

Pennsylvania Recreational Boating Accident Fatality Recaps 2005 - 2024

TOTAL: 220 FATAL ACCIDENTS – 241 FATALITIES

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| 1. | 1 Fatality
3/28/05 | Chrystal Lake Quarry
morning (a.m.) | Lawrence County
Friday |
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A 59-year-old man lost his life when he somehow ended up in the water after voluntarily leaving or falling overboard from a 12-foot open motorboat. At approximately 10 a.m. the victim launched a small fishing boat borrowed from a friend to try out a new “fish finder.” He had told his wife that he would return at 1 p.m. At 5:23 p.m. the victim’s wife notified 911 that her husband was missing. Emergency response personnel found the boat floating against the south bank of the quarry in four feet of water. The victim was suspended under the boat with the bow line wrapped loosely around his body with the bitter end still held in his hand. The interior of the boat was relatively dry. The weather was severe with sleet and freezing rain and wind gusts up to 25 mph. The electric motor on the boat was probably not powerful enough to move it in the strong wind. It is possible that the victim left his boat to “pull” the boat around the lake and fell from the bank into the water. It is also possible that he fell overboard. There was a Type III PFD lying in the bow of the boat, but the victim did not wear it. He was an average swimmer. The water temperature was a bone-chilling 43 degrees so hypothermia or cold-water shock was a probable factor. The victim was an experienced boater and it is unknown if he had formal instruction in boating safety.

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| 2. | 1 Fatality
5/31/05 | Susquehanna River
5:00 p.m. | Lancaster County
Tuesday |
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A 41-year-old man lost his life when his 10-foot open motorboat swamped and flooded. This was the first time the victim had operated this boat with a motor. Witnesses state that the victim revved the motor in reverse causing it to immediately flood. The rushing water pulled the stern under and flipped the boat, throwing the victim into the water. The boat sank immediately. There were no PFDs onboard the boat and the victim was alone when the accident occurred. Even though he could swim, the victim only struggled briefly then disappeared. Sudden immersion into cold water may have been a factor. The current was strong and the victim was fully clothed, wearing heavy boots. The victim was an inexperienced boater and had no formal instruction in boating safety. His body was recovered four-days later.

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| 3. | 1 Fatality
6/12/05 | Delaware River
3:10 p.m. | Philadelphia County
Sunday |
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A 39-year-old man lost his life when he fell overboard from his 21-foot cabin motorboat. The boat had mechanical problems and the victim attempted repairs. There was a strong incoming tide and the boat was drifting north so the victim dropped anchor and continued his efforts. He then fell overboard. A passenger on board attempted to throw a line and a type IV PFD to the victim but even though he could swim, he had disappeared. PFDs were onboard but not used. The boat operator was the victim. He was a very experienced operator and had taken a state boating course. The victim’s

body was discovered three days later.

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| 4. | 3 Fatalities | Raystown Lake | Huntingdon County |
| | 6/25/05 | 11:10 p.m. | Saturday |

A 47-year old man, his 45-year old wife and his five-year old daughter lost their lives when their 22-foot cabin motorboat grounded against the shoreline. The vessel appears to have been traveling at a high rate of speed during the late night hours and impacted with a steeply sloped remote part of the lake's shoreline. The victims were not discovered until nearly noon the following day. The victims were not wearing PFDs although the boat was properly equipped. In this accident, use of PFDs is not a factor. Alcohol was involved although the coroner's evaluation is that the operator was not substantially impaired. The boat operator was very experienced but it is unknown if he had formal instruction in boating safety. Although not a factor; all of the victims could swim.

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| 5. | 1 Fatality | Private Pond | Lycoming County |
| | 7/4/05 | 11:00 a.m. | Monday |

A 34-year-old man lost his life while water skiing behind a 20-foot open motorboat. The victim and two friends were practicing for a water skiing demonstration at an upcoming regatta on a closed, professionally laid out course in near ideal conditions of flat water, sunny skies and temperatures in the 80s. The three men were in good shape, had skied together for years, had over 500 hours of experience on the water and competed on a professional level. The boat was equipped with a speed regulation system for competitions; the boat speed was set at 36 mph. The skier turned right to make a sharp turn around a buoy with his body extended. At some point during the turn he lost his grip on the ski rope handle, causing it to snap back (towards the boat) with tremendous force, catching the skier under his chin with the neoprene covered handle bar. He suffered severe traumatic head and neck injuries resulting in his instant death. The boat operator was very experienced and had formal instruction in boating safety. The victim was a strong swimmer and was wearing a PFD.

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| 6. | 1 Fatality | Acre Lake | Susquehanna County |
| | 7/8/05 | 12:00 a.m. | Saturday |

A 20-year-old man lost his life when a paddle boat he was in began to take on water. The victim jumped into the water even though the other people onboard advised him not to do so. The victim called for help as he struggled in the water but the other three people that were onboard could not find him in the darkness. There were no PFDs onboard and the victim could swim. The operator of the boat had little boating experience and no formal instruction in boating safety. Alcohol was a factor. The victim's body was recovered the following day by a dive team.

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| 7. | 1 Fatality | Lake Erie (Presque Isle Bay) | Erie County |
| | 7/26/05 | 12:00 p.m. | Tuesday |

A 44-year-old woman lost her life when she had a heart attack remounting a capsized 10-foot rented personal watercraft on which she was a passenger. The victim and another person rented the PWC. A short time later they were observed with a person in

the water 300 yards from the dock. An employee from the rental operator went out to assist the passenger to remount but was told by the boat operator that the victim was unconscious. Emergency response was called. A firefighter from Virginia who was on vacation gave the victim CPR until EMS arrived. She was taken to the hospital but did not revive. She had a pre-existing heart condition and suffered a cardiac arrest. Although it is not applicable in this accident, the victim was wearing a PFD and could swim. Also not applicable; the boat operator was very experienced and had formal instruction in boating safety.

8.	1 Fatality	Lake Wallenpaupack	Wayne County
	9/11/05	4:00 p.m.	Sunday

A 33-year-old man lost his life when his 12-foot rowboat capsized. There were four people in the boat for a day of fishing; three adults and one ten-year-old boy. The victim was not wearing a PFD although the boat was properly equipped. The water was rough. The victim and another angler took turns rowing the boat. During one of these rotations the boat capsized. The victim helped one of the survivors put on a PFD, then attempted to right the capsized boat. He was successful in getting the boat righted, but went under the surface and did not reappear. There were lacerations on the victim's forehead which may have been caused by the boat. Both operators were very inexperienced boaters and had no formal instruction in boating safety. The victim was a strong swimmer. The victim's body was recovered the same day.

9.	2 Fatalities	Monongahela River	Greene County
	9/25/05	8:09 p.m.	Sunday

A 39-year-old man and 45-year-old man lost their lives when their 23-foot cabin motorboat collided with an 87-foot commercial tow with nine empty barges. This accident occurred after dark. The operator of the cabin motorboat collided with one of the lead barges being pushed by the tow. Alcohol was a factor. The operator of the cabin motorboat was very experienced and had taken a U.S. Power Squadron and a state boating course. He was traveling at a high rate of speed and had not turned on his boat lights. Two passengers were rescued from the water by a passing house boat. One passenger had severe injuries, the other minor ones. The operator and another passenger had disappeared. Both victims were good swimmers. Although the boat was properly equipped with PFDs neither victim wore one. Their bodies were recovered the following day.

10.	1 Fatality	Susquehanna River	Columbia County
	2/11/06	1:20 p.m.	Saturday

A 30-year-old hunter lost his life when he fell overboard from a borrowed 15-foot open motorboat. The victim dropped another hunter off at an island and was alone when he somehow ended up in the water. A witness heard someone calling for help and saw the victim in the water. The boat was still under power, turning in circles. The witness called 911 but the victim soon disappeared. The victim wasn't wearing a life jacket, although the boat was properly equipped with PFDs. The water temperature was only 35°F, so cold water shock and/or hypothermia are probable factors. The victim could swim but was an inexperienced boater and had no formal instruction in boating safety. He was wearing hip boots at the time of the accident. The victim's body still has not

been found as of the date of this report. This is very unusual.

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| 11. | 1 Fatality | Lake Chillisquaque | Montour County |
| | 2/16/06 | 4:30 p.m. | Thursday |

A 19-year-old paddler lost his life when the 17-foot canoe he was paddling with two others capsized. The two survivors remained with the overturned boat and were rescued. Both men were in the water for at least 30 minutes and were treated for hypothermia. The victim tried to swim to shore but did not make it. There were no PFDs onboard the canoe. Alcohol may have been a factor. The water temperature was 39° F, so cold water shock and/or hypothermia were factors. All three paddlers were inexperienced and had no known formal instruction in boating safety. It is unknown if the victim could swim. The victim's body was recovered on March 11.

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| 12. | 2 Fatalities | Monongahela River | Fayette County |
| | 4/22/06 | 6:25 p.m. | Saturday |

A 40-year-old angler and a 35-year-old angler lost their lives when their 16-foot open motorboat capsized below a lock and dam. A witness said that two men were fishing in a boat some 700 feet inside the restricted zone below a gate. When the gate opened, the boat capsized, putting both men into the water. A worker at the lock saw one of the victims attempting to hold onto the overturned boat. That victim was wearing a PFD. The workers at the lock closed the gate and attempted to lower a life ring, but the victim was pulled under in the turbulent water. The boat operator at the time of the accident is unknown. One victim was wearing a PFD; the other did not. It is unknown if the boat was properly equipped with PFDs. It is unknown if the operator had any boating experience or formal instruction in boating safety. Both victims could swim. The water was 58°F, so cold water shock was a probable factor. One of the victim's body was recovered a week later; the other was not found until August 30.

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| 13. | 1 Fatality | Lake Ondawa (pond) | Bradford County |
| | 5/14/06 | 11:30 a.m. | Sunday |

A 16-year-old paddler lost his life when the 15-foot canoe he was paddling capsized. A witness saw the canoe capsize, the victim right it and attempt to reboard. It capsized again and the victim attempted to swim to shore. He began having difficulty and called for help but soon disappeared. The water was only 40°F, so cold water shock was a factor. The victim was not wearing a PFD. The boat had only one Type IV throwable PFD onboard. The victim was an inexperienced boater and had no formal instruction in boating safety. He was an above-average swimmer. The victim's body was recovered two hours later.

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| 14. | 1 Fatality | Wallenpaupack Creek | Wayne County |
| | 5/27/06 | 3:00 p.m. | Saturday |

A 48-year-old paddler lost his life when he fell overboard from a 16-foot canoe. The water was 60°F, so cold water shock was a probable factor. It is unknown why the victim fell overboard. No one saw him fall into the water. The family of the deceased said that they did see the victim try to swim over to the canoe to retrieve it. He called out for help and disappeared. The victim was an inexperienced boater and had no

formal instruction in boating safety. He was a poor swimmer and was not wearing a PFD. The boat had only one Type IV throwable PFD onboard. Alcohol use may have been a factor. His body was recovered the same day.

15.	1 Fatality	Ohio River	Allegheny County
	5/30/06	3:00 p.m.	Tuesday

A 38-year-old man lost his life when he fell overboard from a 17-foot open motorboat. The victim was the operator and was traveling in circles. Both people on board were standing because the boat had no installed seats. They were ejected when the boat struck its own wake. The boat traveled about 40 feet up on the shore. The survivor heard the victim calling to him. He swam to the victim, and when they reached each other they both went under. The victim did not resurface. The boat's kill switch was attached to a PFD under the console. Neither person on board was wearing a life jacket, although there were six PFDs onboard. It is unknown if the boat operator had any boating experience, formal instruction in boating safety, or if he could swim. Narcotics were found onboard the boat. The passenger was treated and released. The victim's body was found four days later.

16.	1 Fatality	Pymatuning Lake	Crawford County
	6/9/06	2:15 p.m.	Friday

A 71-year-old angler lost his life when the 16-foot open motorboat from which he was fishing swamped and flooded. Two men went fishing and noticed water rising above the floor. They started for shore, but water came in faster and the boat capsized. The survivor was rescued by another boater, but the victim was trapped beneath the capsized boat. The victim was soon recovered by emergency response personnel and taken to the hospital, where he was revived. Unfortunately, he died the next day. Later tests of the boat by the investigating officer revealed that the boat was improperly loaded with too much weight in the stern, which caused water to enter through the scuppers, then through an external hatch. PFDs were worn. The victim could not swim. It is unknown if the operator had any formal instruction in boating safety, but he was an experienced boater.

17.	2 Fatalities	Neshaminy Creek	Bucks County
	6/10/06	2:00 a.m.	Saturday

A 47-year-old man and a 28-year-old man lost their lives when the 24-foot cabin motorboat in which they were passengers collided with a fixed object—a concrete bridge abutment in the dark. The vessel then veered toward shore and ran aground. Blunt force trauma from the impact was responsible for the death of one passenger; the other was thrown overboard and drowned, although blunt force trauma was also a major factor in his death. Alcohol was a major factor. The operator was a very experienced boater but had no formal instruction in boating safety. PFDs were onboard but not worn, although life jacket use was not a factor in this accident. Both victims could swim, but swimming ability was not a factor in this accident. One of the victim's body was still in the boat when the vessel was discovered the next morning on shore. The body of the victim that was thrown overboard was recovered four days later. The boat operator was not seriously injured and left the scene of the accident without reporting it.

18. 2 Fatalities Lake Erie (Presque Isle Bay) Erie County
6/16/06 4:00 p.m. Friday

A 19-year-old man and a 21-year-old woman lost their lives when their 10-foot personal watercraft collided with a 38-foot cabin motorboat. The victims were the operator and passenger on the personal watercraft. After the collision the victims were picked up immediately and taken to shore where EMS was waiting. They apparently died at impact or soon thereafter. No one was injured on the cabin motorboat. The victims were wearing PFDs, but life jacket use was not a factor in this accident. It is unknown if the victims could swim, although swimming ability was not a factor. The operator of the personal watercraft had taken a boating course, but it is unknown how much boating experience he had. The operator of the cabin motorboat was an experienced boater but had no formal instruction in boating safety.

19. 1 Fatality Lake Harmony Carbon
County
6/23/06 11:00 p.m. Friday

A 64-year-old man lost his life when he fell overboard from his 20-foot pontoon boat. A couple left a bar and the operator took his new pontoon boat out onto this small lake. His dog had been left onboard while he was in the bar and had had an "accident." The operator decided to clean the dog waste off the bow of the pontoon boat. While the boat was still in gear and moving, he went forward and dipped a bucket into the water. After taking a bucket or two of water, he fell overboard between the pontoons. The passenger onboard attempted unsuccessfully to stop the boat. She then dived into the water and tried to do a swimming rescue but was unsuccessful. She then called for help. Bystanders rescued the passenger, took her to shore, and then went back out on the lake and secured the unattended, but still operating, pontoon boat. The victim had disappeared. There were PFDs onboard but not worn; they were still encased in plastic. Alcohol was a factor. The victim could not swim. He was an experienced boater but had no formal instruction in boating safety. The body was recovered the next day by Commission officers and local emergency response teams.

20. 1 Fatality Farm Pond Mercer County
6/26/06 9:30 p.m. Monday

A 51-year-old angler lost his life when he capsized a 12-foot rowboat on a farm pond. The man was fishing on the pond at night when for some unknown reason he capsized the boat in 4½ feet of water approximately 150 feet from shore. He was last seen standing in the boat. A short time later a witness heard calls for help. He ran down to the lake and saw the victim bobbing up and down in the water. He called to the victim to swim to shore and returned to the residence to get help because he could not swim. Another person at the residence was awakened and ran to the water. Because of darkness he could not see the victim. With good intentions he entered the water and tried to locate the victim but got into trouble and had to return to shore. The victim could not swim and there were no PFDs onboard the boat. Alcohol was a major factor in this accident, and the victim was in very poor physical condition. The victim was an experienced boater but had no formal instruction in boating safety. Emergency response was called and his body was recovered quickly.

21.	2 Fatalities	Allegheny River	Allegheny County
	7/1/06	8:04 p.m.	Saturday

A 42-year-old man (the boat operator) and a 19-year-old woman lost their lives when their 21-foot cabin motorboat went over the dam at Lock #2. The male victim was recovered floating face-down by Commission waterways conservation officers a few minutes after the accident. With great difficulty he was placed onboard a fire rescue boat that responded to the accident. He later went into cardiac arrest. A witness stated that the operator was operating too fast and would not slow down. The next thing she knew they were airborne as the boat went over the dam at a high rate of speed. She began handing out PFDs to the other women on the boat. There were not enough PFDs to go around for the eight people on board the boat. The boat then capsized. Another witness stated she read a sign "Restricted, Boats Keep Out" just before they became airborne. The operator was an experienced boater but it is unknown if he had any formal instruction in boating safety. It is unknown if the operator could swim. The female victim was an average swimmer, which probably would not help her in the hydraulic below this dam. Alcohol was a factor. The female victim's body was recovered on July 4 a half-mile downstream.

