

## Regional Opioid and Substance Abuse Summit Held to Combat Epidemic



Maryland Governor Larry Hogan (right) has partnered with Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe (left) and Washington, DC, Mayor Muriel Bowser (center) to confront the regional opioid epidemic. They are pictured here at the Regional Opioid and Substance Abuse Summit, held May 9, 2017. Photo courtesy of Joe Andrucyk, Governor’s Office.

Maryland Governor Larry Hogan, Washington, DC, Mayor Muriel Bowser, and Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe were featured speakers at a Regional Opioid and Substance Abuse Summit held on May 9, 2017. The summit, organized by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, was an opportunity for regional policymakers and public health and safety professionals to discuss and confront the many challenges associated with a growing heroin and opioid epidemic.

The event, held at the Conference Center at the Maritime Institute in Linthicum Heights, Maryland, was co-sponsored by CareFirst, the US Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), Kaiser Permanente, and the Regional Primary Care Coalition. The summit included breakout sessions during which subject-matter experts discussed prevention, public safety response, treatment, and stigma associated with opioid use.

“Our goal today is to shine a spotlight on the heroin and opioid crisis in our region and

*Continued on page 7*

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## BLS Providers Must Complete Certification Renewals in Licensure System

BLS providers (EMR/EMD/EMT) whose certification is due to lapse on June 30, 2017, must file a renewal application, or a request for an extension, using MIEMSS’ online Licensure System in order to function as an EMS provider in Maryland. MIEMSS highly encourages you to submit a renewal or extension request no later than June 16, 2017. If you are already on a certification extension, you may not file a second extension request.

To file an application for renewal or extension, access the Licensure System by going to the MIEMSS website and selecting the Provider Login link, or going directly to [www.miemsslicense.com](http://www.miemsslicense.com). Click on Applications, select a renewal application type, complete all fields, and submit the form electronically.

To view renewal requirements, you can visit [www.miemss.org](http://www.miemss.org), and click on the Initial Certification and Licensure Requirements link under the EMS Providers tab. You can also view your current continuing education report in the Licensure System by clicking on Training, and then selecting Report.

# Maryland Trauma Centers To Hold National Trauma Awareness Month Events

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May is National Trauma Awareness Month, and this year's theme is "Stop the Bleed." The "Stop the Bleed" campaign is a nationwide initiative that provides bystanders at emergency situations with the tools and knowledge to stop life-threatening bleeding. No matter how rapid the arrival of emergency responders, bystanders will always be first on the scene. A person who is bleeding can die from blood loss within five minutes, and therefore it is important to quickly stop the blood loss. "Stop the Bleed" empowers individuals to act quickly and save lives. The campaign utilizes knowledge gained by first responders and military personnel to teach members of the public how to save lives. The Maryland Trauma Quality Improvement Committee (TQIC) is helping build awareness of the campaign and the important role bystanders can play in saving lives. As part of their ongoing trauma and injury prevention efforts, members of TQIC held a "Stop the Bleed" instructor course prior to a recent meeting, and made plans to implement further training at their Trauma and Specialty Centers.

In order to assist in the implementation of this critically important program, Maryland Trauma and Specialty Centers have held or are planning the following the events:

**Children's National Health System:** The Pediatric Trauma Center will be hosting a class for hospital staff on May 20, 2017.

**The Johns Hopkins Hospital Adult Trauma Center:** The Adult Trauma Service participated in a recent "Stop the Bleed" course offered to medical students. Plans are ongoing to strategically place "Stop the Bleed" kits around the hospital.

**Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center and Johns Hopkins Pediatric Trauma Center:** These centers will host informational/demonstration tables on May 22, 2017. The presentations will be located on the Johns Hopkins Bayview Campus in the Blue Awning Lobby from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM and in the hospital cafeteria from 11:00 AM to 1:30 PM.

**Meritus Medical Center:** The Trauma Center hosted an informational/demonstration table in the Robinwood Medical Center on May 16, 2017, from 6:30 AM to 12:30 PM.

