

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***Boating Safety Sidekicks Contest:
I'm a Safe Boater. Are YOU?***



Manassas, VA – The National Safe Boating Council (NSBC) has launched its annual Boating Safety Sidekicks contest. The contest's theme is: "I'm a Safe Boater. Are You?" The NSBC has partnered with West Marine and other NSBC member organizations to expand the contest to include not only stories but posters and videos. The NSBC hopes that by hearing these stories, seeing the posters, and viewing the videos, everyone will realize how important it is to be safe while boating. Kids between the ages of 4 to 15 are eligible to enter anytime between now and the contest deadline.

Stories should be between 150 and 750 words in length and tell about a particular boating experience or safe boating habit in which you wear your life jacket and follow other practices to be a safe boater. Posters can be hand drawn or computer generated and must be 8.5 x 11 inches or 8.5 x 14 inches and contain a simple message to inspire others to boat safely. Videos can range from 30 seconds to 2 minutes in length and must show life jacket wear. The title of all entries should be "I'm a Safe Boater. Are You?" and demonstrate what you do to be safe on the water.

Once again first, second, and third place prizes will be awarded in each of the three age groups. For contest details, entry requirements, and deadline, visit the Boating Safety Sidekicks web site at www.BoatingSidekicks.com.

Creativity becomes boating safety, so get your pencils, cameras, crayons, keyboards, and minds busy and enter now!



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Educators and Instructors: Use the poster on the other side and the handout master (at right) to help us announce this educational youth contest.