beginning. Such inspections can confirm that tow lines are not caught in the propeller or wrapped around anyone before the activity begins.
- Wait for the propeller to stop before getting back on the boat. People being towed should always wait for propellers to stop before climbing back into the boat.

It doesn't take long for propellers to stop, and those extra few seconds can dramatically reduce risks for accidents or injuries.

• Avoid water sports at night. Visibility is compromised once the sun goes down. That can make it hard for boaters to see any obstacles that might appear in the water, and it also makes it very difficult for them to communicate with the people they're towing.

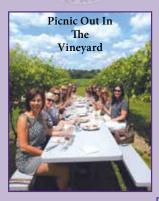
As a result of such difficulties, the NSC urges water sports enthusiasts to only engage in such activities during daylight hours.

Water sports make summer even more fun. Safety should always be the utmost priority for anyone involved in such activities.

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favorite snack beforehand to make sure everyone is included. The only 'hangry' ones on your fishing trip should be the fish!

#### Think beyond fishing

Tell stories, take pictures, and bring coloring books for the little ones if they need a break. And remember, it's okay if not everyone wants to fish. Some members of your family may not be too keen on fishing. Make sure they feel welcome and invite them to read a book or do another activity while others in your family are

fishing. They will surely want to be there when the others are showing their catches off.

#### Fishing is about learning

Fishing can be fun, but it's also an opportunity to be part of nature and experience other precious moments, such as watching other wildlife (turtles, frogs, ducks, squirrels), identifying plants and trees, learning how a boat works, and trying different types of presentations to see which one is most effective in catching fish. If some members of your family really turn

on to fishing, feed that passion with videos about fishing. Rapala has more than 600 informative videos on its YouTube channel alone.

#### Make a video

Take lots of photos and videos of your fishing trips with the family, then create a short movie with iMovie to help them relive the memories of fishing when it's cold and wet outside. It'll be fun to make, and the final product will be a memento your family will cherish forever.

RPT)

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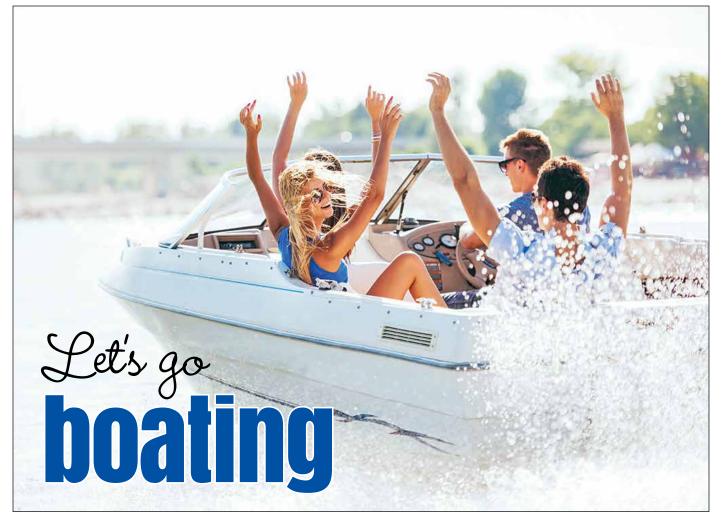
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## Cruise confidently with these insider tips

Spending time with your crew on the water this summer? There's no better place to be! Boating, a longstanding American pastime, has seen a surge in popularity as millions of people recognize it gives you the freedom to explore and is one of the most fun, relaxing ways to escape stress on land. Plus, studies show being on the water improves health and wellness. It makes sense why a record number of newcomers purchased their first boat over the past two years.

Whether you're new to boating or an experienced captain still navigating best practices for enjoying a day on the water, remember it should be fun - not intimidating. Understanding the basics on what to do and what to bring will help make you a safer, more confident boater while creating lasting memories.

"If you are looking for fun and adventure this summer, on the water with friends and family is where it's at. There's nothing more enjoyable and relaxing than a day on a boat with your favorite people," said Ellen Bradley, senior vice president of Discover Boating. "Before you take the helm, learning the basic boating essentials will help ensure a fun and safe experience for all involved."