**Peninsula Regional Medical Center:** The Medical Center will have two demonstration events. Information on "Stop the Bleed" will be put on display on May 19, 2017, in the Hanna Outpatient Lobby from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM and again on May 21, 2017, from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM, at the Ocean City Fire Department Headquarters, 15th Street and Philadelphia Avenue.

**Prince George's Hospital Center:** The Trauma Center scheduled the following demonstrations and courses, in partnership with the Trauma Injury Prevention Coordinators Collaborative: training the Nursing Education Department (May 8, 2017), demonstration in the main lobby from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM for visitors and employees (May 15, 2017), training the Emergency Department nurses (May 18 and 23, 2017), and information session/demonstration to all hospital employees in the auditorium (May 22, 2017).

**R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center:** The University of Maryland R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center, in collaboration with the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma, has trained more than 275 staff members in the "Stop the Bleed" initiative. They will continue to train staff members throughout May and in the upcoming months.

**Sinai Hospital:** The Trauma Center hosted classes on April 27 and May 4, 2017. They hosted another course on May 11 for hospital staff, and plan on expanding to the community in the near future.

**Suburban Hospital, Johns Hopkins Medicine:** The Trauma Center is hosting monthly "Stop the Bleed" classes for the community. Additionally, they will provide informational displays around the hospital throughout May.

**Western Maryland Regional Medical Center:** The Trauma Center has provided ongoing, scheduled "Stop the Bleed" courses over the last six months. This is a regional collaborative that includes hospital and regional instructors. This month, courses were scheduled for May 1, 5, 11, and 23, 2017.



## Upcoming Pediatric Education Opportunities

- June 18, 2017 (1:00 PM - 2:30 PM)**  
***Pediatric Destination Decision Making: The PDTree Project***  
**Jennifer Anders, MD, FAAP,**  
**Associate State EMS Medical Director for Pediatrics**  
**Session at MSFA Convention**  
*EMS Continuing Education approved by MIEMSS*  
 Location: Convention Center, Room 204, Ocean City, Maryland  
 REGISTRATION: Visit [www.msfa.org](http://www.msfa.org) for Maryland State Firemen's Association Annual Convention and Conference Information
- June 18, 2017 (12:45 PM - 4:15 PM)**  
***Emergency Ready Families – Preparing for EMS and ED Experience***  
**Mary Ellen Wilson, RN, BSN, CPEN,**  
**MIEMSS EMSC Family Advisory Network Council Chair**  
**Session at MSFA Convention**  
*EMS Continuing Education approved by MIEMSS*  
 Location: Convention Center, Room 204, Ocean City, Maryland  
 REGISTRATION: Visit [www.msfa.org](http://www.msfa.org) for Maryland State Firemen's Association Annual Convention and Conference Information
- June 29–30, 2017**  
***CPEN Review Course (meets national ENA review course criteria)***  
*RN Continuing Education approved by ENA*  
*EMS Continuing Education approved by MIEMSS*  
 Location: Peninsula Regional Medical Center, Salisbury, Maryland  
 REGISTRATION:  
<https://ecereg3.wufoo.com/forms/cpen-review-course-june-29-30-2017/>

For more information, email [pepp@miemss.org](mailto:pepp@miemss.org)



## Licensure and Certification TIDBIT

- Q.** I have recently renewed my EMT certification with the NREMT. Can I use this to help renew my Maryland EMT certification?
- A.** Yes. As a Maryland EMT, you may use your NREMT certification, if you have one, to renew your Maryland certification. In order to do so, your NREMT certification must be current and valid at the time your Maryland EMT is due for renewal. To apply your NREMT toward your Maryland renewal, log into the MIEMSS Licensure System either through the Provider Login link on MIEMSS homepage ([www.miemss.org](http://www.miemss.org)) or directly at [www.miemsslicense.com](http://www.miemsslicense.com). Once logged in, go to Applications and choose the National Registry (NREMT) Certified EMT Maryland Renewal Application.

Please contact the MIEMSS Office of Licensure and Certification at 410-706-3666 or 800-762-7157 should you have any questions.

