

## Free 2018 Safe Boating Classes Offered

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will offer five opportunities to take a free Illinois Safe Boating class throughout the summer at the Illinois Waterway Visitor Center in Ottawa, IL.

**What?** – This is a classroom-based safety class and will not include any on-the-water experience. Upon successful completion of the class and exam, participants will be issued an Illinois DNR Boat Safety Certification.

The indoor class will include instruction in basic boating safety, equipment and requirements, motorboat registration and titling, navigation, basic maintenance, emergency measures and Illinois and federal boating laws. Participants should plan to bring their own lunch and drinks. Class materials will be provided.

**Who?** – This class is recommended for people who are new to boating, scouts, families that enjoy weekend boating adventures, or seasoned boaters who would just like to brush up on their safe boating knowledge.

Anyone over the age of 12 can be certified. Classes will be offered to everyone age 11 and older. Students who have not reached their 12<sup>th</sup> birthday will receive their Illinois DNR Boat Safety Certification in the mail when they turn 12 years of age. Students under age 16 should be accompanied by an adult.

### **When?** – Available 2018 Class Dates

April 28	9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
May 19	9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
June 23	9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
July 14	9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
August 18	9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Pre-registration is required. Contact the Illinois Waterway Visitor Center at 815-667-4054 or e-mail [Robert.j.petrunej@usace.army.mil](mailto:Robert.j.petrunej@usace.army.mil) to register.

Corps park rangers encourage all boaters to follow state and federal boating laws and to wear life-saving personal floatation devices near or on the water.