Discover Boating is a helpful one-stop resource for everything from finding the boat that's right for you to maintenance checklists and how-to's, boating destinations and boating education topics. Additionally, with Discover Boating's new Dealer Finder tool, you can conveniently locate and connect with verified boat dealers in your area.

Below are five tips from Discover Boating to improve your nautical knowhow in no time to ensure the best possible experience on (and off) the water.

#### Learn the rules of the water

It is important to have the boating information and certifications you need to be a safe and responsible boater. By consulting Discover Boating's safe boating tips, developing a safety checklist

and obtaining the necessary training or certificates in your state, you not only protect yourself and your passengers but also other boaters on the water.

#### Take a class

Take the helm and become a confident boater. Sign up for a boating lesson to hone your powerboating, sailing or watersports skills by mastering the basics while having fun along the way. On-water training courses, watersports camps, youth boating programs and more are offered across the United States.

#### Visit a boat show

Boat shows are an ideal place to immerse yourself in the boating lifestyle and provide a unique opportunity to meet face-to-face with - and shop - a variety of boat dealers and marine product companies all under one roof.

Most boat shows also offer educational opportunities (often complimentary) whether you're a seasoned skipper looking



## The ultimate ski and wake boat buyer's guide

It can be incredibly fun and rewarding to enjoy watersports with your own ski boat or wake boat, but the different varieties of watersports each have very specific and specialized boats that excel at taking the experience from fun to fantastic.

Discover Boating offers a breakdown of the different watersports activities, each of which have genre of boats designed to be ideal for their individual specialties. They include:

- Water skiing;
- Wakesurfing;
- Wakeboarding;
- Kneeboarding; and
- Tubing.

Water skiing is the original watersport, and people have been enjoying this activity

for just about as long as there have been planning powerboats. The ideal ski boats throw up very little wake, and the wakes are shaped so the skier can cut through them with minimal impact. Propeller turbulence should also be minimized.

To achieve this, most ski boats designed for water skiing have:

- An inboard power system with the engine located centrally in the boat;
  - A relatively narrow beam (width); and
- A relatively low deadrise (the amount of V shape in the bottom).

Ideally, they should cruise in the mid to upper 20 MPH range and be capable of speeds over 30 MPH, and they shouldn't throw spray far aft or off to the sides where it might affect the skier.

#### **Wakeboard boats**

Wakeboarding requires a bit less skill than water skiing or wakesurfing, so it's a great stepping-stone activity for younger watersports lovers. It's also the realm of tricksters—wakeboarders tend to enjoy doing jumps, spins, and flips.

Since wakeboards have bindings (and

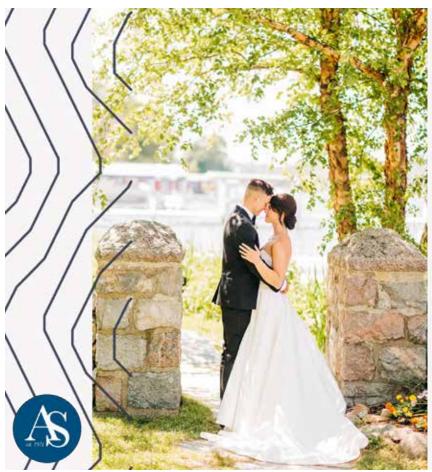
boards used for wake surfing do not) the rider can do aerial tricks without fear of losing contact with the board. This means that one important trait of wakeboarding boats has to do with the tow-point. It should be elevated as much as possible, and in most cases, is mounted atop a tower, arch, or elevated pedestal. That high tow-point helps the rider catch more air, and get more creative with his or her waterborne acrobatics.

Serious wakeboarding boats are also designed to:

- Create a fairly large wake that peaks 75 feet or so behind the boat, where the wakeboarder is riding; and
- Most employ V-drive inboards and many have ballast tanks and/or tabs or "wake plates" that can be used to enhance the size and shape of the wake.

#### **Wakesurfing boats**

In one very important way, wakesurfing boats are the diametric opposite of ski boats: the idea is to make as large a wake







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# LAKE LIVING • FALL 2023

## BOat Pamp Eliquette 101 Remember the basics of launching your boat

Every boater should know the Rules of the Road – or what's also come to be known as basic "boating etiquette" for safe, courteous navigation - before pulling away from the dock. However, there's another set of mostly unwritten rules comes into play at the launch ramp.