## 2017 EMS and Prevention Educational Conferences and Events

**June 17–23, 2017**

***MSFA Annual Conference and Convention***

Location: Roland E. Powell Convention Center, Ocean City, Maryland  
REGISTRATION: [www.msfa.org/content/conventioninfo/](http://www.msfa.org/content/conventioninfo/)

**September 26, 2017**

***Mid-Atlantic Life Safety Conference***

Location: The Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, Laurel, Maryland

REGISTRATION: [www.fabscom.org](http://www.fabscom.org)



**National EMS Week 2017 is May 21–27, 2017.** This year's theme is **EMS STRONG: Always in Service.** Wednesday, May 24, is Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) Day.



## CARES Corner

All EMSOPs are now contributing data to CARES. As of December 2017, Maryland reports comprehensive CARES data and is included in the national CARES report. National reports are now available on the CARES website: <https://mycares.net>.

### This Month's CARES Tip:

Nine counties from Maryland were included in the national reporting for CARES for 2016. The bystander CPR rate and the public AED use rate were calculated at the national level and for Maryland alone. For the nine Maryland counties that participated in 2016, the following rates were reported.

Bystander Intervention Rates		
	Maryland	National
CPR rate	38.6%	39.9%
Public AED use rate	13.8%	11.7%

The bystander CPR rate is the percentage of those who had CPR initiated by a lay person, lay person family member, or lay person medical provider, and the arrest occurred prior to 9-1-1 arrival and was not in a nursing home, health care facility, physician's office, or clinic.

The public AED use rate is the percentage of those who had an AED first applied by a lay person, lay person family member, or lay person medical provider, and the arrest occurred prior to 9-1-1 arrival and was not in a home/residence, nursing home, health care facility, physician's office, or clinic.

**These two interventions can improve survival!**



# AACC Paramedic Students Participate in Mock MCI Drill

*Many thanks to Joe Cvach and Anne Arundel Community College for this contribution to Maryland EMS News.*

On Wednesday, March 29, 2017, paramedic students from Anne Arundel Community College (AACC) participated in a mock mass casualty incident (MCI) scenario drill. The drill was staged at the Anne Arundel County Fire Department Training Academy in Millersville, Maryland. This is the third year that the fire department and its training academy have partnered with the program to provide space and resources to make the scenario a success.

The event provides senior paramedic students the opportunity to practice triage, treatment, and transport functions necessary to make an MCI run smoothly. This year's MCI scenario featured a shooting at a public facility, a headline all too common. Former students and their family members and friends played the victims; they were provided information cards that detailed their injuries, expected care, and possible transport.

Throughout the day, various resources were utilized, from basic color ribbons and triage tags to more advanced technology such as wireless scanning and patient tracking software. Anne Arundel County Fire Department also provided use and set-up of their Mobile Ambulance Bus (MAB), and gave a brief overview of the advantages of having the unit on a real incident. An EMS supervisor and various county personnel were present at the drill site, and fire department personnel and AACC instructional staff were assigned to students to provide guidance and advice.

This training academy event serves as a "break in the norm" during the students' last field internship, before they begin practicing for the registry final examinations. During the same week, students also practice scenarios involving vehicle extrication, patient packaging for technical rescue, and treatment in non-traditional settings. This final training week has proven valuable throughout the years. Captain John "Joe" Cvach of the Anne Arundel County Fire Department noted that many former students put the skills learned during these days into practice within the first few months that they begin to work in the field.



*Clockwise from top left, a paramedic student leads a "victim" to safety from the scene of the incident; all drill participants gathered for a group photo in front of Anne Arundel County's Mobile Ambulance Bus; the paramedic students are debriefed after the drill ended; and a participant interviews a victim in order to complete a triage tag, which, in a real-life situation, would follow the patient through his medical treatment and transport.*



# Full-Scale MCI Exercise Held in MIEMSS Region V

The Metropolitan Council of Governments SWAT Subcommittee conducted a full-scale exercise on April 26, 2017, across the National Capitol Region (NCR). This exercise simulated a series of complex coordinated attacks across the region to test the Coordinated Tactical Response Plan. Region V EMS and tactical EMS (TEMS) providers participated, along with Maryland law enforcement agencies. The exercise included 820 personnel from 30 law enforcement agencies. Three fire/EMS agencies within the NCR also participated.



