



**City of Traverse City Proclamation Declaring
May 21 - 27, 2022 as National Safe Boating Week**

WHEREAS, for nearly 100 million Americans, boating continues to be a popular recreational activity. From coast to coast, and everywhere in between, people take to the water and enjoy time together boating, sailing, paddling and fishing. During National Safe Boating Week, the U.S. Coast Guard and its federal, state, and local safe boating partners encourage all boaters to explore and enjoy America's beautiful waters responsibly; and

WHEREAS, safe boating begins with preparation. The Coast Guard estimates that human error accounts for most boating accidents, and that life jackets could prevent nearly 86 percent of boating fatalities. Through basic boating safety procedures – carrying lifesaving emergency distress and communications equipment, wearing life jackets, attending safe boating courses, participating in free boat safety checks, and staying sober when navigating – we can help ensure boaters on America's coastal, inland, and offshore waters stay safe throughout the season; and

WHEREAS, National Safe Boating Week is observed to bring attention to important life-saving tips for recreational boaters, so they may have safer, more fun experiences on the water year-round; and

WHEREAS, on average, 600 people die each year in boating-related accidents in the U.S.; 79 percent of these are fatalities caused by drowning; Michigan ranks 7th in the Nation for boating accidents and fatalities; and

WHEREAS, the vast majority of these accidents are caused by human error or poor judgment and not by the boat, equipment or environmental factors; and

WHEREAS, a significant number of boaters who lose their lives by drowning each year would be alive today had they worn their life jackets; and

Therefore, I, Richard I. Lewis, Mayor of Traverse City, Michigan, do hereby support the goals of the Safe Boating Campaign and and the start of the year-round effort to promote safe boating, and proclaim:

May 21-27, 2022 as National Safe Boating Week



Richard I. Lewis, Mayor
City of Traverse City