A popular boat ramp can be a busy place, especially on a summer weekend. The process of launching and retrieving hundreds of boats is like running a circus with no ringmaster – so etiquette, custom and courtesy are all that stand between good order and havoc.

A good boat owner takes pride in appearing ship-shape at the ramp and contributing to efficiency. Those who are unprepared, or just oblivious, can mess things up in short order. So don't be that

Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers and Discover Boating offer some of the basics of boat ramp etiquette, starting with a few tips that will make your launching and retrieving process smooth and stress-free, including:

- Always complete all prep work first in the staging area – out of the way of ramp where other boaters are launching;
- Launch quickly and efficiently; have others in your crew assist you to make the process easier, if possible;
- As soon as the boat is off the trailer, pull back up the ramp and park in a designated spot;
- When retrieving your boat, use a courtesy dock or tie up away from the launch area until your trailer is in place; and
- Load the boat onto the trailer, secure the winch at the bow and the safety chain; then proceed to the staging area to finish unloading and securing your trailer.

#### **Prepping boat for launch**

If this is your first time at the launch site, park out of the way and take a minute inspect the ramp and dock - check the water depth, which side the dock may be on when you launch, and the flow of traffic as other boaters line up to launch.

Your goal is to be as efficient as possible when it's your turn to actually back down and launch. With that in mind park in a designated staging area, or out of the way or traffic, to prepare your boat and do the following:

- Visit the pay station and take care of a launching fee if one is required;
  - Install the boat drain plug;
- Check that the key is in the ignition this would be a good time to bump the key



Some simple courtesy goes a long way toward those you meet on the lake when you're launching and retrieving your boat.

STOCK PHOTO Lake Living

into the "start" position just to make sure you don't have a dead battery;

- Load all your gear into the boat fishing tackle, coolers, tubes, skis, etc.;
- Attach fenders to the dock side of the boat;
- Remove the transom tie-down straps and the outboard motor brace if you use one.
- Attach dock lines to the bow and stern cleats; and
- Unplug the trailer lights from the tow vehicle to keep cold water from damaging the hot bulbs.

#### Launching the boat

Now you are ready to back down the ramp and launch. If you have a crew give everyone instructions on how to help, or how not get in the way. If someone is available to drive the boat off the trailer, that person can put on a PFD (personal floatation device) and get into the boat and be ready to start the engine and pull away.

- Start the engine before releasing the boat from the trailer. This way if your engine will not start you can simply drive back up the ramp to trouble shoot;
- Either use dock lines to walk the boat down a dock and away from the launching area, or have your driver move the boat out of the way; and

 Your boat driver may wait on the water while you park and pick you up from the end of the dock, or move the boat away from the launch area and tie up.

As soon as the boat is safely off the trailer, pull back up the ramp and park in a designated spot.

#### **Retrieving the boat**

Reloading the boat on the trailer is simply the reverse of launching. Drop the vehicle driver and passengers off on a dock. If there's a courtesy dock or dock away from the launch area, it's OK to tie up while you wait for the trailer. If not, move the boat away from the ramp area and wait for the trailer to be backed down.

- The driver gets the vehicle in line—if there is a line—to take a turn backing down
- The boat driver needs to pay attention and be in position to approach the ramp when the trailer is in the water;
- Load the boat on the trailer. Secure the winch at the bow and secure the safety chain:
- The boat driver can stay in the boat while you pull up the ramp; and
- Drive to the staging area, or away from traffic, to unload coolers and gear from the boat, secure transom straps, trailer lights