As part of a Unified Command, Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department (PGFD) and Charles County Department of Emergency Services (DES) coordinated EMS operations, utilized the incident command system, and set up an EMS branch. PGFD served as the medical branch with Charles County DES managing the triage, treatment, and transport functions. In addition, the following Maryland agencies participated in the exercise: Charles County SWAT/TEMS Team, Prince George's County Police Department SWAT/TEMS Team, NCR Incident Management Team, and US Park Police.



Left photo, an exercise participant carries a wounded "victim" to a waiting Prince George's County Fire Department ambulance; right photo, members of Charles County Department of Emergency Services coordinate patient triage at the exercise. Photos courtesy of Dave Stamey.

## MEMA Partners with Nextdoor Network for Emergency Preparedness

The Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) is partnering with Nextdoor ([www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com)), a private social network for neighborhoods, to improve statewide and neighbor-to-neighbor communications before, during, and after emergencies. More than 2,700 neighborhoods across Maryland are currently using Nextdoor to connect with each other. MEMA will use Nextdoor to connect with Marylanders by posting emergency notifications, news, and updates, and providing preparedness and alert information directly to communities.

Maryland residents can create private neighborhood websites through Nextdoor to share information, including neighborhood public safety issues, community events and activities, local services, and even lost pets. Nextdoor is free to use. Each Maryland neighborhood can have its own private Nextdoor website, accessible only to verified residents of that neighborhood. Information shared on Nextdoor is password protected and cannot be accessed by internet search engines. In addition, MEMA will not be able to access residents' websites, contact information, or other content.

"MEMA is the first state emergency management agency to join Nextdoor, and we are thrilled to have this additional tool to help us connect with Marylanders," said MEMA Executive Director Russell Strickland. "Emergency situations require quick action. Nextdoor gives us the ability to target communications by geography, such as regions or flood zones, which will help us share timely information with those who need it."

Maryland preparedness information can be accessed on the Maryland Emergency Management Agency's website at [mema.maryland.gov](http://mema.maryland.gov).

## EMR to EMT Bridge Process Available

MIEMSS is pleased to announce a new Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) to Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) bridge process that allows EMRs wishing to pursue certification at the EMT level to credit prior training toward their EMT course. Effectively, the bridge process reduces the EMT course required hours from 165 hours to 144 for Maryland-certified EMR providers. More information about the process can be obtained from a participating EMS Board-approved EMT program. A list of approved programs can be found at <http://bit.ly/20WZBuP>.

This bridge process was developed through the Best Practices Group within the Basic Life Support Committee of the State Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council (SEMSAC).

Please do not hesitate to contact the Office of Licensure and Certification at 800-762-7157 or 410-706-3666 if you have any questions.

# 2017 Strategic Highway Safety Plan Summit and AAA Drugged Driving Symposium

The Maryland Department of Transportation's Highway Safety Office hosted the 2017 Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) Summit on April 26, 2017, at the Maritime Institute Conference Center. Traffic safety advocates and officials from throughout the state gathered to plan for reducing highway fatalities and injuries on Maryland's roads. The AAA Drugged Driving Symposium, held in the afternoon, highlighted the need to bring stakeholders together to gain a better understanding of the growing threat of drug-impaired driving on Maryland's roadways.

The Maryland SHSP is a statewide, coordinated, traffic safety plan that provides the framework for reducing highway fatalities and serious injuries on all public streets and highways. The plan establishes overall statewide fatality and serious injury prevention goals, and sets goals and strategies within six key emphasis areas, including aggressive driving prevention, distracted driving prevention, highway infrastructure, impaired driving prevention, occupant protection, and pedestrian and bicyclist safety. The SHSP details specific objectives for 2016 through 2020, and is designed to move Maryland toward its goal of cutting

roadway fatalities in half by 2030 and, in the long-term, ending traffic fatalities and serious injuries on Maryland roadways.