22.	2 Fatalities	Union City Reservoir	Erie County
	7/3/06	6:00 p.m.	Monday

A 22-year-old angler and his 14-year-old brother lost their lives when the 14-foot canoe in which they were fishing capsized. A man went fishing with his two sons in the small canoe that capsized about 15 yards from shore. An shoreline angler saw the capsized canoe and heard cries for help. He entered the water and was able to right the canoe. He grabbed one of the victims and pulled him to shore. At this time two other anglers arrived to offer assistance. The rescued victim was not breathing. 911 was called and CPR started. One of the other victims was then seen pulling himself up onto the canoe to grab a life jacket. He did not secure it and re-entered the water, disappearing beneath the surface. The surviving angler was taken to the hospital. Neither victim could swim. The operator had very little boating experience and no formal instruction in boating safety. Both victims were recovered the same day in 5 to 6 feet of water.

23.	1 Fatality	Lake Redman	York County
	7/16/06	2:00 p.m.	Sunday

A 32-year-old man paddler lost his life when he capsized his rented 9-foot kayak. He was kayaking with his son on the lake, and for some reason they both capsized and ended up in the water. Neither was a good swimmer and they were having problems staying afloat. Other kayakers on the lake said that they heard a call for help and saw the victim's son struggling in the water. The victim disappeared beneath the surface of the lake as his son was being rescued. Type II PFDs were supplied with the boats but were stashed behind the seats and not worn. The victim was an inexperienced boater and it is unknown if he had any formal instruction in boating safety. Alcohol use may have been a factor. The victim's body was recovered three days later.

24.	1 Fatality	Lake Erie	Erie County
	7/22/06	2:00 p.m.	Saturday

A 53-year-old angler lost his life when he apparently fell overboard from his 20-foot

open motorboat. The man was fishing alone on Lake Erie and was either drifting or trolling with an electric motor. The victim's boat drifted into shore near Elk Creek with no one onboard. His landing net and favorite fishing rod were missing from the boat. Waves increased throughout the day and there were 4- to 6-foot waves on the lake. There was one walleye onboard the boat. The victim probably fell overboard while attempting to land a fish. He was in very poor health. The victim's boat was properly equipped with PFDs but he was not wearing a life jacket. He was a poor swimmer and a very experienced boater, but had no formal instruction in boating safety. The victim's body was recovered two weeks later.

25.	1 Fatality 8/6/06	Susquehanna River 2:30 a.m.	Dauphin County Sunday
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A 56-year-old man lost his life when his 23-foot open motorboat collided with a 17-foot open motorboat. The victim's boat struck the other vessel nearly head-on in the darkness at a high rate of speed. The force of the collision caused the victim to be ejected, as well as two passengers on the other boat. The victim was an experienced boat operator and had taken a Commission safe boating course. The victim was a poor swimmer and was not wearing a PFD, although PFDs were onboard his boat. Alcohol was a factor. The victim was killed by impact, so PFD use and swimming ability were not factors in this accident. The victim's body was found the next day.

26.	1 Fatality 8/24/06	Monongahela River 6:45 p.m.	Fayette County Thursday
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A 32-year-old man lost his life when he fell overboard from a 16-foot open motorboat. The victim was a passenger onboard the boat when the motor stalled. The operator and his son began working on the motor and heard a splash. They observed the victim in the water. The operator's son jumped in to assist, but the struggling victim panicked. Even a throwable PFD was onboard, the boat operator threw a *wearable* Type III PFD to the two men, but unfortunately, it fell several feet short. The would-be rescuer was able to break away from the victim and swim to the PFD. He turned to look for the victim but the victim had disappeared. There were only two wearable PFDs onboard for the three occupants. Alcohol was a factor. The victim could swim and was an experienced boater but had no formal instruction in boating safety. The victim's body was recovered in the area in which he drowned.

27.	2 Fatalities 9/24/06	Ohio River 9:30 p.m.	Beaver County Sunday
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A 41-year-old man (the boat operator) and a 48-year-old man lost their lives when their 25-foot cabin motorboat collided with the #4 lock gate at the Montgomery Dam. Alcohol was a factor. A passenger onboard the boat survived with minor injuries. The operator was an experienced boater and had taken a Commission boating course. Neither victim was wearing a PFD, although the boat was properly equipped. PFD use was not a factor in this accident. Both victims could swim, although swimming ability was not a factor. Both victims' bodies were still in the boat when recovered.

28.	1 Fatality 11/24/06	Clairton Lake 2:35 p.m.	Somerset County Friday
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A 52-year-old angler lost his life when his 14-foot canoe from which he was fishing capsized. Two men were fishing from the small canoe when the operator dipped his paddle in the water, causing the canoe to capsize suddenly. The operator tried to tow the victim to shore, but when the victim panicked, the would-be rescuer lost his grip and the victim went underwater. The survivor was treated for hypothermia and released. The water temperature was only 45°F, so cold water shock and hypothermia were probable factors. There were no PFDs onboard the canoe. Alcohol was a factor. The victim could not swim. The surviving paddler was a very experienced boater. It is unknown if he had any formal instruction in boating safety. The victim's body was recovered by a dive team late the same day.

29.	2 Fatalities	Pymatuning Lake	Crawford County
	4/16/07	8:30 p.m.	Monday

A 21-year-old angler and a 22-year-old angler lost their lives when their 14-foot open motorboat capsized. There were no witnesses to this accident. When the men failed to show up for work, searchers found their vehicle and trailer at the access and began to search the lake. The capsized boat was located and a search began for the victims. An inventory of the items onboard indicates that the boat was overloaded. Neither victim wore a PFD. In fact, only one PFD was recovered and it was too small to fit either man. The water temperature was 38 degrees; air temperature was 35 degrees with wind speeds up to 25 mph. Both victims could swim. Sudden immersion into cold water (cold water shock) was a factor. Evidence indicates that the boat may have been underway when it capsized. The boat operator was an experienced boater but had no formal instruction in boating safety. Their bodies were recovered by dive teams on the following Saturday. Both victims had removed one of their work boots before succumbing to the cold water. The victim's bodies were found only 20 feet apart near the place where the capsized boat was discovered.

30.	1 Fatality	Lake Erie (Presque Isle Bay)	Erie County
	4/18/07	11:30 a.m.	Wednesday

A 60-year-old angler lost his life when he fell overboard from a 14-foot open motorboat. Two men went fishing and were positioned 30 yards from shore when they decided to change anchors on the boat to adjust for the wind and waves. The operator put the motor in neutral. The wind turned the boat so that its gunnel was exposed to the incoming wave action. The victim attempted to hand the front anchor to the boat operator and fell overboard causing the boat to capsize. The operator saw the victim and yelled to him but could not understand what the victim said. At this time two boats in the area proceeded to the scene and threw Type IV PFDs to the victim. He failed to grab the PFDs and apparently disappeared. During the rescue attempt, the operator held onto the boat and kicked it to shore. The people in the other two boats at the scene attempted to find the victim with no success. The boat operator waded back out into the cold water to search as well. The victim could swim. PFDs were onboard but not worn. The water temperature was 39 degrees, so sudden immersion into cold water (cold water shock) was a factor. The boat operator was an experienced boater but had no formal instruction in boating safety. The victim's body was recovered two days later near the accident site.

31.	1 Fatality 4/21/07	Raystown Lake 5:30 p.m.	Huntingdon County Saturday
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A 69-year-old angler lost his life when he was ejected from an 18-foot open motorboat. Two anglers were cruising on the lake when a fishing net blew back into the operator causing him to let go of the wheel. The boat immediately turned sharply to starboard and ejected both men. Two men in another boat noticed the bass boat traveling in circles at a high rate of speed with no one onboard. Then they noticed a man waving to them from the shoreline. They traveled to shore and were told by the wet, injured man that his father was still out in the water. They immediately went back out and found the victim floating face down in the water. CPR was started but was ineffective. The surviving angler was badly injured and was taken to a waiting ambulance. PFDs were onboard but were not worn. Alcohol was involved. The victim could swim. The boat operator was a very experienced boater but had no formal instruction in boating safety. The water temperature was 47 degrees, so sudden immersion into cold water (cold water shock) may have been a factor. The victim had heart problems and the cause of death may have been from the impact with the water or cold-water shock.

32.	1 Fatality 4/29/07	Susquehanna River 2:30 p.m.	Lancaster County Sunday
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A 16-year-old girl lost her life when the 16-foot open motorboat in which she was a passenger went over the Holtwood Dam. The owners had just purchased the boat and were operating it for the first time. They stopped the boat and anchored while eating lunch. They pulled anchor, but when they began to approach the dam they could not restart the boat. They deployed the anchor but the water was too deep for the anchor to catch. All six occupants jumped out of the boat before it went over the dam, including the victim. The boat and persons were swept over the dam. Five persons were rescued. Four of the six people onboard were wearing PFDs when the boat and people went over the dam. The victim could not swim and was wearing a type II PFD. The drop over the dam is the 60 feet. One of the survivors saw the victim floating downstream after the drop still wearing an orange PFD. She waved her hand above her head and called out for help twice. The water temperature was 49 degrees so hypothermia or sudden immersion into cold water (cold-water shock) may have been factors. The boat operator was inexperienced and had no formal instruction in boating safety. The victim's body was recovered May 8 by emergency personnel.

33.	1 Fatality 5/19/07	Lake Arthur 2:00 p.m.	Butler County Saturday
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A 60-year-old man lost his life when he fell overboard from his 21-foot sailboat. The victim and his passenger were sailing in a strong wind of 25-28 mph. Neither occupant was wearing a life jacket although wearable Type II PFDs were onboard. When the victim attempted to tack the boat to port, it turned sharply and nearly capsized. This caused water to come in over the gunwale on the port side. The victim fell overboard. The passenger almost fell overboard but was able to pull herself back into the boat as it righted itself. The victim called for the passenger to get the boat to him as it was quickly blowing away. Unfortunately, the passenger was not an experienced boater and could not do so. The victim called for help and disappeared beneath the surface. The victim could swim and had some boating experience. It is unknown but doubtful that he

had any formal instruction in boating safety. The water was 62 degrees, so sudden immersion into cold water (cold-water shock) may have been a factor. The victim's body was found by a DCNR park ranger when it washed ashore four days later.

34. 1 Fatality Hutchinson Mine Pond Westmoreland County
6/9/07 9:15 p.m. Saturday

A 22-year-old man lost his life when the 16-foot canoe in which he was a passenger capsized. Five people walked to the secluded pond, got onboard the canoe and drifted about 50 yards onto the pond. The victim began rocking the canoe and it suddenly capsized, throwing the occupants into the 60-degree water. One of the boaters was a lifeguard and rescued a 12-year-old boy who was panicked and having difficulty. The victim disappeared. It is unknown if the victim had any boating experience or formal instruction in boating safety. Even though the victim was a below-average swimmer, there were no PFDs onboard. The water temperature was 60 degrees, so sudden immersion into cold water (cold-water shock) may have been a factor. Alcohol was a factor. The victim's body was recovered by divers the next day suspended in 20 feet of water.

35. 1 Fatality Youghiogheny River Somerset County
6/16/07 2:25 p.m. Saturday

A 63-year-old man lost his life when he fell overboard from a 10-foot rented inflatable raft on the middle section of the Youghiogheny River. There were four people on board the raft. It lodged on a rock and the victim fell out. The victim's daughter extended an oar to him which he was able to grab. Unfortunately, she was unable to pull her father on board due to the current and the victim's weight. During this struggle, the victim's mouth was open and water was splashing onto his face. A passing kayaker pulled the victim to shore and administered CPR but to no avail. The victim had a history of heart disease and the coroner determined that death was caused by heart failure. The victim was wearing a PFD. Cold-water shock was a factor because the water was only 52 degrees. The victim was a poor swimmer and had very little boating experience. It is unknown but doubtful that he had any formal instruction in boating safety.

36. 1 Fatality Allegheny Reservoir Warren County
8/17/07 7:00 p.m. Friday

A 56-year-old man lost his life when he apparently fell overboard from a 19-foot open motorboat. New York State Police reported to a Commission waterways conservations officer (WCO) that a Franciscan friar from St. Bonaventure University Monastery was overdue. The WCO located the victim's vessel washed ashore the same day. There was damage to the hull from wave action against the rocks. The key was in the off position and the throttle was in neutral. There are no known witnesses to this accident. The lake was rough with whitecaps on the day of the accident. PFDs were onboard but not worn. The victim was an experienced boater but it is unknown if he had any formal instruction in boating safety. Alcohol was a factor. The victim could swim. His body was recovered the next day floating in the water on the Pennsylvania side approximately 1.5 miles from where the vessel was recovered.

37. 1 Fatality Crooked Creek Armstrong County

11/27/07

Unknown

Tuesday

A 45-year-old man lost his life after he paddled upstream in a 16-foot canoe to go hunting. The victim was seen paddling upstream by another hunter who was on a tree stand near the creek. The creek was rain-swollen and full of debris. The Commission waterways conservation officer for that district found a vehicle and boat trailer parked at an access area on the creek. This was at 6 p.m., so the officer decided to wait for the boaters to return. At 7:00 p.m. the officer called in the license number and found out that family members had already called the police with their concerns. The creek was rain-swollen and full of debris. There were wind gusts of 15 to 25 miles per hour. The following day the missing boater's canoe, a wearable Type III life jacket, paddles, other items and extra clothing were recovered in a strainer. Search operations on land and water were ineffective. The victim was a very experienced paddler. It is unknown if he had any formal instruction in boating safety. The water temperature was 40 degrees, so sudden immersion into cold water (cold-water shock) was a probable factor. The victim could swim. Search for the boater were suspended after a lengthy effort because of cold weather. His body was recovered on January 13th when hikers saw the victim's body floating in the water.

38. 1 Fatality
12/29/07

Pond
5:35 p.m.

Beaver County
Saturday

A 23-year-old man lost his life when the 15-foot canoe from which he was goose hunting capsized. The victim was floating alone on a strip mine sediment pond at dusk. He fired two shots at geese, which apparently caused him to capsize. He surfaced, called for help and disappeared. His brother, a non-swimmer, witnessed the accident and went for help. No PFDs were on board. The water temperature was only 34 degrees, so sudden immersion into cold water (cold-water shock) is a major factor. Alcohol may have been a factor. The victim was a poor swimmer and an inexperienced boater, and he had no formal instruction in boating safety. The Beaver Falls dive team found the victim's body the following day.

39. 1 Fatality
4/19/08

Raystown Lake
3:30 p.m.

Huntingdon County
Saturday

A 53-year-old man lost his life when he was overcome by carbon monoxide from his 26-foot cabin motorboat. The boat has twin inboard-outboard drives. The victim and a friend launched the boat but had forgotten to put in the boat plug. The victim started the engine and told his friend that water was coming into the engine compartment through the plug hole. He told his friend to grab the bow rope and pull the boat over to the dock. The victim then removed his shoes, socks and shirt and waded into the water to screw the plug into the lower part of the exterior stern of the boat. According to the surviving boater, the victim was gone about four minutes when he became concerned. He walked down the dock to the back of the boat to look for the victim. Seeing no one, he called for help. A spectator responded and saw the victim under the water's surface. Using a boat hook, the spectator brought the victim to the surface then, with assistance, onto the dock. Another spectator who had stopped to assist began CPR immediately. Emergency response was called and the victim was transported to the hospital. Blood tests proved that the victim had been overcome by carbon monoxide gas which caused an anoxic brain injury. The victim did not wear a life jacket although life jacket use was

not a factor in this accident. Alcohol was a factor. The boat operator was an experienced boater but had no formal instruction in boating safety. The victim passed away on Monday following the accident.

40.	1 Fatality	Susquehanna River	Lancaster County
	5/21/08	10:30 a.m.	Wednesday

A 24-year-old angler lost his life when he apparently fell overboard from his 17-foot open motorboat. There were no witnesses to the accident. The victim's boat was found by other boaters aground on top of some logs. The ignition key was in the on position. A dog, fishing equipment and other items was in the boat but the operator could not be found. Prop cut evidence on the logs indicated that the boat had impacted the logs with the motor still running. A search was started with no success. Life jackets were onboard but not worn. The boat operator was an experienced boater but had no formal instruction in boating safety. The victim was a disabled war veteran with his right arm amputated above the elbow. He was a below average swimmer. The water temperature was 62 degrees so sudden immersion into cold water or hypothermia may have been a factor. The victim's body was recovered seven days later.

41.	1 Fatality	Schuylkill River	Philadelphia County
	6/28/08	approximately 1:15 p.m.	Saturday

A 57-year-old woman lost her life when she was found in her capsized 6-foot kayak with the spray skirt still in place. The victim was wearing a life jacket and a helmet. She was a very experienced paddler but was boating alone. She may have been practicing rolls. The spray skirt on the kayak was tight fitting. Also, the pull strap for the spray skirt was on the inside of the boat rather than on the outside where it could be grasped by the paddler. This would have made it very difficult for the victim to remove the spray skirt in order to escape when she found herself upside down and unable to right the boat. The victim could swim but it is unknown if she had any formal instruction in boating safety.