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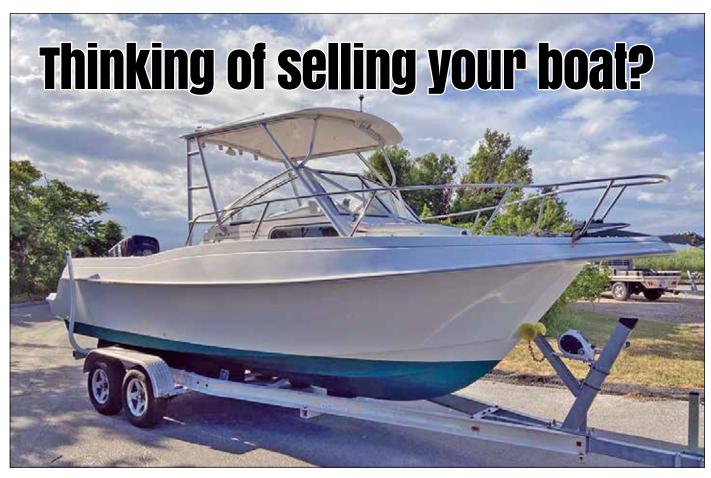
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## Continued low inventory has buyers on the lookout

The best times of the year to sell a boat are before the height of the boating season or near the end of it, plus any time when demand for boats is strong and supply is low. That means, if you're looking for cash and have a boat you're willing to sell, it's still a great time to get top dollar.

According to boating marketplace Boat Trader, sales of used boats remain on the rise nationwide after the pandemic set in motion a wave of new enthusiasts buying boats.

However, because of how fast boats are selling, those looking to buy are facing continued low inventory. Inquiries sent to sellers through the platform offer one way to measure increased demand for boats, and the number of leads submitted per boat shopper grew by more than 60% following the pandemic. Experts say the dramatic rise indicates competition is fierce among consumers and will last beyond summer.

For some shoppers, squeezed selection makes decision-making quick and easy, but for others, it keeps the boat search dragging on until more boats become available. What has helped relieve some of the supply strain is current boat owners recognizing the opportunity for a quick payday and privately listing their boats for sale.

When it comes to selling a boat online,

people are drawn to the fast and efficient way to cash in on their boat's worth. However, listings that are positioned properly get the best price.

#### List where the fish bite

A selling platform's geographical scope is a key determining factor in ensuring that your boat will get as much coverage as possible. Regardless of whether you want the convenience of a local buyer, the more people that view your ad, the more likely you are to find the right buyer.

Boat Trader's search filters let sellers reach interested shoppers who are able to find and locate the vessels they're looking for within a range of specified geo-targeted locations. When you list a boat as a seller, local buyers get notified if the boat matches their criteria, helping you sell your boat faster.

### Listing tips that have the biggest impact

Here are three tips to sell your boat quickly:

- List your boat on the right platform by considering boating marketplaces first;
- Add a detailed description, including engine hours, electronics, upgrades, trailer and regular maintenance performed; and
- Include high-definition photos and include a video to enhance your listing. When considering selling platforms,

social marketplaces may sound convenient, but they are often less focused, with a diluted boating audience. These sites have a lot of yard sale noise and are less likely to have serious boat buyers. As stated by Boat Trader, the portal's rate of overall lead conversion is 19.4%, meaning that 1 out of every 5 leads converts to a boat sale.

High-quality images are really important when selling a boat, so include many photos or videos at many different angles. In addition, consider offering live video walk-throughs with potential buyers, and try to schedule video chats back-to-back to save yourself time.

#### Why sell now?

In summary, demand for used boats is high, but supply is low and there is still time this year for a buyer to get out on the water.

You can reach the largest audience by selling on a specialized targeted website, such as Boat Trader.

Learn more at www.boattrader.com/sell.

Used boats have continued to sell fast since the year following the pandemic, which means there is a low inventory for boat buyers. Many boat owners are listing their crafts for sale online and boat searches continue to rise, with most boats selling within 12 weeks of when they're listed.

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to improve your skills or a new boater looking for tips on everything from boating safety to navigation and boat operation. Find a boat show in your area.

#### Look for the seal of approval

When shopping for a boat, whether at a boat show, online or at a dealership, check to make sure it is NMMA Certified. NMMA Certified boat and trailer manufacturers have been independently inspected to ensure they meet strict industry standards for safety and construction, as well as all federal regulations. Look for the NMMA Certified sticker near the helm of a boat.

#### **Preserve your boat**

Similar to car maintenance, there are a few areas that require regular maintenance by the owner, and a few areas that require maintenance at routine intervals, which most leave to the professionals.