Achieving these goals will require a sustained and steadfast commitment from state and local agencies and key safety partners. The 2017 SHSP Summit focused on developing county SHSP plans and how to use local trend data for each of the six key emphasis areas to target county issues. Establishing partnerships among the "Four E's of Safety" (engineering, enforcement, education, and emergency medical services) were discussed and examples of successful county SHSPs were presented.

## Heatstroke Prevention on Display

At two recent safety conferences, EMS Care 2017 and the Maryland's Strategic Highway Safety Plan Summit, Maryland's Child Passenger Safety and Occupant Protection Health Care Project demonstrated the extreme dangers of heatstroke in vehicles using an inside/outside temperature display. The Outdoor Stand-Up Temperature Display demonstrates how hot the inside of a vehicle can get, even on a cloudy day or one with mild temperatures. As seen in the photo below, taken at EMS Care 2017 on April 29, an outside temperature of 85.7 degrees equated to 153 degrees INSIDE the vehicle. Within a very short period of time, this level of heat could kill a child, or pet, left in a vehicle.

### Help prevent heatstroke to children left in cars by borrowing this display

Awareness and behavior modification among caregivers are key to preventing the majority of these tragic deaths. The Outdoor Stand-Up Temperature Display is an excellent tool to create awareness of how a vehicle can quickly heat up, to where the inside temperatures could kill a child. The Maryland State Firemen's Association and its Ladies Auxiliary purchased this display, and donated it to Safe Kids-Maryland to be used across the state. The 78" tall metal display is transported in a case that is 28"x48"x13", and requires at least two people to set up. For more details or to reserve it for your agency's use, contact [cps@miemss.org](mailto:cps@miemss.org).



Top photo, Maryland's Secretary of Transportation Pete K. Rahn spoke to attendees and gathered media representatives regarding various transportation safety initiatives, a media event held as part of the summit; bottom photo, summit participants were asked to text questions to the panelists (far left) during one of the conference sessions.



# Frederick County Trains Recruits in Child Passenger Safety

Frederick County Fire and Rescue Services (FCFRS) is making a big commitment to protecting children from motor vehicle crash injuries, which are a leading cause of death for children. This year,

the county has devoted a week to national Child Passenger Safety Technician (CPST) certification training for all three academy classes of new recruits. Battalion Chief Troy Grossnickle says, “We used to have

50-60 car seat technicians, but our numbers [of technicians] have been dropping while requests for car seat installation help have been increasing. We either needed to stop the [car seat check-up] program or get more technicians.” Chief Thomas Owens’ decision to include the certification course as part of the academy, rather than offer it separately, reflects how much he believes the program benefits families in Frederick County.

Nationally, 75-90% of car seats are not used correctly. To help families in the county, FCFRS’ car seat program offers personal assistance with car seats, by appointment, by calling a special hotline number. Caregivers can meet with a CPST at their local fire or EMS company, who will carefully assess if they are using the right seat for the child and if they are using it correctly. Most importantly, the CPST teaches the caregivers how to use the seat, so they are empowered to use the car seats correctly thereafter.

For more information about Frederick County’s program, go to [www.frederickcountymd.gov/2322/Keep-Kids-Safe-Child-Safety-Seat-Program](http://www.frederickcountymd.gov/2322/Keep-Kids-Safe-Child-Safety-Seat-Program). Contact Susanne Ogaitis-Jones at [cps@miemss.org](mailto:cps@miemss.org) or 410-706-8647 for more information about Maryland’s Child Passenger Safety and Occupant Protection Health Care project ([www.miemss.org/home/emsc/cps](http://www.miemss.org/home/emsc/cps)), or to request training materials, educational paraphernalia, or other valuable resources.



During their Child Passenger Safety Technician (CPST) certification training, Frederick County Fire and Rescue Services recruits practice correctly threading a shoulder/lap belt through a front-facing car seat to ensure it is installed properly. Video still photo (<https://youtu.be/dKQpJOpUMdY>) used with permission, courtesy of Troy Grossnickle, Operations Battalion Chief, FCFRS.

