



2008 Strategic Planning Survey & Comment Form

The Division of Watercraft is seeking public input for the revision of the state Strategic Plan for Ohio Boating. The following questions are a combination of National and State issues that impact the quality of the boating experience. Please select the one most appropriate answer for each question unless otherwise indicated. A section for comments, which are welcome and appreciated, is provided on the reverse side. Thank you for taking the time to complete the 2008 Strategic Planning Survey & Comment Form.

1. Are you:
 Male
 Female
2. What is your age? _____
3. Please indicate the racial group that best describes you:
 American Indian or Alaska Native
 Asian
 Black or African American
 Hispanic or Latino
 Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific
 White or Caucasian
4. How many years have you been boating?
 Less than 1 year
 1-2 years
 3-5 years
 6-8 years
 9-10 years
 More than 10 years
5. Which category best describes your skill level when operating a boat?
 Beginner
 Intermediate
 Advanced
 Expert
6. Do you own a boat?
(If you own more than one boat, please answer the following questions for the vessel that is used most frequently)
 Yes
 No *(skip to number 7)*
 Yes, multiple boats
 - a. What type of vessel is your primary boat?
 Open Motorboat
 Cabin Motorboat
 Pontoon
 Houseboat
 Personal Watercraft *(i.e. Wave Runner / Jet Ski)*
 Sailboat
 Rowboat
 Canoe
 Kayak
 - b. How is your primary boat powered?
 Outboard
 Inboard
 Inboard/Outboard
 Manually
 Sail
 - c. What is the length of your vessel?
 Less than 16 feet
 16 to 26 feet
 26 to 40 feet
 Greater than 40 feet
7. How many times have you gone boating in the past 12 months?
 I have not gone boating in the past 12 months
 Once
 2-5 times
 6-10 times
 11-20 times
 More than 20 times
8. When you go boating, which of these areas are you most likely to visit?
 Lake Erie – East of Vermilion
 Lake Erie – West of Vermilion
 Inland lake or pond
 Inland river or stream
 Ohio River adjoining West Virginia
 Ohio River adjoining Kentucky
 Out of state
9. How many boating safety courses have you completed? _____
(If you answer "0" please skip to number 10)
 - a. How many of those courses were approved by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA)? _____
 - b. How did you take the last boating safety course you completed?
 In a classroom
 On the Internet
 Using a home study or correspondence course that was not on the Internet
 On the water
 Other
 - c. Why did you take the last boating safety course that you completed?
(Check all that apply)
 Required by my state
 To get a discounted insurance rate
 To refresh my skills
 Other
10. All boaters should be required to wear a life jacket while boating.
 Strongly Agree
 Agree
 Neither Agree nor Disagree
 Disagree
 Strongly Disagree
11. Boating under the influence is a serious problem.
 Strongly Agree
 Agree
 Neither Agree nor Disagree
 Disagree
 Strongly Disagree
12. People should obtain an operator's license in order to operate boats.
 Strongly Agree
 Agree
 Neither Agree nor Disagree
 Disagree
 Strongly Disagree
13. All boaters should be required to take a boating safety course.
 Strongly Agree
 Agree
 Neither Agree nor Disagree
 Disagree
 Strongly Disagree
14. What *one* issue do you feel is the most important safety issue confronting recreational boaters in Ohio?
 Lack of knowledge regarding rules of the road
 Propeller strikes and/or carbon monoxide poisoning
 Drowning due to the lack of lifejacket wear
 Falls overboard / capsizings
 Cold water immersion
 Boating under the influence
 Overloading of small vessels
 Reckless operation
 Crowding of waterways
15. What *one* topic do you feel is the most important topic that should be addressed by the Division of Watercraft in the future?
 Facilities and access
 Education and public relations
 Safety and law enforcement
 Laws and regulations
 Water quality
 Registration and titling
 Other issues not listed here



16. Which *one* of the following actions would you recommend to manage busy waterways with multiple user groups?

- Schedule times or days for specific boating activities
- Establish specific zones to accommodate different activities
- Restrict specific activities and/or user groups
- Restrict horsepower limits
- Increase law enforcement presence
- Vigorously enforce existing operating regulations
- Establish ramp fees to be used for creating more access areas elsewhere

17. Which *one* of the following actions do you feel would be most effective in encouraging non-boaters to begin boating in Ohio?

- Offer more hands-on boating classes
- Offer more youth programs
- Work with dealers and manufacturers to create incentives
- Focus more resources on promotional advertising in print, on TV, radio, and the Internet
- Offer demonstrations and boating tours

18. Which *one* of the following actions do you feel would be most effective in encouraging current boaters to continue boating in Ohio?

- Enhance recognition of boating access sites by increasing signage to access areas
- Advertisement of new and updated boating facilities
- Allow more boaters to use waterways that currently have horsepower limits
- More effective promotion of boating events
- More law enforcement presence to ensure safety on the water

19. How has the increased cost of fuel affected your boating behavior / experiences?

- (Check all that apply)*
- No effect
 - Decreased number of boating trips
 - Decreased distance traveled to or on boating outings
 - Changed to more fuel efficient type of boating (lower horsepower, canoe/kayak, etc.)
 - I took some other action based on increasing fuel costs

20. What user group should be the focus of future Division of Watercraft boating education efforts?

- Paddlers
- Anglers
- Hunters
- Sailors
- Powerboaters
- Personal Watercraft Operators (*i.e. Wave Runner / Jet Ski*)
- Youth
- Renters

21. What user group should be the focus of future Division of Watercraft law enforcement efforts?

- Paddlers
- Anglers
- Hunters
- Sailors
- Powerboaters
- Personal Watercraft Operators (*i.e. Wave Runner / Jet Ski*)
- Youth
- Renters

22. What user group should be the focus of future Division of Watercraft boating access efforts?

- Paddlers
- Anglers
- Hunters
- Sailors
- Powerboaters
- Personal Watercraft Operators (*i.e. Wave Runner / Jet Ski*)
- Youth
- Renters

Comments:

Future Communications:

May the Division of Watercraft contact you to gain a better understanding of the boating issues that concern you?

Yes
 No

Would you be interested in being a participant of a focus group regarding the boating issues that concern you?

Yes
 No

Would you like the Division of Watercraft to send you electronic newsletters and other communications about boating in Ohio?

Yes
 No

If you answered "yes" please provide your contact information:

Name

Address

City, State & Zip

Phone (with area code)

E-Mail