42.	1 Fatality	Susquehanna River	Bradford County
	7/8/08	7:00 p.m.	Tuesday

A 62-year old angler lost his life when he apparently fell overboard from his 11-foot open motorboat. The victim went fishing and was last seen by his daughter. At approximately 7:00 p.m. the victim's son-in-law found the boat floating empty about 300 yards downstream of the last seen location. The boat was partially filled with water. A type III life jacket and various fishing equipment were in the boat. The motor was in gear, forward, mid throttle position. Two type IV life jackets were located on the river approximately one mile downstream. A search was conducted with no success. The victim was a good swimmer but had a history of heart problems and is diabetic. He was a very experienced boater but had no formal instruction in boating safety. The victim's body was recovered on 7/11/08.

43.	1 Fatality	Susquehanna River	Northumberland County
	8/3/08	6:00 p.m.	Sunday

A 19-year old man lost his life when the 17-foot canoe he and three others were paddling swamped then capsized in the hydraulic current below the Sunbury Generation

LLC power company dam in Shamokin Dam. The paddlers made a decision to cross the dam upstream, even though it was a clearly marked run-of-the river low-head dam exclusionary zone, and did not think there would be a problem. However, when they approached the dam they realized that they could not get up over it and were unable to turn back due to the hydraulic current. They tried to go toward an island, paddling parallel to the dam but the boat was drawn to the dam by the hydraulic current, got stuck, filled with water and capsized putting everyone in the circulating hydraulic below the dam. The victim began having a lot of trouble. His brother tried to get the victim to put on a life jacket but was unable to do so. Just as another boat arrived, the victim disappeared. The three survivors were transported to the hospital. The boat was properly equipped with life jackets. However, the victim was either not wearing one, or was wearing one that was improperly fastened, at the time of the accident. The victim was a below average swimmer. It is unknown, but doubtful, if the victim had any boating experience or formal instruction in boating safety. The victim's body was recovered on 8/5/08.

44.	1 Fatality 9/7/08	Raystown Lake 2:25 p.m.	Huntingdon County Sunday
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A 34-year-old angler lost his life when the 14-foot canoe he was paddling with his brother in law capsized. When the boat suddenly capsized the surviving paddler had a very difficult time holding on to the canoe and could not assist the victim who disappeared very quickly. Life jackets were onboard but not worn. The victim was a poor swimmer. Waterways conservation officers responded to the scene quickly and began an immediate search for the victim. This search included a surface and in-water approach. A waterways conservation officer spotted the victim and recovered his body after about thirty minutes. CPR was ineffective. The victim was an inexperienced boater. It is unknown if the victim had any formal instruction in boating safety.

45.	1 Fatality 9/27/08	Promised Land Lake 8:15 a.m.	Pike County Saturday
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A 56-year-old angler lost his life when the 16-foot canoe in which he was fishing apparently capsized. There were no witnesses to this accident. The victim's body was found floating near a dock in a couple feet of water. A paddle was located near the victim. A canoe, with a fishing pole and a wearable life jacket underneath, was found some ways away, capsized floating against the shoreline. The victim was not wearing a life jacket. The victim was an inexperienced boater. It is unknown if the victim could swim or had any formal instruction in boating safety.

46.	1 Fatality 10/18/08	Susquehanna River 6 p.m.	Wyoming County Saturday
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A 44-year-old paddler lost his life during a float trip in a canoe on the river. It is unknown how he ended up in the water. There were two people on board at the beginning of the trip. They were attempting to make it to the access and meet the survivor's wife who was to pick them up. According to the survivor, the river was lower than expected and they had a very difficult time getting through several areas of the river. An argument ensued and the survivor got a property owner to give him a ride to the access. The property owner thought it strange that the survivor would leave his

friend behind and finally convinced him to call 911 from the access. Rescue crews were called out to search for the victim and found his body floating face down in the river at the shoreline immediately adjacent to the canoe. The gear was in the canoe and it did not appear to have tipped over. The water temperature was 60 degrees so sudden immersion into cold water or hypothermia may have been a factor. Life jackets were onboard but not worn. Alcohol was a factor. The victim could swim and had some boating experience. It is unknown if he had any formal instruction in boating safety.

47.	1 Fatality	Susquehanna River	Lancaster County
	2/27/09	4:00 p.m.	Friday

A 58-year-old man lost his life when his 15-foot open motorboat swamped and flooded. Two men were using a boat to search for Native American artifacts on an island when the weather began to change. Increasing winds caused the river to get very rough. Ten yards from the tip of an island the boat operator/victim dug the bow of the boat into an oncoming wave, causing the boat to swamp and flood. Both men were wearing Type III PFDs. The passenger swam to shore but the victim decided to stay with the boat. The passenger ran to his cottage on the island and collected two kayaks to use to rescue the victim. By this time the swamped boat the victim was clinging to drifted approximately thirty yards from the shoreline. The passenger paddled to the victim but the victim could not enter the kayak. The victim then attempted to hang onto the kayak while the passenger paddled to shore, causing the passenger's kayak to capsize. The passenger again swam to shore and yelled to the victim to swim to safety. The victim made a few struggling attempts but was unsuccessful. The passenger then recovered the victim and performed rescue breathing without success. He then paddled to his home and called 911. The water temperature was 38 degrees so cold water shock and/or hypothermia were major factors in this accident. The victim was an average swimmer, an experienced boater but had no formal instruction in boating safety.

48.	1 Fatality	Juniata River	Mifflin County
	4/5/09	4:00 p.m.	Sunday

A 65-year-old man lost his life when his 14-foot open motorboat swamped and flooded. The victim had gone boating with his wife and 6-year-old grandson. The victim improperly anchored the boat from the stern in the high swift river. Water immediately began flooding into the boat, causing it to swamp and flood. The victim's wife moved forward in the boat to attempt to stabilize it and the boat capsized. All three occupants were pulled from the water approximately 400 yards downstream by shore-line anglers. The boat was not legally equipped with PFDs. The child was wearing an adult-sized life jacket, the only wearable PFD on board. Two Type IV throwable PFDs were also onboard. The male operator was given CPR at the scene but never revived. He could swim but had a history of cardiac issues. His wife was transported to the hospital where she went into cardiac arrest but recovered. The child was treated for mild hypothermia and released. The water temperature was 49 degrees so cold water shock and/or hypothermia were major factors in this accident. The victim was an experienced boater but had no formal instruction in boating safety.

49.	1 Fatality	Delaware River	Northampton County
	4/25/09	2:00 a.m.	Saturday

An 18-year-old man lost his life when the 17-foot canoe he was paddling with three others capsized. Nine persons, all in their teens, borrowed a canoe and paddled out to an island in the river. At approximately 2:00 a.m., two males and two females boarded the canoe to travel back. There were no PFDs onboard the canoe. As they paddled back, the canoe turned sideways in the current and capsized. Two females and one of the males swam to shore. Although the victim could swim, he did not make it. His body was found approximately 150 feet downstream from where the boat capsized at 12:36 p.m. Alcohol may have been a factor. The water temperature was 48-50 degrees so cold water shock and/or hypothermia were major factors in this accident. Neither of the two paddlers was experienced boaters and they had no formal instruction in boating safety.

50.	2 Fatalities	Brandywine Creek	Chester County
	6/9/09	2:00 p.m.	Tuesday

A 28-year-old man and his 34-year-old brother lost their lives when they intentionally paddled their borrowed 10-foot kayaks over a low-head dam on the rain-swollen creek at Brandywine Picnic Park. The two brothers passed the dam warning signs approximately 300 yards upstream from the dam. They were then hailed by a life guard who was stationed upstream from the dam to keep people away from it. She told the brothers not to go over the dam, but to portage around instead. One of the brothers waved to her and said: "we're fine." He then went over the dam, was immediately caught in the hydraulic and began calling for help. The other brother attempted to exit his kayak before going over the dam. He too became caught in the hydraulic and began calling for help. An attempt by two park employees to rescue the brothers failed due to lack of equipment and the conditions of the river. They could see the two victims being repeatedly circulated below the dam in the hydraulic but could do nothing about it. Both men were wearing PFDs although the second victim's PFD was not secured properly and came off once he began circulating in the hydraulic below the dam. Alcohol may have been a factor. The water temperature was 67 degrees so cold water shock may have been a factor. It is unknown if either of the victims had any formal instruction in boating safety. Neither victim has been issued a boating safety education certificate in Pennsylvania but both were from out-of-state. It is unknown if the first victim had any boating experience. The second victim had some paddling experience. Both victims could swim. The first victim's body was recovered at the scene by fire rescue personnel who attempted to revive him with no success. The second victim's body was recovered four days later.

51.	1 Fatality	Beaver River	Lawrence County
	6/27/09	8:17 p.m.	Saturday

A 46-year-old man lost his life when the 15-foot canoe he was paddling with another person capsized after getting caught in a strainer (log jam). After the canoe capsized, the victim held onto the jam and motioned for the other paddler to come to him. When the other paddler got to the victim he was unconscious. She stayed with him and kept his head out of the water until rescued by emergency response personnel. Unfortunately, the victim was pronounced dead on arrival at the hospital. The water temperature was 70 degrees so cold water shock was a possible factor. Both people onboard the canoe were wearing life jackets. The victim could swim and was an inexperienced paddler but had no formal instruction in boating safety.

52.	1 Fatality 7/3/09	Delaware River 9:00 p.m.	Philadelphia County Friday
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An 11-year-old boy lost his life when he fell overboard from a 16-foot open motorboat. A 43-year-old man also lost his life in an attempted swimming rescue (not a boating fatality). The boat was at anchor when the victim removed his life jacket. A Commission Waterways Conservation Officer had earlier assisted the victim (when the boat was being launched) by properly fitting a Type II PFD on the victim. This event was filmed by a local news crew. Unfortunately, at some time after the boat was launched the boy took off the PFD. After the victim fell overboard, the boat operator jumped into the water, grabbed the boy and called for help. Unfortunately, the remaining adult on board was an inexperienced boater and could not affect a rescue and both victims disappeared. The boy could swim. Neither victim was wearing a life jacket although the boat was legally equipped with PFDs. The operator was an experienced boater and had taken a Commission boating course. The man's body was recovered the following day; the boy's two days later.

53.	1 Fatality 7/10/09	Susquehanna River 7:30 p.m.	Clinton County Friday
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A 12-year-old girl lost her life when the 18-foot open motorboat in which she was a passenger collided with a 20-foot cabin motorboat. The operator of the 20-foot cabin motorboat has been charged with homicide by watercraft while under the influence of alcohol. He was traveling at a high rate of speed and operating recklessly when he suddenly veered toward the 18-foot motorboat striking it and killing the little girl. The operator of the 18-foot motorboat was engaged in water skiing and saw the cabin motorboat approaching. He was operating close to shore trying to keep clear of the speeding oncoming watercraft. Five people were injured in this accident. Alcohol was a major factor in this accident. Both boats were equipped with PFDs but PFD use was not a factor in this collision. Both boat operators were very experienced boaters. The operator who was under the influence and who caused the accident had taken a Commission boating course. It is unknown if the other operator had any formal instruction in boating safety.

54.	1 Fatality 8/15/09	Susquehanna River 2:30 a.m.	York county Saturday
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A 30-year-old man lost his life when he apparently fell overboard from a 12-foot open motorboat. Two brothers took a 12-foot Sears V-hull motorboat out on the river. This boat is well known for its instability. The operator was wearing a PFD and claims that he asked his brother, the victim, to wear one also but the victim refused. No other PFDs were found onboard the boat. The victim either fell overboard or jumped into the water on his own. The victim could swim. The survivor claims that the victim was holding a flashlight when he went overboard. The operator was an experienced boater but had no formal instruction in boating safety. The victim's body was found the following day.

55.	1 Fatality 8/23/09	Delaware River 1:40 p.m.	Pike County Sunday
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A 36-year-old man lost his life when the 10-foot commercial inflatable raft he was

paddling capsized. Three fellow paddlers made it to shore but the victim disappeared. He was not wearing a life jacket although there were wearable PFDs onboard. The victim was an average swimmer and managed to float for approximately ¼ mile in the strong current before disappearing. A park ranger attempted to rescue the victim by throwing him a PFD with no success. The ranger then entered the water to attempt a swimming rescue but the victim went under and did not resurface. It is unknown if the victim had any boating experience or formal instruction in boating safety. The victim's body was recovered more than four miles downstream three days later.

56.	1 Fatality	Youghiogheny Reservoir	Somerset County
	8/31/09	12:30 p.m.	Monday

A 47-year-old man lost his life when he was ejected from a 16-foot open motorboat. Apparently, the boat struck a wake causing the operator to be thrown out of the boat. The boat began to circle and the only passenger was unable to get the boat stopped quickly. The victim was not wearing a life jacket although there were wearable PFDs onboard. The passenger threw a Type IV PFD to the victim but he disappeared before he could reach it. The victim was an average swimmer and an experienced boat operator but had no formal instruction in boating safety. The victim's body was recovered on 9/2/09.

57.	1 Fatality	Delaware River	Delaware County
	10/30/09	approximately 3:00 a.m.	Friday

A 24-year-old man is missing from an accident where his 15-foot open motorboat swamped and flooded. The victim decided to launch his boat after drinking for several hours at a local bar. He was accompanied by a friend. Shortly after leaving the dock, the motor stalled and water started to enter the boat. The boat was about 100 feet from shore when the survivor decided to swim to safety. The victim told the passenger that he was going to stay with the boat and attempt to get the motor started. The survivor made it back to the ramp with difficulty. Two construction workers gave him dry clothes and called the Coast Guard. The boat was recovered downstream in the state of Delaware still afloat but completely flooded. Upon inspection, it was noted that the boat's plug was not inserted into the drain hole which most likely caused the boat to swamp and flood. The victim is missing as of the date of this report. The boat was not registered and there were no PFDs onboard. Alcohol and cold water shock were major factors in this accident. The victim was an inexperienced boater with no formal instruction in boating safety. Additional information will be available once the investigator's report is received.

58.	1 Fatality	Red Moshannon Creek	Clearfield County
	3/27/10	2:00 p.m.	Saturday

A 62-year-old paddler lost his life when he capsized his 9-foot kayak. The victim was competing in a down-river race when he capsized and was ejected from his kayak. A witness on the water stated that the victim struggled, trying to maintain contact with his boat and paddle. The witness threw a rope to the victim but he made no attempt to grab it. Another person threw a rope and it was also ignored. The victim tried to swim to a bridge pier in the middle of the creek, rather than towards shore. He stopped and lost consciousness, rolling to a face-down position. Rescue personnel picked him up and

took him to shore. This took about two minutes. Emergency response performed CPR and administered oxygen. He was transported to Clearfield hospital by EMS then life flighted to UPMC in Pittsburgh where he passed away on March 30th. The victim could swim and was a very experienced boater. It is unknown if he had any formal instruction in boating safety. The water was 36 degrees so sudden immersion into cold water (cold water shock) was a major factor. The victim was wearing a manually inflatable PFD but it was never deployed.

59.	2 Fatalities	Allegheny River	Allegheny County
	4/10/10	2:30 p.m.	Saturday

A 26-year-old angler and a 59-year-old angler lost their lives when their 16-foot open motorboat capsized when it was drawn into a low head dam by the recirculating current. There were three men onboard the boat when they approached the Lock #3 dam from downstream and got too close. The boat slipped sideways and began to take on water over the bow. It soon capsized putting all three men into the hydraulic below the dam. The boat's operator made it to shore but the two passengers drowned. There were no buoys marking the dam at this time of year. The older victim was a poor swimmer, the younger one was an average swimmer. The water temperature was 58 degrees so hypothermia or sudden immersion into cold water (cold water shock) may have been factors. The boat was adequately equipped with wearable PFDs but the victims did not wear them. The operator was an experienced boater had no formal instruction in boating safety. The bodies were recovered the same day by emergency response personnel.

60.	1 Fatality	Lake Winola	Wyoming County
	5/7/10	1:00 p.m.	Friday

A 16-year-old woman lost her life when the 18-foot open motorboat in which she was a passenger collided with a 25-foot barge used for pile-driving on the lake. The operator was the father of the victim and did not see the barge until the last moment when it was too late to avoid the collision. There were four people onboard the motorboat. The operator was on plane, travelling at a high rate of speed when the collision occurred. The barge was moving slowly around the lake when the operator saw the motorboat turn and head directly toward him. He tried to wave the approaching boat off with no success. Upon impact, the victim was ejected from the vessel and struck the water, never resurfacing. The autopsy report indicated that the victim had drowned. She was an average swimmer but the water was 64 degrees so sudden immersion into cold water (cold water shock) may have been a factor. The victim has a head injury, most likely from striking the barge before entering the water, which may also have been a factor. The operator and another passenger (his son) were both seriously injured. The boat was legally equipped with PFDs but they were not worn by anyone onboard. The operator was an inexperienced boater who had very little time at the wheel of this newly purchased boat. The operator and his children (including the victim) had recently completed an approved U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary classroom boating course. The victim's body was found the same day by dive personnel.

