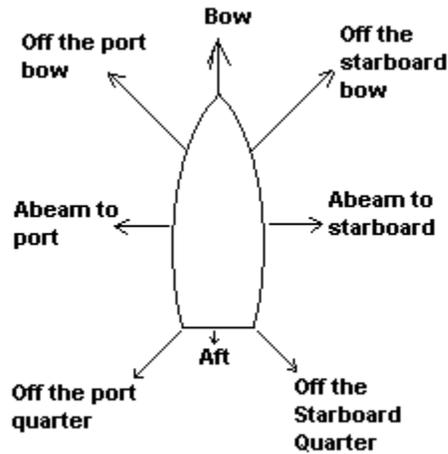


# Boating Terms



**AGROUND** When the hull of the vessel is touching or stuck on the underwater bottom.

**BACKFIRE** The noise made by an internal combustion engine when the unburned exhaust gases prematurely ignite.

**BAIL** The act of removing water from a boat by using a bucket or container.

**BILGE** The part of a boat that lies above the hull but beneath the floor boards.

**BOW** The forward part of a boat.

**CAPACITY LABEL** A panel that indicates the maximum loading or powering capacity that a vessel can safely carry.

**CAPSIZE** To turn over.

**CHART** Map used to help navigate.

**CLEAT** Metal fitting attached to a boat on which a line can be tied or secured.

**COWL** A cover with an opening for ventilation.

**DOWN CURRENT** The direction in which the current is moving.

**DOWNWIND** The direction of the wind.

**FENDERS** Bumpers which protect the boat from damage from docks or other boats when moored.

**FISHING VESSEL** Any vessel fishing with nets, lines, trawls, or other fishing apparatus which

restricts maneuverability.

**GIVE-WAY BOAT** The vessel which must take action to avoid a collision.

**GUNWALE** The upper edge of a boat's side.

**HULL** A vessel's main body.

**IDLE SPEED** The slowest speed at which it is still possible to maintain steering and move through the water.

**IMPELLER** A pump which forces water under pressure.

**LANYARD** A short cord that is attached to the ignition shut-off switch and to the operator of the vessel.

**LEEWARD** The direction the wind is blowing; the downwind side.

**MOOR** To tie or secure a boat to a dock or mooring buoy.

**MONOHULL BOAT** A boat that the line of intersection of the water surface and the boat at any operating draft forms a single, closed curve.

**MOTORBOAT** Any vessel not more than 65 feet in length propelled by machinery whether or not such machinery is the principal source of propulsion.

**NO WAKE SPEED** A vessel traveling at or below idle speed or at such speed that the boat or its wake is not sufficient to cause possible injury or damage to other persons, boats, or property.

**OPERATE** To navigate or otherwise use a motorboat with engine(s) running.

**OVERBOARD** To go over the side of the boat.

**PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICE (PFD)** Also called a life jacket, it is a life-saving device, approved by the U.S. Coast Guard, which is worn on the body to provide flotation in the water.

**PERSONAL WATERCRAFT (PWC)** A vessel, less than 16 feet in length, that is propelled by machinery and designed to be operated by an individual sitting or standing on the vessel rather than sitting or standing in the vessel.

**PLANE SPEED** The speed at which a boat runs on top of the water rather than through it.

**PORT** Left side of a boat or a harbor.

**POWER-DRIVEN VESSEL** A vessel that is propelled by machinery.

**PROPELLER** Powers a boat forward or backward.

**RECKLESS OPERATION** Any act which endangers life, limb or property.

**RESTRICTED VISIBILITY** Any condition in which visibility is restricted by fog, mist, falling snow, heavy rain, or any other similar cause.

**RODE** An anchor line.

**RUDDER** Steering device attached to the stern.

**SAILING VESSEL** A vessel that is powered by the wind.

**SEA PLANE** An aircraft which is designed to take off and land on water.

**STAND-ON BOAT** The vessel which must maintain its same course and speed until the give-way boat is clear.

**STARBOARD** Right side of a boat.

**STATIONARY VESSEL** A vessel which is restricted in its ability to maneuver and therefore unable to keep out of the way of another vessel.

**STERN** The rear of a boat.

**SWAMP** To be filled with water but not sink.

**TILLER** The handle by which you steer a boat or motor in the absence of a steering wheel.

**TOW ROPE** A rope which connects the water-skier or wake boarder to a motorboat. Also known as a "tow line."

**TRANSOM** The flat, vertical surface at the rear of a vessel where a motor is mounted.

**TRIM** To angle the position of an engine in order to help plane the vessel.

**UNDERWAY** Refers to any movement, including drifting, that a vessel makes on the water when not anchored or moored.

**UPSTREAM** Going against the current.

**UPWIND** Going against the wind.

**VESSEL** Every description of watercraft, other than a seaplane on water, used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on the water.

**VESSELS IN SIGHT OF ONE ANOTHER.** When one vessel can be observed visually from another vessel.

**VESSEL RESTRICTED IN HER ABILITY TO MANEUVER** A vessel which, from the nature of her work, is restricted in her ability to maneuver and is therefore unable to get out of the way of another vessel.

**WAKE** Waves which a boat makes as it moves through the water above no-wake speeds.

**WINDWARD** Toward the direction from which the wind is blowing; the upwind side.