

Keep a NOAA Weather Radio with you at all times!

National Weather Service Blacksburg's Listening Areas:

Roanoke, VA	
WXL-60	162.475 MHz
Lynchburg, VA	
WXL-92	162.550 MHz
Halifax/South Boston, VA	
KJY-86	162.525 MHz
Richlands, VA	
WZ-2543	162.425 MHz
Wytheville, VA	
WZ-2500	162.450 MHz
Hinton, WV	
WXM-72	162.425 MHz
West Jefferson, NC	
WNG-588	162.500 MHz



- NOAA Weather Radio is the only direct means to receive warnings from the National Weather Service.
- Have multiple ways to receive warnings: cell phone, internet, weather radio
- Make sure you are receiving warnings: www.weather.gov/subscribe.

Follow NWSBlacksburg!



REMEMBER...

Before Setting Out On the Water...

- Listen to NOAA Weather Radio for weather information.
- Check your local forecast from NWS Blacksburg at www.weather.gov/rnk or mobile.weather.gov
- If storms are forecast, the best bet is to **STAY ON SHORE.**

While on the Water...

- If storms are imminent, make sure all passengers are wearing life jackets, turn on your required navigation lights, head towards shore if safe and get off the water!
- If you get caught in a storm and unable to return to shore safely, anchor your boat.
- If you cannot reach your destination safely, seek shelter for the duration of the storm. Safe shelters include marked areas for mooring or bays and docking
- Stay tuned to a NOAA Weather Radio for the latest forecasts, outlooks, watches, and warnings.

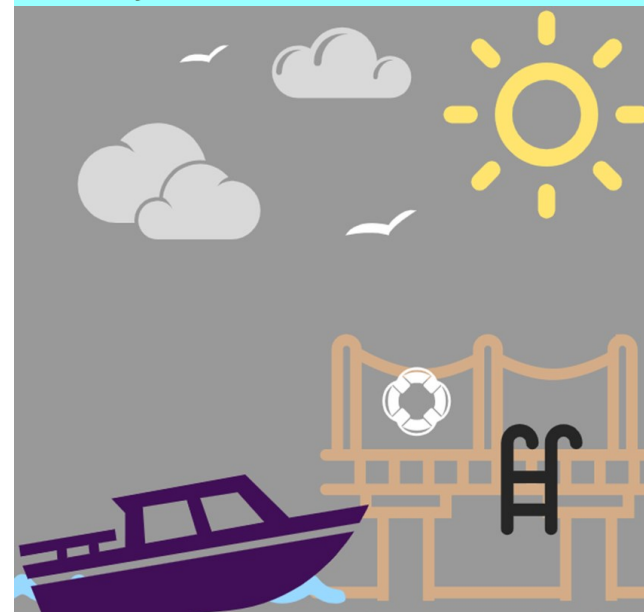
National Weather Service
1750 Forecast Drive
Blacksburg, VA 24060
Phone: 540 - 553 - 8900

SAFE BOATING TIPS



KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Check the forecast at weather.gov
Always wear a life jacket!



SCAN ME



HIGH WINDS/WAVES
Know Your Action
 Reduce speed
 Head to shore



LIGHTNING
Know Your Action
 Remain weather-ready
 If you hear thunder, it's time to
 stay in the cabin or head to shore



COLD WATER
Know Your Action
 Remain calm and control your breathing
 Minimize time in the water
 Get dry and warm ASAP

Did You Know?

- **85%** of those who drown were not wearing a life jacket.
- **2/3rds** of drowning victims are considered good swimmers.
- Remember to grab a life jacket and

WEAR IT!



WEAR IT

A program of the National Safe Boating Council

- **FOG** can make navigation on the water a challenge, by reducing visibility to as little as a few feet. It can form quickly and catch boaters off guard.
- Slow down to avoid collisions and turn on all of your running lights. Listen for other boats or buoys that may be near.
- Pay close attention to **NOAA Weather Radio** for important information concerning formation, movement, or dissipation of the fog.

- **LIGHTNING** injuries and deaths are more likely on open water.
- Lightning can strike 10 to 12 miles from a thunderstorm. If you can hear thunder, you are close enough to be struck by lightning!
- If your boat has a cabin, stay **INSIDE** and stay **AWAY** from metal or electrical devices. If your boat doesn't have cabin, stay as low as possible in the boat.
- Warnings are **NOT** issued for lightning – it's up to you to take cover!

- **SEVERE THUNDERSTORMS** can include: damaging wind gusts of 60 mph or greater, 1" diameter or greater hail, and/or tornadoes.
- Strong winds may strike suddenly, and could occur well ahead of any thunder or lightning.
- On days when thunderstorms are predicted, frequently check mobile.weather.gov or www.weather.gov/rnk and monitor NOAA Weather Radio for Severe Thunderstorm, Tornado, or Flash Flood



Watches (growing threat...*remain alert*), or **Warnings** (imminent threat...**TAKE COVER NOW!**).

- To avoid **HEAT**-related dangers, avoid the hottest time of day, usually between 1 and 5 PM.
- Use sunscreen, drink plenty of water, and take frequent breaks. Wear light-weight, loose-fitting and light-colored clothing.
- Check the hourly weather forecast - Go to www.weather.gov/rnk and click on your location on the map!
- **COLD WATER** can be dangerous. Even if the air warm, the water could still be cold.
- Body heat can be lost **4x faster** in cold *water* than in cold *air*.
- Wearing a **LIFE JACKET** significantly increases chances of survival in cold water.
- If in cold water, stay calm; minimize your time in the water and get out as soon as possible; swim to safety if able, or conserve energy and heat while waiting for rescue if unable to swim to safety.