61.	1 Fatality	Memorial Lake	Lebanon County
	5/15/10	1:30 p.m.	Saturday

A 67-year-old paddler lost her life when the 16-foot canoe she and her husband were

paddling capsized. The couple struggled to stay afloat. A couple in a fishing boat on the lake noticed the struggling couple and arrived about five minutes after they went into the water. The rescuers pulled the victim into their boat and began CPR on the now unconscious paddler. Emergency response was waiting on shore and all efforts were made but the victim passed away two days later. The water temperature was 61 degrees so sudden immersion into cold water (cold water shock) was a factor. The boat was adequately equipped with wearable PFDs but the victim did not wear one. Both paddlers could swim but were very inexperienced boaters and had no formal instruction in boating safety. They had purchased the boat two days before the accident.

62.	1 Fatality	Lake Galena	Bucks County
	5/25/10	unknown	Tuesday

A 63-year-old paddler lost his life when he apparently fell overboard while fishing from his 10-foot kayak. His boat was found floating in the lake, upright and dry, but unoccupied. The victim was an experienced boater who was reported missing after not returning from his fishing trip. The victim could swim. It is unknown, but unlikely, that the victim had any formal instruction in boating safety. The boat was adequately equipped with PFDs but the victim did not wear one. Alcohol was a probable factor in this accident. The victim's body was recovered three days later.

63.	1 Fatality	Lake Arthur	Butler County
	7/24/10	2:15 p.m.	Saturday

A 37-year-old man lost his life when he drowned while swimming from his 22-foot auxiliary sailboat. The victim was swimming with his 4-year old daughter when wind moved the drifting boat away from the swimmers. The victim began having trouble staying afloat and called for help. His wife tried to throw him a type IV PFD but with no success. She did not know how to start the boat's motor or sail the vessel. She called for help and a nearby boat responded. The victim was brought onboard the responders boat and CPR was started. CPR was continued on shore then the victim was life flighted to the hospital but, unfortunately, did not recover. The boat was equipped with PFDs but the victim did not wear one. He could swim but was an inexperienced boater with no formal instruction in boating safety.

64.	1 Fatality	Allegheny River	Venango County
	4/17/11	3:40 p.m.	Sunday

A 56-year-old male paddler lost his life when his 17-foot kayak capsized. The victim was paddling with a friend on the rain swollen waters of the Allegheny River when he capsized. The witness on the water stated that when he looked back upstream to see where the victim was he saw what appeared to be the victim struggling with the kayak. The witness then paddled to shore and called 911. Two rescue boats arrived on scene. The Rockland Volunteer Fire Department rescue boat retrieved the victim who was wearing a Type III life jacket and was found face down in the water. The victim was transported to UPMC Northwest by EMS where he was pronounced dead. It is not known if the victim could swim but the victim was an experienced boater. The victim had no formal instruction in boating safety. The water temperature was 49 degrees so sudden immersion into cold water (cold water shock) was a major factor.

65.	1 Fatality	Fishing Creek	Columbia County
	5/7/11	6:10 p.m.	Saturday

A 37-year-old male paddler lost his life when his 9.5-foot kayak capsized while attempting to paddle over a low-head dam. The victim, who was wearing a lifejacket and could swim, was thrown from the kayak when his bow hit the boil and was forced under. The victim gained footing for a short time but was caught by the recirculating current. The victim's paddling companions made several unsuccessful attempts to rescue him, and after several minutes, he was ejected from the boil and recovered by a member of his party. Emergency personnel administered CPR and transported the victim to Bloomsburg Hospital where he was pronounced dead. The water temperature was 55 degrees so sudden immersion into cold water (cold water shock) were factors. Another member of the paddling party was treated for hypothermia. The operator was wearing a Type III PFD and was an experienced boater but had no formal instruction in boating safety.

66.	1 Fatality	Kahle Lake	Venango County
	5/8/11	Unknown	Sunday

A 59-year-old man lost his life when he capsized or fell overboard from his 10-foot open motorboat. His intact and buckled Type III PFD and boat were recovered by search teams the following day. There were no witnesses to this accident. The water temperature was 55 degrees so hypothermia or sudden immersion into cold water (cold water shock) may have been factors. It is not known if the victim could swim. The victim was an experienced boater but did not have any formal instruction in boating safety. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket.

67.	1 Fatality	Mahoning Creek	Armstrong County
	5/21/11	5:45 p.m.	Saturday

A 61-year-old man lost his life when his 14-foot canoe capsized. The victim was seated in the front of a canoe which was carrying two other passengers. Shortly after embarking on the rain-swollen creek, the overloaded canoe capsized and all three were ejected. Two passengers, only one of whom was wearing a lifejacket, made it to shore. The victim could not swim. He had removed his life jacket earlier and was not wearing a lifejacket at the time of the incident. The victim's body was recovered the following morning. The victim had no formal boating safety education but was an experienced boater. The water temperature was 56 degrees so hypothermia or sudden immersion into cold water (cold water shock) may have been factors.

68.	1 Fatality	Youghioghny River	Fayette County
	5/21/11	3:20 p.m.	Saturday

A 31-year-old man lost his life when his 12-foot kayak capsized. The victim was paddling with a friend on the Youghioghny River when the friend capsized and swam to shore. The victim remained in his boat and attempted to retrieve his friend's kayak downstream then disappeared from view due to a bend in the river. The victim's empty kayak was observed traveling over the South Connellsville Dam a short while later. Both kayaks had wearable PFDs shoved into the bow but neither paddler was wearing a lifejacket. The kayaks were designed to be used on flatwater, not whitewater, and neither had spray skirts. The victim had no whitewater paddling experience and no

formal boating safety education. It is not known if the victim could swim. Water levels were three times the normal level. The air temperature was in the low 80s and the water temperature was in the low 50s so hypothermia or sudden immersion into cold water (cold water shock) may have been factors.

69.	1 Fatality	Lehigh River	Lehigh County
	5/25/11	7:30 p.m.	Wednesday

A 53-year-old woman lost her life when she launched a 13-foot fiberglass canoe to rescue two dogs that appeared to be swept downstream by the strong current. One hour later the empty canoe was discovered approximately ½ mile downstream from where she launched. Her body was recovered at Kimmet's Lock eight miles downstream the following weekend. The air temperature was in the upper 70s but the water temperature was 63 degrees. The victim was not properly dressed for the water temperature and was not wearing a lifejacket. In fact, there were no lifejackets onboard. The water temperature was in the low 60s so hypothermia or sudden immersion into cold water (cold water shock) may have been factors. The victim had a health condition that may have contributed to her drowning. It is unknown if the victim could swim. The victim had some boating experience but no formal boating safety education.

70.	1 Fatality	Delaware River	Pike County
	5/28/11	2:30 p.m.	Saturday

A 71-year-old man lost his life when he fell overboard while rafting on a rented 12-foot inflatable raft. The victim was rafting with three other passengers on the Delaware River when they encountered a set of rapids in the area of Butler's Riff. According to the passengers on the raft, the victim went under and never resurfaced. The victim and other passengers onboard were not wearing lifejackets. The victim was an experienced boater but had no formal boating safety education. Water levels were high and the current was swift. Sudden immersion into cold water (cold water shock) and the physical condition of the victim may have been factors. In addition, alcohol use may have been a factor. The victim's body was recovered two days later, approximately 20 miles from the original search site.

71.	1 Fatality	Lake Erie	Erie County
	5/30/11	6:25 p.m.	Monday

A 25-year-old woman lost her life when the 32-foot cabin motorboat she was onboard caught fire and exploded. The boat's operator was having trouble starting the engine after refueling the boat's fuel tanks. There was an issue with the fuel tank and vent and when the engine turned over it ignited the fuel causing an explosion. There were five others injured in the accident. Of the six passengers onboard, the victim and four others were not wearing lifejackets. Only one passenger, an infant, was wearing a lifejacket and escaped with minor injuries. It is not known if the victim could swim although it would not have been a factor in survival. The operator of the boat was not an experienced boater and had no formal boating safety education.

72.	1 Fatality	Foster Joseph Sayers Dam	Centre County
	6/3/11	5:00 p.m.	Friday

A 70-year-old man lost his life when he fell overboard while trying to launch an 18-foot

pontoon boat. The boat operator and victim were preparing to launch the pontoon boat that was moored in the marina. The victim was on the dock and released the dock lines. As he attempted to board the boat, a wind gust caught the boat and pushed it away from the dock. The victim held on to the railing, was pulled off the dock and fell into the water. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket but was conscious when he surfaced. The operator threw a Type IV throwable PFD to the victim but the victim did not reach for the device and then went face down in the water. The operator jumped in the water to assist but was unable to keep the victim from sinking. The victim's body was recovered by a DCNR Ranger approximately 20 minutes after the incident. Lifesaving efforts were unsuccessful and the victim was pronounced dead at the hospital. The operator of the boat was an experienced boater but had no formal boating safety education. It is not known if the victim was able to swim. The victim's health and physical condition may have been factors.

73.	1 Fatality 6/14/11	Canoe Creek Lake 7:38 a.m.	Blair County Tuesday
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A 71-year-old man lost his life when he apparently fell overboard from his 11-foot aluminum open motorboat. Evidence indicated that the victim fell overboard and attempted to get back in the boat but was unsuccessful. He was found approximately 100 yards from the boat with one arm in a Type III PFD. The lifejacket was buckled so it is likely that the victim was not wearing a lifejacket when the accident occurred. The victim was known to not wear a lifejacket when boating. It is unknown if the victim could swim. The cause of death has been ruled an accidental drowning. The victim's health and physical condition may have been factors. The victim was an experienced boater but it is not know if the victim had any formal boating safety education.

74.	1 Fatality 6/15/11	Susquehanna River 4:12 p.m.	Dauphin County Wednesday
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A 41-year-old man lost his life when his 9.5-foot kayak went over the Dock Street Dam and capsized. A witness observed the victim paddling across the current when he was swept over the dam in his kayak. The victim was considered a very inexperienced paddler and had purchased the kayak only a few days before the incident. The victim was not wearing a life jacket, although one was found in the boil of the dam along with an inflatable air bladder. The victim had not taken a formal boating safety education course. The victim could swim. The victim's body was recovered the same day, approximately ½ mile downstream of the dam.

75.	1 Fatality 7/2/11	Youghiogheny River Lake 2:15 p.m.	Somerset County Saturday
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A 50-year-old man lost his life when the 34-foot catamaran he was operating at high speed capsized. The customized speedboat was travelling at a high rate of speed on choppy water when the operator lost control. The vessel capsized and all four persons onboard were violently ejected. The passengers were rescued by boaters who witnessed the accident. The victim had been boating for fifteen years and on this body of water for the past four years so he was a very experienced boater but had no formal boating safety education. There were lifejackets onboard however they were not worn by the victim or passengers. The victim could swim. Alcohol may have been a factor. The victim's

body was recovered by divers in 110 feet of water near the accident site four days later.

76.	1 Fatality	Susquehanna River	Bradford County
	7/9/11	12:30 p.m.	Saturday

A 47-year-old man lost his life when his 12-foot open motorboat went through a sweeper (over hanging tree branch). The victim and a passenger were in the boat when it drifted into strong current and they got swept off their boat by an overhanging tree along the shoreline of an island. The victim and passenger both clung to a tree branch. Eventually, the passenger was unable to hold onto the tree any longer. He broke free from the tree and was washed into shallow water on the opposite shoreline downstream. The victim, who remained trapped, continued to struggle and call for help. The victim then went under water. His body and boat were found trapped under the surface by a strainer. There were two lifejackets on board but they were not worn. The victim was an average swimmer had been boating since he was a child so he was a very experienced boater but had no formal boating safety education.

77.	1 Fatality	Susquehanna River	Lancaster County
	7/18/11	Unknown	Monday

A 61-year-old man lost his life while boating on his 16-foot open motorboat. The victim's body was found in shallow water by local fire personnel and police with the boat nearby. The victim was wearing a lifejacket. The victim drowned but health or heat related issues may have contributed to the fatality. It is unknown if the victim could swim. The victim was an experienced boater but did not have any formal boating safety education.

78.	1 Fatality	Lake Erie	Erie County
	7/27/11	6:15 p.m.	Wednesday

A 27-year-old man lost his life when he drowned while swimming from a 27-foot sailboat. The victim was onboard the sailboat while it was adrift and decided to take a swim. After about a minute the victim became labored and distressed. A passenger onboard the sailboat threw a Type III PFD to the victim who was unable to recover it. The passenger then entered the water to assist the distressed victim but was unable to recover him due to the victim going beneath the surface of the water. Emergency personnel were able to recover the body via side scan sonar approximately 6 hours later. All required safety equipment was onboard the boat at the time of the incident, however the victim was not wearing a lifejacket at the time of the incident. The victim's swimming skills are unknown. The operator of the boat was an experienced boater and had taken a formal boating safety course.

79.	1 Fatality	Mauch Chunk Lake	Carbon County
	7/30/11	1:10 p.m.	Saturday

An 88-year-old angler was fishing from his 9-foot open motorboat when it capsized. Commission Waterways Conservation Officers arrived at the location of the capsized boat and found the angler unconscious. Officers retrieved the angler from the water and performed CPR. The victim was transported via patrol boat to EMS staff on shore then air-lifted to the hospital where he was pronounced dead. The small boat was unstable due to its unique size and shape. The boat was equipped with life jackets however the

victim was not wearing one. The victim's health and physical condition may have been factors. It is unknown if the victim could swim. The victim was an experienced boater but did not have any formal boating safety education.

80.	1 Fatality	Raystown Lake	Huntingdon County
	7/31/11	7:30 a.m.	Sunday

A 54-year-old angler and a passenger were fishing from his 19-foot open motorboat when he suddenly fell overboard. The victim did not surface and repeated attempts by the passenger and nearby boaters did not produce the victim. The victim's body was recovered by a dive unit 3 hours later. The boat was equipped with lifejackets however no one onboard was wearing one. The victim's health and physical condition may have been a factor. It is unknown if the victim could swim. The boat operator was an experienced boater but it is unknown if the victim had any formal boating safety education.

81.	1 Fatality	Lehigh River	Lehigh County
	8/7/11	4:30 p.m.	Sunday

A 34-year-old male drowned when his kayak capsized. The victim was paddling downstream with three other kayakers when he capsized. His fellow kayakers saw he was in distress and eventually reached him and brought him to shore. An ambulance transported him to a local hospital where he died one hour later. PA State Police ruled it an accidental death. The cause of death was drowning and toxicology reports are pending. The investigation is ongoing.

82.	1 Fatality	Delaware River	Philadelphia County
	8/13/11	10:15 p.m.	Saturday

A 46-year-old male lost his life after entering the water from an 18-foot open motorboat to swim. The victim and four others had been at anchor on the river while listening to a concert. They later were underway when, at some point, three of the passengers entered the water to swim. One of the subjects noticed the victim struggling and observed him going under the water. The victim's body was recovered 6 days later and an autopsy ruled his death a drowning. The boat was equipped with lifejackets however no one onboard was wearing one. It is unknown if the victim could swim. The boat operator was an experienced boater and had taking a formal boating safety education course. Drug/alcohol use may have been a factor.

83.	1 Fatality	Hemlock Lake	Indiana County
	8/27/11	4:05pm	Saturday

A 63-year-old male lost his life when he fell from a 12-foot open motorboat. The victim and his son were fishing and shifted their weight to the same side of the boat to view something in the water. This caused the boat to capsize, ejecting both passengers. The son was able to swim to shore. The father held on to a seat from the boat but the seat was not designed to be a flotation aid. The boat, equipped with an electric motor that was still in gear, returned upright and continued down the lake. The body of the victim was recovered the next morning. All required safety equipment was onboard the boat at the time of the incident, however the victim was not wearing a lifejacket at the time of

the incident. The victim's swimming skills are unknown. The victim was an experienced boater, but the victim had no formal boating safety education. The victim's health and physical condition may have been factors.

84.	1 Fatality	Pinchot Lake	York County
	8/27/11	9:00 a.m.	Saturday

A 61-year-old male lost his life when his 26-foot rowing scull capsized. Witnesses report that the victim yelled for help and was unable to free himself from the scull. The victim was underwater for approximately 5 minutes before other boaters were able to pull him into a fishing boat and take him to shore. The victim had suffered a massive heart attack. He was admitted to the hospital and in critical condition for three days before being removed from life support and pronounced dead. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket and there were no lifejackets onboard. Life jacket use was not a factor in the victim's demise. It is unknown if the victim could swim. The victim was an experienced boater but it is unknown if he had any formal boating safety education.

