

the boating lowdown on **STAND UP PADDLEBOARDS**



As a recreational boater who shares the water with many other watercraft, there are things to know about safety, right-of-way, legal operation and personal responsibility when operating a Stand Up Paddleboard (SUP).

REQUIRED EQUIPMENT



*Appropriate-sized
life jacket*



*Aquatic Invasive
Species Prevention
Permit (10' or greater)*



*Sound-producing
device*

If you are not proficient at operating your SUP, stay close to shore. SUPs are unstable, not very visible, and provide little protection from boat wakes, wind, and other environmental challenges.

Remember that public waterways are like busy roads, with many different types of traffic. Entering the traffic stream with larger, faster vessels is like taking a hike on a major highway and requires extreme caution. Each operator is responsible for avoiding collisions and maintaining a proper look out. Avoid boating in the path of larger vessels with limited maneuverability or visibility.



BE ESPECIALLY CAREFUL PADDLING ON:

- ▶ Large, open waters where winds can quickly create large waves or swells. Always be aware of the wind. In these conditions, a leash may be desired.
- ▶ Moving water where currents, rocks, debris and other obstructions create challenges for SUP operators. Wear a life jacket. The wrong leash can be fatal—see back for appropriate type.

Please enjoy this healthy, exciting activity, but do so safely and with respect for the other waterway users who are enjoying the water with you.

ACA recommendations for **LIFE JACKETS & LEASHES**



INHERENTLY BUOYANT LIFE JACKET

- ▶ Wear on moving and white-water, can wear on flat water
- ▶ Properly fitted and for the right activity

INFLATABLE BELT PACK

- ◀ Wear on flat water
- ◀ Read label - most need to be worn in front



BODY-MOUNTED LEASH

- ◀ Use on moving and whitewater
- ◀ Wear leash around your waist
- ◀ Must be reachable by both hands and a quick-release



COILED LEASH

- ▶ Use on flat water, some open water
- ▶ Wear leash just above the ankle or around the calf, below the knee
- ▶ Wear in tidal areas or other bodies of water where there is no risk of entanglement in obstructions

STRAIGHT LEASH

- ◀ Use for ocean surf zone



Remember: In most situations, a SUP is considered a boat, and you are legally required to carry a life jacket ...but it's better to wear it!