## Regional Opioid and Substance Abuse Summit


*Continued from page 1*

to bring a heightened level of awareness to this rapidly escalating threat, which is tearing apart families, devastating communities, and killing more and more people every day,” said Governor Hogan. “Ultimately, this is about saving lives—that is the bottom line—and it will take a collaborative, holistic approach to achieve that. Maryland, Washington, DC, and

Virginia will continue to be united as we work together to turn the tide in this deadly fight.”

In March 2017, Governor Hogan signed an Executive Order declaring a State of Emergency in response to the crisis, activating the state’s emergency management authority and enhancing coordination between the state and local jurisdictions. MIEMSS has been involved with the efforts to assist in this

important initiative from the Governor. As a member agency of the Opioid Operational Command Center (OCCC), MIEMSS generates weekly reports on all EMS calls in the state in which naloxone was administered. A separate report listing calls in which naloxone was administered but the patient was not transported is also generated weekly by MIEMSS. In an effort to help patients who refuse transport, MIEMSS has produced a card to help these patients connect with help for their addiction (see page 1). These cards will be distributed statewide for providers to carry and hand out to patients as appropriate. Opioid overdose-related information has been included in this year’s EMS Update, which is required for providers and hospital base stations, as well as in EMS continuing education programs, meetings, and reports.



**Emergency Treatment of an Opioid Overdose**

1. **Call 9-1-1:** Immediately. The Good Samaritan Law protects you from prosecution. Don't run; call 9-1-1!
2. **Rescue Breathing:** Tilt the head, lift the chin, and pinch the nose. Give 1 breath every 5 seconds.
3. **Naloxone:** Give if you have it. If first dose does not revive the person, administer a second dose.
4. **Recovery Position:** If you must leave the person alone, place them on his or her left side.

Recovery is possible. Support, guidance, and assistance on how to access Substance Use Disorder services is available 24/7 from the

**Maryland Crisis Hotline**  
**1-800-422-0009**

Naloxone works. Information on obtaining Naloxone through the Overdose Response Program is available at [NaloxoneMD.org](http://NaloxoneMD.org)  
[MdDestinationRecovery.org](http://MdDestinationRecovery.org)

*Front and back of Opioid Overdose Information Card that providers can distribute to patients.*



# EMS Care 2017



- HOW DOES A CHILD BECOME A VICTIM?**  
HOW DOES A CHILD BECOME A VICTIM?
- ▶ Parents selling children
  - ▶ Violence and force
  - ▶ Kidnapping
  - ▶ Seduction and coercion
  - ▶ False advertising for "modeling," "acting," or "learning" opportunities
  - ▶ Peer recruitment
  - ▶ Internet enticement through chat rooms or profile sharing sites



*Presented by Maryland's Regional EMS Councils and MIEMSS, EMS Care 2017 featured nationally-renowned speakers, innovative courses, and an impressive cadre of vendors. With over 300 participants, and offering nearly 4,000 hours of continuing education, EMS Care had something for everyone. The planning committee would like to extend sincere gratitude to the many sponsors of the event, and would especially like to recognize the Platinum Sponsors: MedStar Health, Physio-Control, St. Agnes Hospital, and Ascension Health Ministry Service Center. EMS Care 2018 is already underway; save the date for April 25-29, 2018!*



The Maryland Department of Natural Resources wants you to enjoy safe boating!  
Chart a course that keeps you safe and our waterways healthy.

## SAFETY FIRST!

### BOATING SAFETY COURSE

Boaters born on or after July 1, 1972 must carry a National Association of State Boating Law Administrators-approved certificate of boating safety education when operating a motorized boat on Maryland waters.

For more information contact:

- Natural Resources at [dnr.maryland.gov/boating](http://dnr.maryland.gov/boating) or 410-643-8502
- U.S. Sail and Power Squadron at [usps.org](http://usps.org) or 888-367-8777
- U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary at [cgaux.org](http://cgaux.org) or 877-875-6295

### DON'T DRINK AND BOAT!

A boat operator whose blood or breath analysis shows an alcohol concentration of 0.08 or greater is considered to be under the influence of alcohol and subject to criminal prosecution. Alcohol has a more dramatic effect on the body while boating.