85.	1 Fatality	Lake Marburg	York County
	9/2/11	6:30 p.m.	Friday

A 64-year-old male lost his life when he fell overboard from his 22-foot pontoon boat. There was a report of an intoxicated boat operator out on the lake and officers responded. When officers were searching for the boat they found it in a boat slip with the motor still running and the navigation lights on. The victim was found floating face down in the water near his boat. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket but there were lifejackets onboard. The victim's swimming skills are unknown. The victim was an experienced boater, but the victim had no formal boating safety education. Alcohol use was a factor and the victim's health and physical condition may have also been factors.

86.	1 Fatality	Susquehanna River	Lancaster County
	1/28/12	10:45 p.m.	Saturday

A 24-year-old male paddler lost his life when his kayak capsized. The victim was paddling with a friend to an island on the Susquehanna River where they had previously camped. They encountered rough waters and the victim's kayak overturned. His friend tried to assist but the victim panicked and pulled his friend into the water. The friend then swam to shore and called 911 and last witnessed the victim holding onto his kayak as it floated downstream. The victim's body was recovered March 11th. Both paddlers were wearing USCG approved lifejackets and had over 500 hours of paddling experience but had no formal instruction in boating safety. The water temperature was 38 degrees Fahrenheit so hypothermia or sudden immersion into cold water (cold water shock) may have been factors.

87.	1 Fatality	Driscoll Pond	Sullivan County
	3/20/12	8:30 p.m.	Tuesday

A 31-year-old male lost his life when he fell overboard off his 12-foot open motorboat while standing up in the boat. The passengers onboard tried pulling the victim from the water and into the bow of the small craft. Due to the increased weight in the bow of the boat and improper loading, the vessel took on water and capsized within seconds. When the vessel capsized the victim and the other two passengers entered the water. One of the passengers attempted to save the victim, a reported non-swimmer, but was unable to swim to the boat while aiding the victim. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket and

there were no lifejackets found on board the vessel. Alcohol use and sudden immersion into cold water (cold water shock) may have been factors. The victim was an experienced boater but had no formal instruction in boating safety.

88.	1 Fatality	Allegheny River	Warren County
	5/19/12	5:30 p.m.	Saturday

A 32-year-old male lost his life after the rented 10-foot kayak he was paddling capsized. The victim was unable to recover and started screaming for help. The three other kayakers with whom he was paddling were approximately 150 yards away and unable to assist due to the swift current. The victim was last seen going under the water. His body was recovered six days later. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket but there was a lifejacket on board the vessel. Alcohol use and sudden immersion into cold water (cold water shock) may have been factors. The victim was a novice boater and had no formal instruction in boating safety.

89.	1 Fatality	Ohio River	Allegheny County
	5/20/12	3:20 p.m.	Sunday

A 24-year-old female lost her life when the personal watercraft on which she was a passenger traveled too close to a dam. Both the operator and passenger were caught in the boil below the dam for an unknown period of time. Another boater pulled them from the water and they were treated by EMS personnel prior to transport to the hospital. The victim was pronounced dead at the hospital and the operator received minor injuries. Both were wearing life jackets prior to the accident. The watercraft has not been recovered. The operator was an experienced boater and had taken formal instruction in boating safety.

90.	1 Fatality	Lehigh River	Carbon County
	7/21/12	3:30 p.m.	Saturday

A 50-year-old female lost her life when she fell overboard from a commercial inflatable raft when it struck a rock. Upon impact, the victim and one of four other passengers onboard the raft were thrown into the water. Two passengers attempted to reach out to the victim with a paddle but were unsuccessful. The victim was then observed floating face down in the water. When the victim was retrieved from the water, she was unresponsive and not breathing. The victim was transported to a local hospital then life-flighted to a medical center where she was admitted to the intensive care unit. The victim was pronounced dead the following day. The coroner's report ruled the death a drowning. Witnesses report the victim was wearing a life jacket at the time of the incident but was not wearing a helmet. The victim was a non-swimmer, had no prior experience whitewater rafting and had not taken a formal boating safety course.

91.	1 Fatality	Allegheny River	Allegheny County
	7/25/12	9:00 p.m.	Wednesday

A 31-year-old male lost his life when he fell overboard from a 20-foot pontoon boat. The victim was outside of the passenger carrying area while the boat was underway and fell over the bow of the boat. The operator entered the water and tried to save the victim but was unsuccessful at putting a life jacket on the victim or holding onto the victim. The victim disappeared under the water. The body of the victim was recovered the following day. The operator was under the influence of alcohol and was arrested

for BUI. Alcohol use was a factor. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket but there were wearable lifejackets on board the vessel. The boat operator was an experienced boater but had no formal instruction in boating safety.

92. 2 Fatalities Raystown Lake Huntingdon County
 7/29/12 1:10 p.m. Sunday

Two males, ages 57 and 71, lost their lives when they left their 17-foot open motorboat (drifting) and entered the water. The younger victim was recovered immediately following the incident and was pronounced dead at the scene. The elder victim was recovered 9 ½ hours later. Neither victim was wearing a life jacket at the time of the incident however there were life jackets onboard. The boat operator was a very experienced boater but had no formal instruction in boating safety. Pre-existing health issues may have been a factor.

93. 1 Fatality Lake Arthur Butler County
 8/12/12 12:30 a.m. Sunday

A 42-year-old male lost his life when he presumably jumped or fell overboard from a 25-foot pontoon boat that was underway. The boat's operator noticed that one passenger was missing as he returned to the dock after several hours of being underway. The body of the victim was recovered the evening of the following day. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket but there were wearable lifejackets on board the vessel. The boat operator was a very experienced boater but had no formal instruction in boating safety. Alcohol use may have been a factor.

94. 2 Fatality Allegheny Reservoir McKean County
 11/11/12 12:28 p.m. Sunday

A 57-year-old male and 62-year-old female lost their lives when the 16-foot canoe in which they were paddling capsized. The victims were fishing on an usually warm day in November. The victims were not wearing lifejackets at the time of the incident however they were onboard. Sudden immersion into cold water (cold water shock) was a factor. The female victim was recovered within hours of the incident. The male victim was recovered days later. The boat operator was an experienced motorboat operator but had little experience paddling canoes and had no formal instruction in boating safety.

95. 1 Fatality Susquehanna River Lancaster County
 4/13/13 11:45 a.m. Saturday

A 57-year-old male lost his life when his 15-foot open motorboat capsized in strong currents. The victim had just recently purchased this boat and was traveling upstream with one passenger when the boat apparently capsized. Another boater in the area rescued the passenger. Neither occupant was wearing a life jacket however three life jackets were stowed onboard in the boat's compartments. Cold water shock may have been a factor as the water temperature was 58 degrees Fahrenheit. The passenger was treated and released at a local hospital. The victim was an experienced boat operator and it is unknown if he had any formal instruction in boating safety.

96. 1 Fatality Lake Wallenpaupack Wayne County

4/20/13

3:15 p.m.

Saturday

A 33-year-old male lost his life when he presumably fell overboard from his 18-foot open motorboat. The victim's boat was found empty, drifting just off-shore. Fishing rods with lines were still in the water, the motors were shut off, the keys were still in the ignition, and a fish finder and radio were still on. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket but there was a lifejacket on board the vessel. The water temperature was 45 degrees so sudden immersion into cold water (cold water shock) may have been a factor. The victim was an experienced boat operator but it is unknown if he had any formal instruction in boating safety.

97. 2 Fatalities
6/1/13

Susquehanna River
5:35 p.m.

Lancaster County
Saturday

A 20- and 21-year-old male drowned after the 10-foot open motorboat in which they were passengers capsized after taking on water. The operator held on to the overturned boat and eventually swam to shore. The passengers did not make it to shore. The victims were not wearing life jackets and there were none onboard. The operator was treated and released at a local hospital. The boat operator was experienced but had no formal instruction in boating safety. One of victims was recovered two days and the other three days after the incident.

98. 1 Fatality
6/12/13

Delaware River
3:45 p.m.

Northampton Co.
Wednesday

A 70-year-old male died after the 15-foot canoe in which he was paddling with three other individuals capsized. The river was high and swift and the canoe capsized in an area which is difficult to navigate even in normal water conditions. There were sufficient PFDs on board, however the victim was not wearing one but the other three passengers were. The three passengers made it to shore. The victim was observed face down in the water, was pulled to shore and transported to a local hospital where he was declared deceased. The victim was an experienced paddler but it is unknown if he had any formal instruction in boating safety.

99. 1 Fatality
6/14/13

Lackawaxen River
2:00 p.m.

Pike County
Friday

A 29-year-old male lost his life after capsizing his kayak on the Lackawaxen River while trying to maneuver through heavy moving rapids near Kimble's Bridge. Another kayaker who was paddling with the victim also capsized his kayak but managed to get to shore unharmed. He stated that he last saw the victim when they got separated around an island in the river. The victim was wearing a PFD at the time of the accident but the PFD and kayak were recovered approximately eight miles downstream from the initial accident location. The victim was an experienced canoeist but had no formal instruction in boating safety. Coldwater shock may have been a factor.

100.	1 Fatality 6/15/13	Lehigh River 1:00 p.m.	Northampton Co. Saturday
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A 53-year-old male lost his life after launching his 15-foot canoe in the river. The victim and three others were planning a canoe trip. When they arrived at the river and saw the high waters, the three others indicated they would not go on the trip. The victim decided to go alone. There were no lifejackets on board the boat. The victim was later recovered several miles downstream from the launch location. The victim was an experienced canoeist but had no formal instruction in boating safety. Coldwater shock may have been a factor.

101.	1 Fatality 6/15/13	Pymatuning Reservoir 5:00 p.m.	Crawford County Saturday
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A 48-year-old male drowned after leaving a 25-foot pontoon boat to rescue a female who voluntarily jumped off the same boat. The female began to panic in the water and the victim jumped in to help her. The victim began having trouble himself, and another male jumped in to assist. The victim went below the surface of the water before assistance could reach him. The female, who was able to hold on to a PFD, and the other male were retrieved by another boat. The victim's body was recovered four days later. Drug and alcohol use may have been a factor.

102.	1 Fatality 6/20/13	Juniata River 6:40 p.m.	Huntingdon County Thursday
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A 74-year-old male drowned after falling overboard from a 16-foot open motorboat while fishing. The operator was seated in the stern of the boat and cast a lure into a tree along the shoreline. The victim, who was seated in the bow, attempted to retrieve the lure from the tree, lost his balance and fell out of the boat. The operator was unsuccessful in his attempts to reach the victim. The victim submerged and was recovered by divers later that evening. Neither the victim nor the operator was wearing a lifejacket. The operator was an experienced boater but had no formal boating safety instruction.

103.	1 Fatality 7/6/13	Youghiogheny River 12:30 p.m.	Fayette County Saturday
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A 22-year-old male drowned after being ejected from a 12-foot inflatable whitewater raft. The guided boat hit Dimple Rock and capsized, ejecting the victim from the boat. It is suspected that entanglement or foot entrapment caused the victim to stay submerged under the water. The victim was wearing a PFD but it came off during the incident.

104.	1 Fatality 7/22/13	Beltzville Lake 6:00 a.m.	Carbon County Monday
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A 57-year-old male drowned after presumably falling overboard from his 17-foot open motorboat. Witnesses reported seeing the boat operating on plane then suddenly going out of control, and hearing a voice screaming for help coming from the watercraft. When emergency responders recovered the drifting boat, the operator was missing. The boat contained three wearable life jackets and one throwable device. The victim was an experienced boat operator but it is unknown if he had any formal instruction in boating safety. The victim was not wearing a life jacket at the time of the incident. His body was recovered eight days after the incident.

105.	1 Fatality	Stoneboro Lake	Mercer County
	9/27/13	4:22 a.m.	Friday

A 29-year-old male drowned after capsizing a 15-foot canoe on a private lake. The victim and two others unlawfully took a canoe from the launch area and propelled it with boards removed from the dock area. The canoe capsized and all three occupants entered the water. The victim attempted to swim to shore but became distressed. After unsuccessfully attempting to assist the victim, the two other occupants made their way to shore and called for help. There were no life jackets worn or onboard the boat. The victim's body was recovered five days later. Alcohol use may have been a factor.

106.	1 Fatality	Youghioghney River	Westmoreland Co.
	10/4/13	Evening	Friday

A 58-year-old male lost his life while kayaking on the Youghioghney River. An individual fishing from a boat found the victim's capsized kayak and contacted 911. The victim's body was recovered two days later. There was no PFD on the victim's body at the time of recovery. The victim was an experienced boat operator but it is unknown if he had any formal instruction in boating safety.

107.	1 Fatality	Delaware River	Bucks County
	10/8/13	1:00 p.m.	Tuesday

A 38-year-old male is missing and presumed dead after capsizing an 8-foot kayak on the Delaware River. The victim was using the kayak to travel between the shoreline and his anchored sailboat. At some point it appears the victim capsized and disappeared in the Delaware River in the Bensalem area. The victim was known to be a poor swimmer and to not wear a lifejacket. The water temperature was 64 degrees so sudden immersion into cold water (cold water shock) may have been a factor. The victim was not was an experienced boat operator and it is unknown if he had any formal instruction in boating safety.

108.	1 Fatality	Shenango River	Mercer County
	10/30/13	6:25 p.m.	Wednesday

A 47-year-old male drowned after the canoe he was paddling with two other occupants

capsized in strong current. The victim could swim and was assisting another occupant to shore when he went under. The other occupants successfully made their way to shore. The canoe contained PFDs in a storage bag but none were worn. The victim's body was recovered four days later. It is unknown if he had any formal instruction in boating safety. Cold water shock may have been a factor.

109.	1 Fatality 11/12/13	Susquehanna River Time Unknown	Wyoming County Tuesday
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A 52-year-old male was reported missing by his family after not returning from a fishing trip on the river. His truck and boat trailer were found at a private launch area along the river. His 15-foot open motorboat was found a few miles downstream the next morning, and the victim's body was recovered that afternoon. There was no PFD on the victim's body at the time of recovery. Three wearable PFDs were found onboard the boat. The victim was a very experienced boater. The water temperature was 42 degrees so cold water immersion may have been a factor.

110.	1 Fatality 11/15/13	Lake Wallenpaupack 11:00 p.m.	Pike County Friday
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A 24-year-old male is dead after the canoe in which he was an occupant capsized. A total of seven people in two canoes went canoeing on the lake. One canoe capsized resulting in its three occupants entering the water. These three people tried to board the second canoe (containing four occupants), causing it to capsize. Six of the occupants successfully swam to shore where two were transported to a local hospital and treated for hypothermia. A search ensued for the remaining victim whose body was recovered 1 ½ days later. None of the paddlers were wearing life jackets and there were none onboard the canoes. The water temperature was 42 degrees so cold water immersion may have been a factor.

111.	1 Fatality 3/1/14	West Branch Susquehanna River 10:40 a.m.	Clearfield County Saturday
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A 48-year-old male died after his 10-foot kayak capsized and he was pulled under a lengthy ice jam by the cold, swift current. Another kayaker who was paddling with him tried to assist but to no avail. The victim's body was recovered approximately 45 minutes after the incident and no life jacket was present. The victim was an inexperienced paddler and it is unknown if he had any formal instruction in boating safety. The victim's boat was recovered two days later. No other boating safety equipment was recovered. Water temperature was 37 degrees so cold water shock was a factor.

112.	1 Fatality 4/15/14	Tunkhannock Creek South Branch 2:00 p.m.	Wyoming County Tuesday
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A 54-year-old male died after failing to negotiate the rock ledges, drop offs and cold, fast-flowing water of the creek in a 12-foot canoe. The victim initially attempted a five-day kayak trip, but was unsuccessful and returned the following day with a canoe. When the victim was not seen or heard from after that point, a search ensued. The damaged canoe, two paddles, life jacket, and a cooler containing food were discovered 20 days later in Tunkhannock Creek. Two days later, the victim's body was discovered one mile downstream, clothed in a wetsuit but no life jacket was worn. The victim was an inexperienced paddler and it is unknown if he had any formal instruction in boating safety. Water temperature was in the upper-40s at the time of the incident so cold water shock was a factor. The Commission was notified of the discovery of the victim's body on 5/9/14 and initiated an investigation in consultation with Pennsylvania State Police at that time.

113.	1 Fatality 4/22/14	Private unnamed pond 8:00 p.m.	Lawrence County Tuesday
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A 26-year-old female died after the 14-foot open rowboat in which she was a passenger capsized. The operator and victim had been fishing from the boat when the victim stood up, causing the boat to capsize then completely flip over. The passengers began swimming the boat back to shore when the victim disappeared under the water. Life jackets were not worn and were not onboard the boat. Water temperature was 46 degrees so cold water shock was a factor. Alcohol and drugs may have been factors. It is unknown if he had any formal instruction in boating safety.