Prepare a boat maintenance checklist that covers everything from engine needs to cleaning to electrical systems to ensure your boat has a long lifespan.

Use the social media hashtag #See YouOutHere to share your favorite moments on the water.

Visit discoverboating.com for resources, storage options, tips and how-tos for getting on the water, boat shopping, safety and more.

Getting the boat out on the water for a day of fishing is one of the great summer joys for sportsmen.

STOCK PHOTO Lake Living

#### BOAT BUYER'S GUIDE • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

as possible, instead of a small one. But it can't be just any old wake. Wake surfers like a wave with a clean peak, like a cresting breaker on the beach. And it should peak close to the boat, sometimes within 10 feet or less of the transom, where the serious surfing gets done.

Since wake surfing takes place without any attachment to the boat (surfers usually use a tow-rope to get started, then pitch it away and surf on their own afterwards) having those ideal wakes is critical for the rider to be able to maintain his or her position, as well as perform stunts and tricks.

To attain the size and shape surfers need, wake surf boats often have a number of wake-adjusting features:

- Ballast tanks are common, and may be used to double the weight of the boat and generate a correspondingly huge wake;
- Plates and tabs mounted at the transom may also be employed to both enlarge and shape the wake; and
- In some cases these tabs and plates can not only be adjusted to make the ideal wake, but also to shift it from one side of the boat

to the other, on the fly as the surfer rides the waves.

#### **Kneeboarding boats**

(BPT)

Kneeboarding, where the participant sits on his or her knees on the board, is generally considered an "entry level" form of watersports and in terms of difficulty is a step up from tubing, but a step down from wakeboarding. As a result, there isn't much specialization needed in the boat itself. In fact, many people enjoy kneeboarding behind bowriders, deck boats, or cross-over boats like fish-and-skis.

The exact size and shape of the wake is less imperative in this case, so various boat designs and powerplants may be employed. In fact, you can have a thrilling kneeboard ride behind just about any type of boat.

#### **Tubing boats**

Tubing is where many watersports enthusiasts got their start, and it's common for kids of all ages to jump overboard for a day of tubing. As a beginner sport, the type of boat you use for tubing is not a critical factor. Essentially, all you need is a boat with tow points, a tow rope, a tube, and some people who are ready to get wet and have a boatload of fun.

Tubing is also the only towed watersport that can be done socially; there are plenty of two-, three-, and even four-person tow-tubes out there that you can load up and take for a joy ride.

### What watersports boat is right for you?

So, which of these types of watersports boats will be best for you, personally? That's a question that only you can answer. Just remember that the more specialized boats designed specifically for one sport in particular will likely be better at their mission than cross-over or multi-tasking boats. But on the flip side of the coin, less specialized models give you more flexibility in which of these activities you'd like to enjoy on any given day.

For more information, visit discoverboating.com.

#### **BOAT RAMP ETIQUETTE** • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

and get ready to hit the road.

#### Clean, drain, and dry

Before driving away it's important – and in most places, the law—to remove weeds from the boat and trailer and to drain the

bilge, live wells and bait wells before driving away from the ramp. This best practice has been coined, "Clean, Drain, Dry."

This prevents the spread of invasive species like milfoil and zebra mussels.

There may be signage at the ramp with guidance for this procedure, or check with your state DNR for local regulations.

Learn more by visiting StopAquaticHitchhikers.org.

Source: www.discoverboating.com.



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N7951 Surfwood Dr • La Grange \$2,999,000



W5852 Bubbling Springs Dr La Grange • \$730,000



W5627 Forest Rd • La Grange \$820,000



N7488 Bay Dr • La Grange \$440,000

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#### JERRY KROUPA

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W5187 Lauderdale Dr, Elkhorn - Catch the best part of Summer in this 6 BR, 5 BA log sided, two story home on 60' of level Middle Lake frontage with extended lake views. Pride of ownership makes this move in ready and you'll find an updated kitchen with granite tops, SS appliances, large island and dinette lakeside with access to deck, living room with stone fireplace and wet bar, all offering water views. Master bdrm en-suite with slider to deck looking directly down Middle Lake, 2nd BR offering slider to deck with same view. Upper level is a 25 x 25 BD or family room with full bath. Two car detached garage with finished 22 x 23 guest suite. Whole house generator. Minutes to Kettle Moraine hiking and biking trails. Be in by Labor Day! \$2,399,700