### LIFE JACKET REQUIREMENTS

*Life jackets must be the proper size for the intended wearer, in good serviceable condition and readily accessible. All recreational boats must carry one wearable life jacket (type I, II, III or V) for each person aboard.*

**Any boat 16 feet or longer** — except canoes and kayaks — must also carry one throwable type IV life jacket.

**Children under age 13 must** wear a U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket while underway on a recreational vessel under 21 feet in length on Maryland waters. It must be the proper size and in good, serviceable condition.

**Children under age 4 must** wear a life jacket that features additional safety precautions as appropriate for an infant, toddler or young child, so as to: hold the child securely including a strap that is secured between the legs to fasten the front and back; maintain the child's buoyancy, including an inflatable headrest or high collar; or ensure the ready accessibility of the child from the vessel, including a web handle. Child life jacket requirements do not apply when a vessel is moored or anchored or a child is below deck or in an enclosed cabin.

For laws and regulations, visit [dnr.maryland.gov](http://dnr.maryland.gov).

### PERSONAL WATERCRAFT

Operators of personal watercraft in Maryland must be at least 16 years old and possess a valid certificate of boating safety education. A personal watercraft must be operated at 6 knots or less when within 100 feet of a vessel, another personal watercraft, shore, wharf, pier, piling, bridge structure, abutment or people in the water (at least 300 feet from people in the Atlantic Ocean).

- For general information: 410-260-8880
- To ask about boating regulations and education programs: 410-643-8502

## TOOLS FOR BOATERS

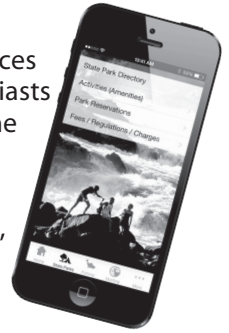
### BOATING ACCESS GUIDE

Locate more than 425 public boating access sites in Maryland and get details on amenities, such as size of facility, parking, accessibility and hours of operation using [dnr.maryland.gov](http://dnr.maryland.gov) keyword search *boat ramps*.

### DOWNLOAD THE APP

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources official **mobile app** provides outdoor enthusiasts with the tools needed to enjoy everything the great outdoors have to offer.

With the touch of a screen, users can locate ramps, share photos, make park reservations, identify fish and more. Other features include regulations and guidelines, as well as news and alerts.



## IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

### CONTACT THE NATURAL RESOURCES POLICE

Report an emergency, violation or abandoned boat: 410-260-8888  
Report a missing, damaged or misplaced buoy: 410-643-6521  
Report a boating fatality: 410-576-2525

### CHESAPEAKE BAY SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL HOTLINE

Call 877-224-7229 to report boating accidents or reckless activity, a fish kill or algal bloom, floating debris that poses a hazard to navigation, illegal fishing activity, a public sewer leak or overflow, an oil or hazardous materials spill, or a critical area or wetlands violation.

To report an oil spill, chemical release or maritime security incident to the U.S. Coast Guard National Response Center, call 800-424-8802.

### USE VHF FM MARINE CHANNEL 16

The primary marine distress frequency is monitored continuously by the U.S. Coast Guard. Channel 16 must be kept clear—someone's life may depend on it!

Use Channel 9 for non-emergency hailing and then switch to another working channel for routine conversation.

## PROTECT OUR WATERS



### STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS

Invasive species aggressively establish themselves at the expense of native ecosystems and pose the second greatest threat to biodiversity after habitat loss. In Maryland, aquatic invasives include

northern snakehead, blue and flathead catfish, zebra mussels and underwater plants such as hydrilla.

A single drop of water, a bit of mud or a tiny plant fragment is all it takes to spread harmful plants and animals. To minimize that risk:

- thoroughly inspect and clean vehicles, vessels, trailers and all associated gear after use.
- remove all plant material and deposit in dedicated waste stations or trash receptacles.
- dispose of worms, unwanted bait fish and fish parts in trash receptacles only.
- drain all water before leaving the launch; leave boat plugs out while traveling.
- if possible, allow your boat to dry for five days before launching in another water body.