114.	1 Fatality 5/17/14	West Branch Susquehanna River 11:15 a.m.	Clearfield County Saturday
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A 20-year-old died after jumping from a 16-foot canoe. The canoe began taking on water in a rough section of the river and began to capsize when both occupants of the boat exited. The boater seated in the stern self-rescued to shore, and the victim (who had been seated in the bow) disappeared under the water. An extensive search ensued and the victim's body was recovered eight days later. At the time of the incident, the water was high and filled with debris due to recent rain and the canoe may have been overloaded. Two life jackets were onboard but not worn. The victim had not taken a formal boating safety education course. Water temperature was in the mid- to upper-50s, so cold water shock may have been a factor.

115.	1 Fatality 5/21/14	Lehigh River 1:40 p.m.	Northampton County Wednesday
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A 26-year-old male died after intentionally going over a lowhead dam in an 11-foot kayak. The victim and another paddler were fishing when they decided to use a cell phone to video the victim going over the dam. The victim paddled to the top of the dam, went over and then capsized at the base of the dam. After a few minutes of being caught in the boil, the victim's life jacket came off due to the turbulent water. The

other paddler attempted to rescue the victim but was unsuccessful and also capsized in the process. Rescue crews retrieved both paddlers from the water however the victim could not be revived. Both paddlers were wearing life jackets at the time of the incident. It is unknown if the victim had any formal instruction in boating safety.

116.	1 Fatality 5/26/14	Youghiogheny River 1:30 p.m.	Fayette County Friday
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A 61-year-old male drowned after capsizing a 9-foot rented kayak. After being ejected from the boat, the victim was able to stand with his head above water and began wading toward the boat to retrieve it. The water became too deep for him to stand and he swam briefly before going under water. The victim remained under water for several minutes before resurfacing face down. The victim was dragged to shore where CPR was administered. The victim was transported to the local hospital where he was pronounced dead. Water conditions on the river were higher and faster than normal due to recent rain events. The victim was not wearing a life jacket however one was on board the boat. The victim was a fair swimmer and had some kayaking experience. Water temperature was 57 degrees so cold water shock may have been a factor.

117.	1 Fatality 5/24/14	Clarion River 3:00 p.m.	Elk County Saturday
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A 25-year-old female drowned while being pinned against a railroad trestle in the high and fast river current. After a recent flood event, the paddlers of a 14 ½-foot canoe lost control at a bend in the river and capsized. For approximately two hours, one passenger was pinned against a tree that was held against the bridge pier by the high, fast-flowing waters. He was freed from the strainer by rescue crews and treated for hypothermia and injuries. The force of the water pinned the submerged victim and canoe against the bridge pier until professional rescue crews retrieved her body several hours later. The operator of the canoe escaped injury. There were three life jackets on board but none were worn. Alcohol may have been a factor. It is unknown if the victim had any formal instruction in boating safety.

118.	1 Fatality 7/2/14	Delaware River 5:40 p.m.	Philadelphia County Wednesday
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A 66-year-old male lost his life when the 22-foot sailboat on which he was a passenger capsized in a thunderstorm. The boat's operator had lowered the sails and was attempting to use the motor to return to the dock when the thunderstorm rolled in. The severe weather and water conditions caused the sailboat to capsize and four passengers swam to safety. The victim was last seen clinging to a small cooler in the middle of the river. The victim's body was recovered two days later. The boat operator was experienced but it is unknown if he had any formal instruction in boating safety.

119.	1 Fatality 7/3/14	Raystown Lake 10:00 p.m.	Huntingdon County Thursday
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A 36-year-old female drowned after the 28-foot cabin cruiser on which she was a passenger struck the shoreline and sank. The boat's occupants were on the lake for a nighttime cruise. After travelling north for approximately seven miles, the boat's operator turned around to return to the dock. A short time later, the boat struck the western shoreline of the lake, took on water and sank transom first. Five passengers were able to make it to shore. The victim was wearing a life jacket but was trapped in the cabin of the boat and was unable to get out. Alcohol may have been a factor. The victim's body was recovered the following day. It is unknown if the boat operator had any formal instruction in boating safety.

120.	1 Fatality 7/5/14	Delaware River 2:40 p.m.	Bucks County Saturday
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A 51-year-old female drowned when her 9 ½-foot kayak capsized and became trapped against a strainer. After navigating around an island, the victim's boat struck a downed tree, capsized and she became trapped in her kayak, pinned against the strainer. Other members of the paddling group attempted to free the victim but to no avail. The victim surfaced and called for help several times but succumbed when exhausted. The victim was eventually recovered and transported to a local hospital where she was pronounced dead. The victim was not wearing a life jacket but one was on board.

121.	1 Fatality 7/13/14	Allegheny River 4:00 p.m.	Armstrong County Sunday
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A 40-year-old male died after he fell or was thrown off of a personal watercraft. At the time of the incident, the victim was operating the PWC with a 12-year-old passenger on board and they were circling another boat that was carrying family members. The victim left the PWC and the passenger remained on board while the victim began diving to search for the key. On the third dive attempt, the victim did not resurface but his life jacket did. Although he was wearing a life jacket at the time of the incident, it may not have been fastened correctly. Alcohol may have been a factor. The victim's body was recovered three days later.

122.	1 Fatality 7/27/14	Lake Carey 12:40 a.m.	Wyoming County Sunday
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A 56-year-old male died after falling overboard from a 24-foot cabin cruiser. The victim was on board the boat with six other passengers viewing a fireworks display when he fell overboard. There were four life jackets on board the boat, none of which were worn at the time of the incident. Alcohol may have been a factor. The victim's body was recovered later the same day.

123.	1 Fatality 7/28/14	Elk Creek 9:00 p.m.	Erie County Monday
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A 33-year-old male died when his 17-foot canoe capsized and became pinned against a strainer. The victim and a passenger were canoeing the creek during a high water event when they attempted to safely navigate around a strainer at the railroad bridge tubes. However, on approach, the strong current pushed the canoe into the strainer causing the boat to capsize. The passenger was able to free himself but the victim became trapped. The passenger was unsuccessful at attempts to free the victim. The victim was recovered approximately five hours later.

124.	1 Fatality	Clear Lake	Crawford County
	8/18/14	6:30 p.m.	Monday

A 51-year-old male is dead as a result of capsizing an 8-foot kayak. The victim was fishing from the kayak and believed to not be wearing a life jacket. At some point, another boater observed the victim's kayak upside-down on the lake. There were no witnesses to the incident. The victim was recovered the following day. It is unknown if he had any formal instruction in boating safety.

125.	1 Fatality	Susquehanna River	Lancaster County
	8/24/14	2:45 p.m.	Sunday

A 63-year-old male is dead after his 15-foot canoe capsized. The victim, his wife and dog were ejected from the canoe when it capsized. The wife and dog made it to shore but the victim did not. There were two life jackets on board the boat but they were not worn. The victim was reportedly an experienced canoeist. The victim was recovered two days later approximately 15 miles downriver.

126.	1 Fatality	Lake Mae	Adams County
	9/1/14	unknown	Monday

A deceased 47-year-old male was found floating in the lake approximately 100 yards from an unattended canoe containing fishing gear. The victim was found grasping a canoe paddle. A life jacket was on board the canoe. Alcohol or drugs may have been a factor. It is unknown if he had any formal instruction in boating safety.

127.	1 Fatality	Page Lake	Susquehanna County
	10/11/14	4:00 p.m.	Saturday

A 23-year-old male drowned as a result of capsizing a 16-foot canoe. Shortly after launching, the canoe capsized and all four occupants were ejected. Three of the occupants successfully made it to shore. The victim splashed for a brief period then sank below the water's surface. None of the occupants were wearing a life jacket and there were none on board. Alcohol and cold water shock may have been factors. The victim's body was recovered later the same day.

128.	1 Fatality	Monongahela River	Allegheny County
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4/23/15

5:00 p.m.

Thursday

A 46-year-old male died after his 12-foot kayak capsized. He had paddled into the river to retrieve an object. Upon returning to the launch ramp, the kayak capsized and he went under the water. He was reportedly wearing a life jacket but it may not have been properly fitted or secured. Cold water shock due to water temperatures may have been a factor. It is unknown if he had any formal instruction in boating safety.

129.	1 Fatality	Pinchot Lake	York County
	7/9/15	7:15 a.m.	Thursday

After not arriving for work on time, a 58-year-old male was discovered with no signs of life, still attached to his capsized racing scull. He was transported to a local hospital where he was pronounced dead. The victim was not wearing a life jacket and was not required to have one on board the 24-foot racing scull. It is unknown if he had any formal instruction in boating safety.

130.	1 Fatality	Pocono Summit Lake	Monroe County
	7/27/15	unknown	Monday

A deceased 75-year-old male was found after his overturned kayak was discovered. The victim was not wearing a life jacket however one was in the kayak. Alcohol may have been a factor. It is unknown if he had any formal instruction in boating safety.

131.	1 Fatality	Lake Arthur	Butler County
	10/29/15	unknown	Thursday

A deceased 51-year-old male was found after he did not return from a fishing trip in his canoe. The individual was boating alone during moderate to high winds. Water temperature was 51 degrees so cold water shock may have been a factor. The boater had only 6 months or less of boating experience and was not wearing a life jacket however there was one onboard. It is unknown if the individual had any formal instruction in boating safety. Drugs or alcohol may have also been a contributing factor.

132.	1 Fatality	Aughwick Creek	Huntingdon County
	2/22/16	Unknown	Monday

An unpowered Jon boat used to access property on the Aughwick Creek was found on 02/22/16 with the deceased owner on board approximately one mile below the property. The victim was found in the stern of the boat with his legs hanging over the side in the water. There was no safety equipment on board. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket and it is unknown if the victim had any prior formal boating safety education. Hypothermia and alcohol may have been factors.

133.	1 Fatality	Little Indian Springs Lake	Pike County
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7/1/16

3:00PM

Friday

The victim capsized a kayak approximately 30 feet from shore. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket and could not swim. It is not known if the victim had taken any formal boating safety education. According to witnesses, the victim went under the water and never came back up. Local rescue dive teams recovered the victim body later that evening.

134. 1 Fatality
7/23/16

Westcolang Lake
7:55PM

Pike County
Saturday

The operator of a recreational motorboat stopped their boat and entered the water to go swimming. Upon entering the water the victim began to have difficulties and yelled for help. An individual onboard attempted to maneuver the boat closer to the victim but was having difficulty due to the wind and wave action. The individual then lost sight of the victim. The victim was recovered by rescue divers that later that evening and was pronounced deceased. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket and it is not known if the victim had any formal boating safety education. Alcohol may have been a factor.

135. 3 Fatalities
8/20/2016

Allegheny River
1:30AM

Clarion County
Saturday

Early Saturday morning there was a motorboat accident on the Allegheny River in the Waterson area of Clarion county near the Armstrong county line. Four persons were onboard, three of which are now deceased. The lone survivor was flown to an area hospital for treatment. The vessel ran aground at an apparent high rate of speed, rolled over and was found upside down. The victims were not wearing lifejackets and it is not known if they had any prior boating safety education. Alcohol and high rate of speed may have been factors.

136. 1 Fatality
8/20/2016

West Branch Susquehanna River
9:10AM

Lycoming County
Saturday

The operator of a cabin cruiser was cruising at approximately 30 mph when two passengers jumped from the boat into the water. The victim surfaced but was having noticeable difficulties. The other passenger attempted to assist but the victim went under and failed to resurface. The victim's body was located later that day. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket and had no prior formal boating safety education. Alcohol may have been a factor.

137. 1 Fatality
9/15/16

Chambers Lake
11:20AM

Chester County
Thursday

The operator of a small motorboat, fell overboard after his boat capsized at Chambers Lake. The accident was witnessed by several kayakers who raced to the scene to assist but the victim never returned to the surface. Witnesses indicated that the operator went

to the rear of his vessel and was seen adjusting his motor when the bow rose out of the water, capsizing the boat and throwing the victim overboard. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket and it is unknown if the victim had any formal boating safety education.

138.	1 Fatality	Susquehanna River	Northumberland County
	10/13/2016	12:30AM	Thursday

The victim lost their life when the vessel they were fishing from capsized below a low head dam in Northumberland County. The victim was fishing with a friend below the PPL Dam near Hummel's Warf. As they were trolling near the dam they lost power to the electric motor. Before they could correct the issue they were pulled into the dam's boil swamping and capsizing the boat. Both were wearing PFD's but the victim could not escape the boil. The operator made it to shore and was treated at the local hospital. It is unknown if the victim had any formal boating safety education.

139.	1 Fatality	Allegheny River	Warren County
	11/28/2016	11:15PM	Monday

A 52 year old man from Warren, PA lost his life after his boat capsized sometime during the evening of November 28th. Indication is that the operator was attempting to put the vessel onto the trailer and was on the bow when the vessel capsized throwing him into the water. The water that evening was choppy with winds about 12-16 mph. The water temperature was 49F. Sudden cold-water emersion may have been a contributing factor. The victim was wearing a lifejacket but it is unknown if he had any formal boating safety education.

140.	1 Fatality	Susquehanna River	Lancaster County
	12/29/16	6:00 p.m.	Thursday

A 65-year-old male was reported missing and later found deceased wearing his lifejacket. It is likely the victim launched his 12-foot kayak a day before onto the Conestoga River and paddled out into Susquehanna River where his kayak was found capsized. It is unknown where or when his kayak capsized but the victim was wearing a lifejacket. However, the victim was not dressed appropriately for the environmental conditions. The victim was an experience paddler with formal boating safety education. Sudden coldwater immersion and hypothermia were factors in this incident.

141.	1 Fatality	Private Pond	Crawford County
	04/02/17	01:50 p.m.	Sunday

An 18-year-old male drowned as a result of capsizing a 10-foot kayak. Two friends had been racing their kayaks on a private pond in Sprint Township, while trying to talk to each other the kayaks made contact. The victims kayak capsized and the victim attempted to grabbed onto his friends kayak which also then capsized. The victim went under the surface of the water and did not resurface. The surface of the water had a

temperature of 40 degrees. The friend was able to get on top of his kayak and paddle to shore were EMS was activated. No lifejackets were onboard or worn. The victim had no formal boating safety education. Operator inexperience and cold water immersion may have been factors.

142.	1 Fatality	Pine Creek	Tioga County
	04/08/17	02:41 p.m.	Saturday

A 46-year-old male drowned as a result of capsizing a 10-foot kayak. The victim and three other boaters were paddling in a group on Pine Creek from Ansonia to Blackwell. Pine Creek water levels were running higher than normal due to recent rains in the area. During the trip, the victim appeared to have capsized his kayak in a set of rapids near the Turkey Path Trail Area. The victim was wearing a lifejacket but it was not fastened properly. It is unknown if the victim had taken a formal boating safety education course. Operator inexperience, cold water immersion, and alcohol may have been factors.

143.	1 Fatality	Allegheny Reservoir	Warren County
	04/18/17	11:30 a.m.	Tuesday

A dog wearing a lifejacket was found swimming in the Allegheny Reservoir near Roper Hollow as reported to the Warren County 911 center. This prompted the dispatch center to initiate a response to search for a capsized boat off shore. Scandia VFD directed a boat to Roper Hollow area and found the deceased individual and the kayak. The 58-year-old deceased male was found wearing a lifejacket that had worked its way up around the head area of the victim. There are no known witnesses to the accident. The victim had not taking a formal boating safety course. Operator inexperience and cold water immersion may have been factors.

144.	1 Fatality	Blue Marsh Lake	Berks County
	05/06/17	12:15 a.m.	Saturday

A 56-year-old male drowned as a result of swamping a 12-foot open motorboat. The victim and two friends had just left the shoreline and traveled approximately 25ft offshore when the overloaded boat began to take on water over the bow. The victim tried to increase speed with the outboard motor but the entire boat swamped. All three of the occupants were wearing chest waders. Two of the occupants made it to shore. Only two lifejackets were onboard but were inaccessible. The victim had no formal boating safety education. Operator inexperience and cold water immersion may have been factors.

145.	1 Fatality	Pine Creek	Tioga County
	05/07/17	07:25 p.m.	Sunday

A 64-year-old male drowned as a result of capsizing a Bi-Yak pontoon in a rain swollen Pine Creek. The victim and occupant were paddling downstream when the boat made

contact with a strainer and capsized. The approximate water temperature was 42 degrees. The occupant was entrapped in the strainer momentarily and then re-surfaced. Aided by his lifejacket, he was rescued. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket and was recovered 3 days later downstream of the incident. It is unknown if the victim had any formal boating safety education. Operator inexperience, hazardous waters, and cold water immersion may have been factors.

146.	2 Fatalities	Ohio River	Allegheny County
	05/20/2017	06:23 p.m.	Saturday

Two 25-year-old females were paddling on the Ohio River in separate kayaks when they went over the Deshields Lock and Dam. The victims drowned as a result of going over the Lock and Dam. Both victims were wearing a lifejacket at the time of the accident. Neither of the victims had completed a formal boating safety education course. Operator inexperience may have been a factor.

