

Boater Safety Classes

The Allegan County Sheriff's Office Marine Division will be conducting several Boater Safety Courses this spring & summer. Persons who wish to operate a boat in the State of Michigan who are born on or after July 1st 1996 must obtain and possess a valid Boater Safety Certificate.

For those individuals who wish to operate a personal watercraft (PWC), a Boater Safety Certificate is required and must be in possession during operation. The operator must be at least 16 years of age and, born after December 31st, 1978.

Those individuals who are 14 and 15 years of age may legally operate a personal watercraft (PWC) in the State of Michigan only if they meet certain requirements which include:

- Obtaining and possessing a valid Boater Safety certificate and,
- Is accompanied on board the PWC by a parent, legal guardian or a person at least 21 years of age designated by a parent or legal guardian or –
- Is operating the PWC at a distance not greater than 100 feet from a parent, legal guardian or designee over 21.

Upon the successful completion of the Boater Safety Course, attendees will receive their Boater Safety Certificate. Courses are open to anyone 12 years of age or older. All course materials are provided and attendees need only to attend and complete one of these courses to receive their Certificate.

Up coming classes are listed below and can be found on the Sheriff's Office website at www.allegancounty.org/sheriff

Class Schedule:

Saturday, April 16th from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Plainwell Middle School – 720 Brigham St. in Plainwell. Students should bring a #2 pencil and a sack lunch. No fees or costs. Students may register online at www.allegancounty.org/sheriff or by calling Kari at [269-673-0500](tel:269-673-0500) ext. 4234

Tuesday, May 3rd and Wednesday May 4th from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm at the **Wayland Middle School** located at 701 Wildcat Drive in Wayland. Contact Laurie at [\(269\) 792-9153](tel:269-792-9153) to register. Registration is required. Participants must attend both classes to complete the course. Bring a #2 pencil. There is a fee of \$10 payable to Wayland Schools. Additional information can be found online at www.allegancounty.org/sheriff

Saturday, May 14th from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Allegan county Sheriff's office – 640 river Street in Allegan. Students should bring a #2 pencil and a sack lunch. No fees or costs. Students may register online at www.allegancounty.org/sheriff

Saturday, June 4th from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Green Lake Calvary Church – 608 145th Ave in Caledonia (Leighton Twp). Students should bring a #2 pencil and a sack lunch. No fees or costs. Students may register online at www.allegancounty.org/sheriff

Saturday, June 11th from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm at **Sandy Pines Resort** – 2745 136th Ave – Hopkins. Registration is required. Contact Mary at [\(616\) 896-8318](tel:(616)896-8318) to register. Students should bring a #2 pencil and a sack lunch. No fees or costs.

Tuesday, June 14th and Wednesday, June 15th from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the **Saugatuck Yacht Club**. Registration is required. Students should bring a #2 pencil. No fees or costs. Students may register online at www.allegancounty.org/sheriff or by calling Kari at [269-673-0500](tel:269-673-0500) ext. 4234. Attendees must attend both classes to complete the course.

Wednesday, July 14th and Thursday, July 15th from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the **Saugatuck Yacht Club**. Registration is required. Students should bring a #2 pencil. No fees or costs. Students may register online at www.allegancounty.org/sheriff or by calling Kari at [269-673-0500](tel:269-673-0500) ext. 4234. Attendees must attend both classes to complete the course.