

## PRE-DEPARTURE CHECKLIST

*Powerboaters can avoid inconvenience and potential danger by taking a few minutes before departure to check the following:*

- ✓ Weather forecast checked
- ✓ Float plan prepared and given to responsible party
- ✓ Boat registration current and properly displayed, certificate on board
- ✓ Emergency locator beacons, radios, and other electronics functional
- ✓ Passenger briefing given: how to start, stop, and steer boat, clothing check, location and use of communications and emergency equipment
- ✓ Life jackets worn by each person (proper size, fit, and fastened)
- ✓ Emergency communication and distress signaling devices carried on person
- ✓ Throwable flotation device attached to floating line
- ✓ Fire extinguisher(s) fully charged and mounted securely
- ✓ Ability to make an efficient sound signal (horn or whistle)
- ✓ U.S. Coast Guard-approved visual distress signals on board (check expiration dates)
- ✓ Drain plugs installed, thru hull fittings leak-free, sea cocks closed
- ✓ Hoses/clamps, drive units/props, fuel lines/filters, blowers/backfire flame arrestors (inboards) inspected
- ✓ Scuppers clear and bilge clean
- ✓ Battery fully charged, secured, and terminals covered
- ✓ Back-up manual bailing device(s) accessible and functional
- ✓ Back-up propulsion source (spare engine, sail, and paddles or oars)
- ✓ Tools/parts e.g. spare batteries, fuses, spark plugs, belts, prop, and nut
- ✓ Anchors (2), each with chain and line, one attached to the boat
- ✓ Food, water, shelter, and spare clothing
- ✓ First aid kit
- ✓ Reboarding devices (foot sling, swim step, ladder)
- ✓ Navigation tools (e.g., GPS, chart plotter, depth sounder, compass, charts, tide book)
- ✓ Passengers and load distributed properly, items secured from shifting
- ✓ Fuel and oil sufficient for trip: 1/3 out, 1/3 return, 1/3 spare
- ✓ Engines, engine cut-off device, steering, gear shift, and lights tested
- ✓ Engine cut-off device(s) worn