147.	1 Fatality	Shawnee Lake	Bedford County
	05/29/17	12:43 p.m.	Monday

A 21-year-old male was attempting to secure two kayaks together while sitting on the aft area of his kayak when it capsized. The victim was paddling with a 19-year-old female who attempted to assist the victim when her kayak capsized. The female continued to render assistance while in the water until the victim slipped from her grasp. Neither kayak had a lifejacket onboard and the victim was a non-swimmer. The victim had not taken a formal boating safety education course. Operator inexperience may have been a factor.

148.	1 Fatality	Unnamed private pond	Indiana County
	6/22/17	5:34 PM	Thursday

A 30-year old male was attempting to clear debris from the ponds overflow pipe (15" vertical pipe which releases at the bottom of the dam) during a high water event when his kayak capsized and he was pulled into the outlet pipe and drowned. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket and had no formal boating safety education.

149.	1 Fatality	Swatara Creek	Lebanon County
	7/01/17	5:08 PM	Thursday

A 36 year old male was with a group paddling the rain swollen Swatara Creek. The victim attempted to traverse, a posted no boating, wading or trespassing, low head dam at Jonestown. Upon crossing the dam, the victims kayak swamped and the paddler was swept over the dam and did not return to the surface. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket and had never taken a formal boating safety education course.

150.	1 Fatality	Delaware River	Monroe County
	7/16/17	5:15 PM	Sunday

A 35 year old male lost his life when the canoe he and three other individuals were in capsized on the Delaware River in the area of the Sambo Rapids. One of the individuals, a 5 year old was the only one wearing a life jacket and was quickly rescued along with two other adults by a good Samaritan. The remaining adult was found the next day by divers. The victim was not wearing a life jacket and witnesses indicate that he could not swim. Alcohol might also have been a factor.

151.	1 Fatality	Susquehanna River	Luzerne County
	08/08/17	10:18 PM	Tuesday

At 10:18PM the Luzerne County Communications Center was informed of a missing 54 year old male victim who had not returned home. Earlier in the day the victim had gone fishing on his boat near Nesbitt Park on the Susquehanna River. Wilkes-Barre City Fire Department located the victims vehicle and trailer in the parking lot. A hasty search was performed by Wilkes-Barre City Water Rescue and the victims boat was located approximately 2 miles downstream. Crews searched the immediate area until approximately 2:00AM, before halting the search. Incident command was initiated, and an organized search of the river began at 8:00AM, on August 09, 2017. Search efforts lasted until 7:00PM, and were unsuccessful. The victim was recovered the following day on August 10th. The water temperature at the time of incident, was estimated to be 72 degrees with a depth of 28ft were the victims boat was located. The victim was an experienced boater however had never taken a formal boating safety education course and was not wearing a lifejacket. Alcohol may have been a factor.

152.	1 Fatality	Susquehanna River	Northumberland County
	09/12/17	02:00PM	Tuesday

A 71 year old male lost his life when he and another male where on a small open motorboat and went fishing below the PPL dam on the Susquehanna River inside the exclusion zone. The victim directed the boat from river right at a course that caused the boat to collide with the dam. The boat swamped and capsized. Both individuals struggled to stay afloat. The victim was under the water for approximately 10 minutes until rescue. The victim was transported to a hospital and later passed away. The other male onboard sustained no injuries. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket. The other male passenger was not wearing a lifejacket during the time of the incident but managed to put one on while in the water. The victim was an experienced boater however had never taken a formal boating safety education course.

153.	1 Fatality	Newton Lake	Lackawanna County
	9/26/2017	01:51PM	Tuesday

A 17 year old female lost her life after she was ejected/fell from the bow of the 17 foot motor boat she was a passenger on and was then struck by the boat and prop. The juvenile operator stopped the boat and attempted to reach her friends body but was unsuccessful. Her body was recovered by divers on Wednesday. The victim and

operator were not wearing lifejackets however they were onboard. It is unknown if the victim had any formal boating safety education.

154.	1 Fatality	Leaser Lake	Lehigh County
	9/30/2017	09:00AM	Saturday

An 82 year old male lost his life when the canoe he was fishing from capsized. The operator and passenger/victim boarded a 16ft Plastic (Polyethylene) canoe from a dock on the west shore launch of Leaser Lake and started to paddle North across the lake roughly 50ft from the shoreline. The victim was seated in the front of the canoe and fishing; the operator was seated in the rear and was paddling the canoe. Approximately 1000ft from the dock the victims seat broke causing the seat to drop on the left side causing the victims weight to shift. The operator tried to counter balance the canoe but was unable and the canoe capsized approximately 30ft from the shoreline. The operator was unable to rescue the victim but made it to shore and signaled for help. Nearby anglers called 911 to dispatch emergency personnel. Local Firefighters arrived on scene shortly and pulled the victim out of the water. The victim was found face down floating in the water unconscious. He was resuscitated and transported by ambulance to the hospital. The victim later passed away while being treated at the hospital. The victim and operator were not wearing lifejackets however they were onboard. It is unknown if the victim had any formal boating safety education.

155.	2 Fatalities	Susquehanna River	Dauphin County
	05/07/18	10:00 p.m.	Monday

A 25 year old adult female and a 3 year old juvenile female lost their lives when the boat they were passengers in capsized in the downstream boil of the Dock St. Dam. Both were thrown from the 15 foot Jonboat. A third individual, the adult male operator was also thrown from the boat and but was able to swim to shore. Alcohol or controlled substances may have played a role in the accident. The victims and operator had no formal boating safety education. Operator inexperience and cold water immersion may have been factors.

156.	1 Fatality	Delaware River	Monroe County
	05/25/18	03:15 p.m.	Friday

A 39-year-old male is missing and presumed dead as a result of capsizing a canoe. The victim and another individual onboard were paddling on the Delaware River when the canoe they were operating capsized. The water levels were running higher than normal due to recent rains in the area which created a hazardous environment for novice paddlers. No lifejackets were worn during the time of the accident and it is unknown if the victim had taken a formal boating safety education course. Operator inexperience and cold water immersion may have been factors.

157.	1 Fatality	Lackawanna Lake	Lackawanna County
	06/09/18	12:37 p.m.	Saturday

A 24-year-old male is deceased as a result of capsizing a kayak. The operator was in a kayak when it capsized on Lackawanna Lake in approximately 5 feet of water. The victim was described as a “very good swimmer” and was offered a lifejacket before launching the kayak but declined. The victim was out from shore approximately 80 yards when the kayak capsized. The victim was submerged in the water approximately 10 minutes before being recovered by another kayak operator. CPR was performed until emergency personnel arrived. The victim was transported to Geisinger Hospital in Scranton and was put on life support. The victim was later declared deceased. No lifejackets were worn during the time of the accident and it is unknown if the victim had taken a formal boating safety education course. Operator inexperience and cold water immersion may have been factors.

158.	1 Fatality	Glendale Lake	Cambria County
	06/22/18	08:10 p.m.	Friday

A 67-year-old male is deceased as a result of falling overboard. The victims 17ft open motorboat was found onshore near Beaver Valley Marina with the outboard motor running and the boats throttle shift in the neutral position. A search for the victim began and the victim was eventually recovered multiple days later. No lifejackets were worn during the time of the accident and the victim had not taken a formal boating safety education course.

159.	1 Fatality	Mountain Spring Lake	Monroe County
	07/02/2018	7:30 p.m.	Monday

A 75-year old male lost his life when he fell overboard while attempting to get out of his 12ft open motorboat at the shoreline. The victim was found face down in the water with a cut on his head that appeared to have occurred during the fall. The victim had multiple health issues that might have contributed to the accident. No lifejackets were worn during the time of the accident and the victim had not taken a formal boating safety education course.

160.	1 Fatality	Susquehanna River, Lake Clarke	York County
	07/03/2018	7:52 p.m.	Tuesday

A 35-year old male lost his life when he fell overboard from his 20ft open motorboat while approaching the gas dock. The victim was recovered the following evening. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket and could not swim. The victim had taken a formal boating safety education course. Alcohol use may have been a factor.

161.	1 Fatality	Quemahoning Reservoir	Somerset County
	07/09/18	01:30 p.m.	Monday

An 18-year-old male is deceased as a result of taking off his lifejacket and leaving an

11ft paddleboard to possibly retrieve his hat that had fallen into the water. Witnesses observed the victim swimming around the paddleboard for several minutes before he did not surface. Search efforts for the victim lasted 6 days before recovery. The victim had not taken a formal boating safety education course. Operator inexperience may have been a factor.

162.	1 Fatality	Raystown Lake	Huntingdon County
	07/27/18	06:05 p.m.	Friday

A 71-year-old male is deceased as a result of falling overboard on a 14ft open motorboat he was a passenger on after it had hit a wake caused by a larger vessel. A witness on a personal watercraft observed the incident and attempted to assist and was able to get the victim to hang on to the side of the personal watercraft. The operator of the boat that made contact with the wake and the operator of the personal watercraft attempted to give the victim a lifejacket but the victim stated that they did not feel well and then became unconscious. They were able to get the victim back on to the boat and began CPR. A pontoon boat saw the commotion and came over to assist. The victim was transported onto the pontoon boat and CPR was resumed until they arrived at Seven Points public launch where EMS took over. The victim was pronounced dead shortly after by EMS personnel. No lifejackets were worn during the time of the incident and the victim had not taken a formal boating safety education course.

163.	1 Fatality	Delaware River	Northampton County
	08/02/18	12:30 p.m.	Thursday

A 52-year-old male is deceased as a result of capsizing a 14ft canoe in the Delaware River. The victim was paddling in the Delaware River with two of his family members onboard when they paddled through a swiftwater area in the river. The canoe became unbalanced causing the family to capsize. One of the passengers was wearing a lifejacket but the victim and other passenger were not. Both of the passengers were able to make it to shore but lost sight of the victim through the swiftwater. The victim had not taken a formal boating safety education course. Inexperience and elevated water levels may have been a factor. The victim was later recovered.

164.	1 Fatality	Allegheny River	Armstrong County
	08/05/18	03:00 p.m.	Sunday

A 57-year-old male is deceased as a result of being ejected from the 18ft race boat he was operating. The victim was operating his 300hp race boat and went to overtake another vessel when his vessel hit a wake and became airborne. The victim was wearing a lifejacket at the time of the accident and was ejected from the vessel. Passengers of the other vessel and other individuals quickly came to provide assistance. The victim was pulled onto a pontoon boat and CPR was preformed immediately until emergency personnel arrived. The victim was never responsive or breathing after the accident. The victim was an experienced boat operator but had not taken a formal boating safety education course.

165.	1 Fatality	Lehigh River	Carbon County
	08/05/18	04:30 p.m.	Sunday

A 67-year-old female passenger is deceased as a result of falling overboard when the whitewater raft she was paddling in struck a rock on the Lehigh River. The operator and victim were ejected into the river when another raft then struck the victim's raft from the rear. The victim, and the operator were wearing lifejackets. The victim was alert while floating downriver and was assisted by a river guide and other rafters. Upon bringing the victim to shore, she became unconscious and CPR was performed. EMS arrived and continued performing CPR, and she was later pronounced deceased at the hospital. The victim was a below average swimmer and had not taken a formal boating safety education course. The victim had no previous experience in whitewater rafting. The victim's health may have been a contributing factor.

166.	1 Fatality	Allegheny River	Allegheny County
	08/25/18	10:28 a.m.	Saturday

A 51-year-old male is deceased as a result of jumping overboard off a 17ft open motorboat while fishing in the Allegheny River. The operator of the boat threw the victim a throwable personal flotation device and the victim began to swim towards shore with the throwable device. The victim then stopped and let go of the throwable device and disappeared. The victim was recovered several hours later. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket and had not taken a formal boating safety education course.

167.	1 Fatality	Lehigh River	Carbon County
	09/01/18	1:00 p.m.	Saturday

A 33-year-old male is deceased as a result of being ejected from the 12 ft inflatable whitewater raft he was paddling. The victim was paddling through a section of rapids on the Lehigh River within the Lehigh Gorge State Park when he was ejected from the raft. Upon being ejected into the river, the victim's foot became entrapped under a rock, and the victim went underwater. Several attempts were made by the passengers onboard the victim's raft and the River Guides to rescue the victim but they were unsuccessful. The victim was wearing a personal flotation device and was believed to be an above average swimmer. The victim had not taken a formal boating education course and had no previous experience in whitewater rafting.

168.	1 Fatality	Mill Creek	Bucks County
	05/29/19	08:28 p.m.	Wednesday

A 16-year-old male lost his life when the kayak he was paddling capsized in Mill Creek near Levittown, PA. The victim had been kayaking in a flooded grass field adjacent to the waterway, which was flooding an estimated 10 feet above normal stage and running

very fast due to recent heavy rains. The victim paddled his kayak too close to the swift current and was pulled by the current into the main flow of the creek, where his kayak capsized. The victim was then swept a short distance downstream until he became pinned against a tree, where he remained until first responders were able to extricate him from the water after approximately 5 minutes of being submerged. Upon recovery, the victim was unresponsive and in cardiac arrest. Responders administered CPR and were able to restore pulse, transporting the victim to the hospital where he was later pronounced deceased. The victim was not wearing a life jacket and it is unknown at this time if the victim had taken a formal boating safety education course. Operator inexperience and coldwater immersion may have been factors.

169.	1 Fatality	Lake Nockamixon	Bucks County
	6/04/2019	5:45 p.m.	Tuesday

A 43-year-old male is deceased as a result of potentially falling overboard in a 14 ft open motorboat on Lake Nockamixon. Kayakers on the lake noticed a boat on the shoreline with the engine still running. The kayakers signaled to an approaching vessel to inform them of the situation. The signaled vessel approached the victim's boat and determined that it was unoccupied, at which time they called 911. The victim was later found deceased after search efforts. Two wearable lifejackets and a throwable personal flotation device were found onboard the boat but none were worn. The victim had not taken a formal boating safety education course.

170.	1 Fatality	Churchhill Lake	Susquehanna County
	6/11/2019	8:10 p.m.	Tuesday

A 62-year-old male is deceased as a result of capsizing in a 12 ft rowboat on Churchhill Lake. A family member returned home and noticed the victim's vehicle. Assuming the individual was out fishing, the family member went down to the lake (Churchhill Lake) and witnessed the victims rowboat capsized in the water. The family member attempted to reach the victim by cell phone and by calling out but was unable to get a response. The family member then contacted 911 dispatch. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket however there was one onboard. The victim did not have any formal boating safety education. Health issues and alcohol use may have been factors.

171.	1 Fatality	Greenwood Hunting Lodge Pond	Lycoming County
	6/21/2019	1:00 p.m.	Friday

A 68-year-old male is deceased as a result of capsizing in a 12 ft rowboat on a pond at the Greenwood Hunting Lodge. The operator and victim decided to switch positions in the boat. The operator and victim both stood up to switch positions causing a weight transfer and the boat capsized. The operator was wearing a lifejacket, but the victim was not. The operator and the victim attempted to swim the capsized boat to an island in the middle of the pond. The operator was at the stern on the starboard side and the victim was on the port side of the bow. Both the operator and victim were talking while swimming. The operator stated that it got quiet and then he saw the victims feet. The

operator called out and there was no response. The operator grabbed the victim, who was unresponsive, and swam him to the shoreline. He then performed CPR for an undetermined time and traveled back to the Lodge where a member called 911. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket and did not have any formal boating safety education.

172.	1 Fatality 7/10/2019	Lake Wallenpaupack 3:43 p.m.	Wayne County Wednesday
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A 64-year-old male is deceased as a result of drowning while on a 20ft open motorboat. The vessel was found drifting on Lake Wallenpaupack with personal belongings onboard, but the operator was missing. The victim was found by local Dive & Rescue departments after searching for several weeks. The victim was not wearing a life jacket and it is unknown at this time if the victim had taken a formal boating safety education course. Medical conditions may have been a factor.

173.	1 Fatality 7/11/2019	Private Pond 8:16 p.m.	Berks County Thursday
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A 5-year-old male is deceased as a result of capsizing in a 6 ft kayak on a small retention pond in Berks County. The victim was playing on the kayak in the pond that is usually less than a foot deep, due to strong thunderstorms earlier in the day the pond had an approximate depth of 4 feet when the kayak capsized. Lifesaving measures including CPR were performed on-scene however the victim was later pronounced deceased at the hospital. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket.

174.	1 Fatality 8/08/2019	Allegheny River 12:12 p.m.	Allegheny County Thursday
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A 76-year-old male is deceased as a result of falling overboard in an 18 ft pontoon boat on the Allegheny River. Allegheny County 911 was notified that a male fell into the Allegheny River near the Hulton Bridge, Harmar Township, and did not come back up. EMS and fire services responded to the incident. The pontoon boat was found running, with the key in the ignition. The boat was reported to be out of gear. A life jacket (reportedly thrown to the victim from a private dock) was found to be floating in the river with no one in the area. Fire crews deployed a boat and attempted to locate the victim. The victim was later discovered by using sonar and removed from the water. The victim was not wearing a life jacket and was said to not know how to swim. It is unknown if the victim had any formal boating safety education.