N7729 Laura Ln, Elkhorn - Lakefront estate on 142' of sand frontage on Lauderdale "Gold Coast" situated on manicured 1.28 wooded acres completely fenced and gated. That's just the start to this lakefront dream. The lake greets you as you walk into the 4BD, 4.5 bath main house with open foyer to eat-in kitchen and lakeside dining room, LR with fireplace and slider to screened porch with vaulted ceiling. Master en-suite lakeside with private deck \$3,499,700



N8115 Pleasant Lake Rd, East Troy - Spectacular Lakefront home on Pleasant Lake offering sand beach leading out to crystal clear swimming & enclless sunsets is just the start. This private 5 BR, 4.5 BA home boast of 6,300 sq ft of luxury living. Vaulted ceilings throughout the main level & wood flooring, Master ensuite with private office, Eat-in Kitchen with large island/bar & access to brick patio with fountain, soaring living room with water views & freplace, LL family room walk out to patio with water view & waterfall. \$1,695,700



**W5141 Plantation Rd, Elkhorn -** Start your morning off with a cup of coffee on your private balcony off the master bedroom & end your day on the back patio. This home checks all the boxes, no need for updating here! Stunning New Construction 3 BR, 2.5 BA Lauderdale Lake Access, 2-Story Home w/ partial water views. Open concept, main floor w/ Birch flooring featuring large eat-in kitchen with large island/bar, granite tops, SS appliance & pantry. Ample living area that leads to dining room overlooking the back yard with slider to paver stone patio. \$875,000



**Lt0 West Shore Dr, Elkhorn** - Green Lake vacant lakefront lot with 75' of level Sunset filled frontage on 0.65 acre lot on Lauderdale Lakes. Lot features slight wooded slope from road which leads you to level frontage and private pier. You'll appreciate the additional 50 x 100 lot across the street offering additional painting and storage. Walking distance to Lauderdale Landing and minutes to boat launch. Kettle Moraine trails 3 miles away. Build the home you've been dreaming of. \$549,900



15 N Lincoln Dr, Elkhorn - Dreaming of opening a business? This is your chance! Large commercial building in the heart of Elkhorn. Walking distance to the Square, restaurants, coffee shops & retail. Great visibility & ample parking. Easy access to I-43 & Hwy 12/67. The building has 7 offices, 2.5 BA, kitchen & electronic rear entry for staff. Generous storage space & fire-proof closet and external insulated storage area. New membrane roof installed 1.5 years ago. 3 phase, 400 Amp \$449,900



N7461 Woods Ln, Elkhorn - Located across the street from Bubbling Springs and the boat launch you'll find this 3 Bdrm, 1.5 bath ranch on wooded lot with view of a pond. Inside features vaulted ceilings throughout the main level. Kitchen with large dining room, Living room with sliding glass door to deck, hardwood floors & woodburning stove. 2 of the 3 bedrooms offer wood flooring. Walkout unfinished Rec Room basement with ½ bath & laundry. 2 car detached garage. New Pella windows installed last year. Access to Pleasant Lake Beach & short drive to Kettle Moraine Trail system. \$319,700.



W5193 Sterlingworth Ct, Elkhorn - Captivating waterfront 3BR 2BA home on Lauderdale Lakes offers the complete package! Features 50' of clear sand/gravel swim-out Mill Lake frontage. Updated throughout, an open single-level efficient floorplan with vaulted ceilings seamlessly flows to a screened-in porch for effortless indoor/outdoor entertaining (& amazing fireworks views)! Luxurious modern kitchen has stainless appliances, quartz counters, large island & farmhouse sink Oversized windows & deck bring great lake views and breezes flagant charm in handcrafted barnwood floors & stone fireplace. Perfectly sized levell yard for recreation, just steps to the water. Private walkout lower-level BRPAS auite for guests. 2 car detached garage. New HVAC w/Nest & smitghting. Easy highway access. Beautiful low-maintenance home for year-round living or your turn-key vacation escape! \$1,298,700