Learn more at [dnr.maryland.gov/invasives](http://dnr.maryland.gov/invasives).

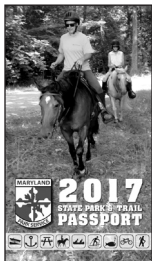
### CLEAN MARINAS AND CLEAN BOATERS

Boaters can help protect our waterways by (1) never littering, (2) preventing fuel spills and (3) avoiding harsh chemicals and cleaners. There are also more than 150 clean marinas to choose from across the state. Find locations and sign the Clean Boater Pledge at [dnr.maryland.gov/boating](http://dnr.maryland.gov/boating).

### MARINE SEWAGE PUMPOUT FACILITIES

Keep our waters clean—use pumpouts! There are more than 350 pumpout stations in Maryland. Most are grant funded and open to the public. Dumping raw sewage is illegal and harms our natural resources. Locations of grant-funded pumpouts and regulations governing boat discharge are available at [dnr.maryland.gov/boating](http://dnr.maryland.gov/boating). Broken pumpouts can be reported to 410-260-8772.

## GEAR UP



Make [shopdnr.com](http://shopdnr.com) your one-stop-shop for enjoying Maryland's great outdoors!

The *State Parks & Trail Passport*—valid from the date of purchase through Dec. 31, 2017—offers unlimited boat launch access, unlimited day-use for up to 10 people per vehicle and a 10 percent discount on all state-operated concessions and boat rentals.

The *Maryland Natural Resource* magazine serves as a guide to both recreation and conservation. Let this quarterly publication inspire you to enjoy, protect and live in harmony with our great state's breathtaking landscapes, waterways and wildlife.

The online store also stands as a portal for entering the annual Photo Contest and sells the wall calendar featuring each year's winning images. Additional items include water trail maps prints and more.

## TAKE ME FISHING

A **Chesapeake Bay and Coastal Sport License** is required to fish in the Chesapeake Bay, Coastal Bays, their respective tributaries and the Atlantic Ocean.

You can buy your \$50 **Chesapeake Bay and Coastal Sport Boat Decal** at any time from a sport license agent or Department of Natural Resources service center. The decal allows all boat passengers to fish without an individual sport license, but all anglers must register with the state. The primary boat owner receives a free crab license and an individual Chesapeake Bay and Coastal Sport license, which allows for fishing from shore or another person's boat.

Waterfront property owners or family members, those fishing in a designated license-free fishing area, and passengers on a vessel displaying a Chesapeake Bay and Coastal Sport Boat Decal are exempt from individual licensing, but must register as a saltwater angler at [compass.dnr.maryland.gov](http://compass.dnr.maryland.gov).

For more information on tidal and nontidal fishing, tagged fish and educational programs, visit [dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries](http://dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries) or call 800-688-3467.

## FIND A FISHING SPOT



Visit [bit.ly/mdfishaccess](http://bit.ly/mdfishaccess) to find a fishing spot and site-specific details like species, special regulations, tidal/nontidal dividing lines, and boating and parking information.

## SHARE YOUR CATCH

Tell all your best fish tales using the Maryland Angler's Log. Reports can include your name, hometown, photos, location information and any details of your experience you'd like to share. Get started at [dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries](http://dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries).

## WATCH YOUR SPEED

A new, interactive map shows the precise locations of the hundreds of regulated speed zones in Maryland waters. Find it at [dnr.maryland.gov/boating](http://dnr.maryland.gov/boating).

*Dear Boaters,*

*Maryland is home to a rich maritime heritage that continues to thrive to this very day. From the freshwater of Deep Creek Lake to the saltwater of the Atlantic Ocean, Maryland's 180,000 registered boaters have an opportunity to explore and recreate in our state's most precious waterways.*

*As you cruise the Chesapeake Bay or our many lakes, rivers and streams, be sure to practice boating safety every time you are out on the water, and always wear a life jacket! They save lives!*



*Mark Belton*

Mark Belton  
Natural Resources Secretary



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**Governor Larry Hogan**  
**Lt. Governor Boyd Rutherford**

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