



NATIONAL BOATING UNDER THE INFLUENCE AWARENESS & ENFORCEMENT CAMPAIGN

**OPERATION
DRY WATER**



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Nevada County Sheriff's Office joins *Operation Dry Water* to increase awareness of the dangers associated with boating under the influence

Nevada City, CA – In an effort to educate recreational boaters nationwide about the dangers of boating while under the influence of alcohol or drugs, Nevada County Sheriff's Office will be participating in the annual [Operation Dry Water](#) campaign. The mission of *Operation Dry Water* is to decrease the number of alcohol and drug-related incidents and fatalities on the water.

Operation Dry Water weekend, July 1-3, is the national weekend dedicated to amplified recreational boater outreach, education, and coordinated enforcement surrounding boating under the influence. As we approach the first big boating weekend for Memorial Day, we feel this is a good time to share this important message. Alcohol use continues to be the leading known contributing factor in recreational boater deaths and a leading contributor in boating incidents.¹ The Nevada County Sheriff's Office (NCSO) encourages all boaters to enjoy this boating season and help keep everyone safe by choosing to boat sober all year long. Use of both legal and illegal drugs also impairs judgment and reaction time and creates dangerous circumstances while on the water.

“Individuals and families from across the country head to our nation's waterways for a fun, safe, and pleasant experience out on the water. Our goal is to not only educate boaters on the dangers of impaired boating, but also to remind them of other safe boating practices, such as enrolling in a boater education course and always wearing a life jacket,” says Leslie Williams “To ensure that everyone is safe out on the water, we have partnered with *Operation Dry Water* to assist in educating operators and passengers on the dangers associated with boating under the influence. NCSO wants boaters to have a safe and enjoyable summer while out on the water, and to do that boat operators and passengers must remain sober and alert while underway.”

As part of *Operation Dry Water* weekend, recreational boating safety advocates and volunteers, in collaboration with law enforcement in every U.S. state and territory, will be out at marinas and on the water educating boaters about safe boating practices. Law enforcement will also be working to identify and remove dangerous and impaired operators. In 2022, law enforcement officers across the nation removed 794 impaired operators from our nation's waterways during the *Operation Dry Water* weekend.

NCSO supports these educational and enforcement efforts prior to the 4th of July holiday to ensure the safety of recreational boaters and water sport enthusiasts. The risk of serious injury is the same for operators and passengers when drinking. Additionally, alcohol use by passengers presents a danger regardless of whether the operator is consuming alcohol or not.²

Boaters can learn more about boating under the influence by visiting operationdrywater.org. *Operation Dry Water* is coordinated nationally by the [National Association of State Boating Law Administrators \(NASBLA\)](#) in partnership with the U.S. Coast Guard.

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¹ [2021 U.S. Coast Guard Recreational Boating Statistics](#)

² [2019 Boating Under the Influence \(BUI\) Research Report](#)