

1 Department of Natural Resources

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3 Adopted Permanent Rules Governing Personal Flotation Devices

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5 Rules as Adopted

6 6110.1200 NAVIGATION OF WATERCRAFT ON THE WATERS OF THE STATE;

7 SAFETY EQUIPMENT.

8 [For text of subps 1 and 2, see M.R.]

9 Subp. 3. Personal flotation (lifesaving) devices.

10 Flotation devices:

11 A. Every person on board a watercraft or duck boat
 12 shall wear or have readily accessible a U.S. Coast Guard
 13 approved Type I, II, or III personal flotation device. In
 14 addition to these devices, watercraft and duck boats 16 feet or
 15 more in length, except canoes and kayaks, must also carry at
 16 least one U.S. Coast Guard approved Type IV personal flotation
 17 device. A U.S. Coast Guard approved Type IV personal flotation
 18 device may be carried in lieu of any personal flotation device
 19 required by this part, on nonmotorized watercraft operated by
 20 lifeguards within a marked swimming area, as defined in part
 21 6110.1600.

22 B. A U.S. Coast Guard approved Type V personal
 23 flotation device may be carried in lieu of any personal
 24 flotation device required in this rule, if the Type V personal
 25 flotation device is approved:

26 (1) for the activity in which the watercraft is
 27 being used; and

28 (2) as a substitute for the type of personal
 29 flotation devices required to be on board the watercraft.

30 C. Persons being towed by a watercraft on water skis
 31 or other devices shall be considered to be on board the towing
 32 watercraft for the purpose of personal flotation device
 33 requirements. A U.S. Coast Guard approved Type I, II, or III
 34 personal flotation device must be either carried in the towing
 35 watercraft or worn by the person being towed.

1 D. All personal flotation devices required by this
2 subpart shall be:

3 (1) approved by the United States Coast Guard;

4 (2) legibly marked with the approval number

5 issued by the United States Coast Guard;

6 (3) in serviceable condition free of tears, rot,

7 punctures, or waterlogging, and with all straps and fasteners

8 present and in good condition;

9 (4) either readily accessible or worn with

10 following exceptions:

11 (a) those Type V devices which are

12 required to be worn to be accepted as United States Coast Guard

13 approved;

14 (b) those cases designated by statute

15 where wearing a Coast Guard approved Type I, II, III or V

16 personal flotation device is mandatory; and

17 (c) Type IV personal flotation devices

18 must be immediately available.

19 "Readily accessible" means easily retrievable within a

20 reasonable amount of time in an emergency. "Immediately

21 available" means easily reached in time of emergency. Personal

22 flotation devices located in locked containers, under heavy

23 objects or left in shipping bags are not considered readily

24 accessible or immediately available;

25 (5) of the appropriate size for the intended

26 wearer, if the device is designed to be worn.

27 [For text of subps 4 to 7, see M.R.]

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29 EFFECTIVE DATE. The amendments to part 6110.1200 are effective

30 May 1, 1996.