175.	1 Fatality 8/31/2019	Youghiogheny River 1:00 p.m.	Fayette County Saturday
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A 46-year-old male is deceased as a result of capsizing in a 12 ft inflatable raft on the Youghiogheny River while whitewater rafting. A group of four were whitewater rafting when their raft struck a rock and capsized in the area known as Flat Iron. Three

of the individuals were able to make it through the rapids but the victim became trapped by his foot on the bottom of the river. Several attempts were made to free the foot entrapment by individuals on-scene and local raft guides but where unsuccessful. First Responders and DCNR Rangers from the Ohiopyle Complex arrived on-scene and were able to release and transport the victim who was later pronounced deceased. The victim was believed to have been underwater for approximately 20-30 minutes. The victim was wearing a life jacket, but it is unknown if the victim had any formal boating safety education.

176.	2 Fatalities	Conashaugh Lake	Pike County
	4-06-2020	6:15 p.m.	Monday

Two males ages 26 and 28 (brothers) are deceased as a result of their canoe capsizing on Conashaugh Lake, Dingman, Pike County. Their overturned canoe was observed by their mother who notified emergency personnel. Area dive teams located and recovered the first victim the following day. The second victim was recovered 5 days later. Neither victim was wearing a lifejacket and none were found at the scene. The victims had not taken a formal boating safety education course. Operator inexperience and sudden coldwater immersion may have been factors.

178.	1 Fatality	Delaware River	Bucks County
	4/24/2020	4:02 p.m.	Friday

A 37 year old male is deceased as a result of capsizing a kayak on the Delaware River. A witness stated seeing the paddler capsize while he was walking the Delaware Canal Towpath. The witness saw the paddler struggle to get back into the kayak before going underwater. The paddler was not seen again. According to the witness the victim was not wearing a lifejacket and did not have one onboard. It is unknown if the victim had taken a formal boating safety education course. Operator inexperience and sudden coldwater immersion may have been factors. The victim was later recovered the following week.

179.	2 Fatalities	Wilmore Dam	Cambria County
	6/09/2020	5:34 p.m.	Tuesday

A 68 year old male and a 78 year old male are deceased as a result of falling overboard a 16ft open motorboat on Wilmore Dam. There were no witnesses that observed how the victims ended up in the water. Two witnesses who were kayaking in the area observed the victims floating in the water unresponsive and immediately dialed 911. Both victims were not wearing lifejackets however lifejackets were onboard. There was no throwable device (Type IV) located on the boat at the time of recovery. It is unknown if the victims had any formal boating safety education. Medical conditions may have been a factor.

180.	1 Fatality 6/24/2020	Susquehanna River 3:45 p.m.	Columbia County Wednesday
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A 24 year old male is deceased as a result of capsizing or falling overboard on a sit-on-top kayak while paddling on the Susquehanna River. A group of five were paddling the Susquehanna River when the victim became submerged underwater and did not resurface. There were no lifejackets being worn or onboard the victims kayak or the other paddlers kayaks who were with him. It is unknown if the victim had any formal paddling or boating safety education. Drugs or alcohol may have been a factor.

181.	1 Fatality 7/5/2020	Conneaut Lake 5:37 p.m.	Crawford County Sunday
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A 33 year old female is deceased as a result of falling overboard while on a 19 ft open motorboat in Conneaut Lake. The victim was sitting in the transom seat of the moving motorboat when she fell overboard and did not resurface. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket but there were lifejackets onboard. The victim was later recovered. It is unknown if the victim had any formal boating safety education.

182.	1 Fatality 7/26/2020	Hopewell Lake 5:30 p.m.	Berks County Sunday
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A 27 year old male is deceased as a result of entering the water from a 14 ft open motorboat. Four people were on the boat on Hopewell Lake when the victim jumped out of the boat causing it to capsize and sending the other individuals in the water. While a child was being helped back into the righted boat, the victim got back into the vessel and then jumped out back into the water and did not resurface. A passing boat picked up the child, child's father, and other passenger. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket and had not taken a formal boating safety education course. The victim was later recovered, and cause of death was ruled a drowning. Alcohol and drug use may have been factors.

183.	1 Fatality 7/31/2020	Allegheny River 9:45 p.m.	Allegheny County Friday
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A 28 year old male is deceased as a result of falling overboard from a 19 ft open motorboat while the operator was in the process of docking. Eight people were onboard the boat in the Allegheny River when the victim who was sitting on the engine cover facing aft with feet on the swim platform fell overboard and did not resurface. Witnesses stated that the victim appeared to fall head first off the swim platform into the water. Witnesses also stated that the victim was intoxicated. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket and it is not known if the victim had taken a formal boating safety education course. Alcohol use may have been a factor. The victim was later recovered.

184.	1 Fatality 10/15/2020	Big Elk Lake 08:30 p.m.	Susquehanna County Wednesday
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A 73 year old male is deceased as a result of falling overboard from a wooden homemade rowboat while fishing on Big Elk Lake. The victim had not returned home from his outing and a search began. The victim's rowboat was found drifting approximately 60 yards offshore. Multiple resources including dive teams were involved in search & recovery operations and the victim was later recovered. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket however there was one onboard. The victim had successfully completed a formal boating safety education course. Medical conditions and sudden coldwater immersion may have been factors.

185.	1 Fatality 11/24/2020	Prompton Lake 11:37 p.m.	Wayne County Tuesday
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An 82 year old male is deceased as a result of falling overboard from a 12 ft open motorboat while fishing on Prompton Lake. The victim had gone fishing earlier in the day and had not returned home before dark. Multiple resources were involved with search operations and the victim was later recovered. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket however there was one onboard. The victim had not taken a formal boating safety education course. Sudden coldwater immersion may have been a factor.

186.	1 Fatality 2/21/2021	Private Pond Time unknown	Erie County Sunday
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A 70-year-old male is deceased as a result of falling overboard a kayak on a private pond. The victim observed his dogs having problems swimming in an area of open water on his private pond and attempted to rescue them. There were no witnesses but the PA State Police that were on scene believe the victim saw the dogs struggling then went to his garage and took his kayak out to the pond with his utility vehicle. They then believe the victim dragged the kayak across the ice to the open water where the dogs were and entered the kayak to reach the dogs, then capsized. The victim was later found deceased along with the two dogs. The victim had no formal boating safety education and was not wearing a lifejacket nor were there any onboard or at the scene. Sudden coldwater immersion may have been a factor.

187.	1 Fatality 3/20/2021	Private Pond 3:37 P.M.	Mercer County Saturday
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A 44-year-old male is deceased as a result of capsizing a 6-foot kayak while fishing on a private pond. The victim had no formal boating safety education was not wearing a lifejacket nor were there any onboard. Sudden coldwater immersion may have been a factor.

188.	1 Fatality	Private Pond	Lancaster County
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4/3/2021

Time unknown

Saturday

An 84-year-old male is deceased as a result of capsizing a 12-foot open motorboat on a private pond. The victim was reported missing late in the day and his boat was discovered adrift on the pond. The victim was recovered the following day in 8 feet of water. The victim had no formal boating safety education was not wearing a lifejacket nor were there any onboard. Sudden coldwater immersion may have been a factor.

189. 1 Fatality
5/24/2021

Muddy Creek
5:00 p.m.

York County
Monday

A 53-year-old male is deceased as a result of capsizing a 9 ½-foot kayak on Muddy Creek. The victim was drifting in the kayak when it capsized. Hazardous water conditions forced the victim under the water where he was pinned against rocks and drowned. The victim was wearing a lifejacket at the time of the incident but had no formal boating safety education. Sudden coldwater immersion may have been a factor.

190. 1 Fatality
5/29/2021

Pymatuning Reservoir
10:30 a.m.

Crawford County
Saturday

A 55-year-old male is deceased after presumably falling overboard from a 23-foot pontoon boat on Pymatuning Reservoir. The victim had gone fishing by himself and the boat came aground, empty, with the engine still running and fishing lines out. There were no witnesses to the incident. The victim had no formal boating safety education. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket at the time of the incident and his body was recovered the next day. Sudden coldwater immersion may have been a factor.

191. 1 Fatality
7/3/2021

Lake Marburg
5:54 p.m.

York County
Saturday

A 24-year-old male is deceased after departing the 16-foot pontoon boat on which he was a passenger. The operator had brought the boat close to shore and did not beach or anchor it. At that time three passengers disembarked to be in the water while two remained on the boat. When the party was ready to reboard the boat and depart, they noticed the victim was missing. After looking around, they saw him face down in the water. Attempts at resuscitation were unsuccessful and the victim was later pronounced dead. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket and was an inexperienced swimmer. Alcohol was a factor.

192. 1 Fatality
9/7/2021

Susquehanna River
Unknown

Clearfield County
Tuesday

A 52-year-old male is deceased after his 15-foot canoe was found capsized on the West Branch of the Susquehanna River. The victim was dropped off by a friend and then launched his canoe for a multi-day float beginning Saturday, September 4th, at the

Cherry Tree Access. He was supposed to call his friend when he wanted to be picked up. The friend returned on Monday, September 6th, to find a capsized canoe and several of the victim's belongings including fishing gear and a life jacket. The friend did not immediately report the findings and waited until Tuesday, September 7th, to contact emergency services. An extensive search ensued, and the victim's body was recovered in a remote section of the river approximately 1 mile downstream of the recovered canoe. The victim did have a lifejacket onboard but was not wearing it. The victim had no formal boating safety education. High water conditions in addition to drugs and/or alcohol may have been factors.

193.	1 Fatality	Allegheny River	Allegheny County
	10/20/2021	4:30 p.m.	Wednesday

A 64-year-old male is deceased after a 14-foot motorized canoe capsized on the Allegheny River while he and another passenger were operating. The operator was rescued by a passing boater and taken to a hospital for care. An extensive search ensued to find the victim and his body was recovered approximately four hours later. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket and had not taken a formal boating safety education course. Alcohol may have been a factor.

194.	1 Fatality	Susquehanna River	Lancaster County
	10/21/2021	8:53 p.m.	Thursday

A 42-year-old female is deceased after a 14-foot open motorboat, in which she was a passenger, capsized. The boat was operating in an area of high-flow discharge from a powerplant. The boat operated to close to the discharge and water came over the transom which caused the boat to capsize with its three occupants. The operator was not wearing a life jacket at the time of the incident, but the two passengers were. The operator and one passenger were able to get to shore. The victim was washed down river where she was found unresponsive and CPR was administered. She was pronounced deceased at a local hospital. The operator had no formal boating safety education. The victim was wearing a lifejacket and sudden coldwater immersion may have been a factor.

195.	1 Fatality	Swatara Creek	Dauphin County
	5/4/2022	8:46 P.M.	Wednesday

A 68-year-old male is deceased as a result of falling overboard from a 14-foot open motorboat while fishing on Swatara Creek. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket nor were there any onboard. The victim had not taken a formal boating safety education course. Alcohol use may have been a factor.

196.	1 Fatality	Howard Eaton Reservoir	Erie County
	5/23/2022	2:00 P.M.	Monday

An 80-year-old male is deceased as a result of falling overboard from a 10-foot open motorboat on Howard Eaton Reservoir. While fishing, the victim stood up in the boat causing it to capsize. The victim and operator were both wearing life jackets at the time of the incident. The operator was transported to the hospital where he was treated for hypothermia and later released. It is unknown if the victim had any formal boating safety education. Cold water immersion may have been a factor in the victim's death.

197.	1 Fatality	Juniata River (Raystown Branch)	Bedford County
	5/21/2022	2:00 P.M.	Saturday

A 59-year-old male is deceased as a result of capsizing his kayak on the Raystown Branch of the Juniata River. A group of paddlers were navigating the waters when conditions became turbulent and the victim's boat capsized. It is not known if the victim had any formal boating safety education. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket and there was no lifejacket onboard. Cold water immersion may have been a factor in the victim's death.

198.	1 Fatality	Delaware River	Bucks County
	5/22/2022	11:53 A.M.	Sunday

A 38-year-old male is deceased as a result of capsizing his 8-foot kayak on the Delaware River. He was fishing with his father on the Delaware River between Lumberville (PA) and Washington's Crossing (PA). As the pair approached a dam, the victim paddled river right searching for safe passage. The current swept both over the dam and the victim was caught in the hydraulic boil and drowned. The victim was an experienced paddler but had not taken a formal boating safety education course. The victim was wearing a lifejacket.

199.	1 Fatality	Conestoga River	Lancaster County
	4/24/2022	1:00 P.M.	Sunday

A 74-year-old male is deceased as a result of a kayak incident on the Conestoga River. The victim's wife dropped him off earlier in the day to go kayaking and, after a few hours, was no longer able to reach him by cell phone. The victim was later found deceased in the water. An initial investigation and consultation with the USCG was required before this incident was determined to meet the USCG's reporting requirements. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket however there was one onboard. The victim had not taken a formal boating safety education course and was not familiar with the area he was kayaking. The victim had several known medical issues which may have been a factor.

200.	1 Fatality	Lake Hauto	Schuylkill County
	7/8/2022	4:25 P.M.	Friday

A 20-year-old male is deceased as a result of departing a 20-foot pontoon boat to go swimming on Lake Hauto. The boat was not at anchor when the victim and another

passenger jumped off the boat to go swimming. The boat drifted away from the swimmers and the victim went underwater and did not resurface. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket nor was there a throwable flotation device onboard. The operator of the vessel had not taken a formal boating safety education course. Drug and alcohol use may have been factors.

201.	1 Fatality 7/7/2022	Lake Akiba 5:45 P.M.	Monroe County Friday
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A 19-year-old female is deceased as a result of falling off an 11-foot personal watercraft on Lake Akiba. The victim was the observer on a personal watercraft that was towing two passengers in a tube when she fell overboard and drowned. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket.

202.	1 Fatality 8/13/2022	Youghiogheny River 2:30 P.M.	Fayette County Saturday
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A 50-year-old female is deceased as a result of falling overboard from a 12-foot inflatable raft on the Youghiogheny River near Ohiopyle. All occupants of the raft were ejected when the raft struck Dimple Rock. The other occupants were rescued however the victim became trapped under a rock near the bottom of the rapid. Once located, the victim was extricated and transported to the hospital where she was later pronounced deceased. The victim and everyone else onboard the raft wore lifejackets.

203.	1 Fatality 11/05/2022	Private Pond 6:12 P.M.	Crawford County Saturday
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A 19-year-old male is deceased as a result of capsizing from a 10-foot kayak on a private pond. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket and there were none onboard. The victim had not taken a formal boating safety education course. The water temperature was approximately 48°F. The victim was later recovered. Cold water immersion, alcohol and drug use may have been factors.

204.	1 Fatality 3/18/2023	Lake Henry 1:45 A.M.	Wayne County Saturday
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An 18-year-old male is deceased after the 10-foot rowboat he was operating capsized in 37-degree water. The victim and two others launched the boat without any life jackets onboard and none were worn. The boat began taking on water and capsized, leaving all three individuals in the water. After failed attempts to upright the boat, two of the individuals held on to the boat and noticed the victim was face down in the water. The local fire department rescued the two individuals, and the victim was recovered a few hours later. The victim did not have any formal boating safety education. Sudden coldwater immersion and alcohol use may have been factors.

205.	1 Fatality 4/13/2023	Susquehanna River 7:16 A.M.	Dauphin County Thursday
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A 65-year-old male is deceased after the 12-foot open motorboat he was operating went over the Dock Street Dam and capsized. The boat had drifted too close to the dam after the engine stalled and it went over the dam. The victim and passenger fell into the water. The passenger was wearing a life jacket and was rescued by another boater who happened to be in the area. He was transported to the hospital. The victim was wearing a lifejacket when he went over the dam but when recovered approximately six hours later and nearly five miles from the site of the incident, the victim no longer had the lifejacket on. The victim did not have any formal boating safety education. Sudden coldwater immersion may have been a factor.

206.	1 Fatality 5/18/2023	Wisecarver Reservoir unknown	Greene County Thursday
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A 65-year-old male is deceased after not returning home from a fishing trip. His 10-foot kayak was found adrift on the lake. An extensive search ensued and the victim's body was recovered ten days later. The victim was not wearing a life jacket nor was there one onboard. The operator was an experienced paddler but did not have any formal boating safety education. Sudden coldwater immersion and alcohol use may have been a factor.

207.	1 Fatality 6/28/2023	Susquehanna River 3:45 P.M.	Dauphin County Wednesday
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An 82-year-old male is deceased after capsizing his 12-foot canoe while paddling in high water. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket however there was one onboard. The victim was an experienced paddler but did not have any formal boating safety education.

208.	1 Fatality 8/19/2023	Dresser Lake 12:33 P.M.	Monroe County Saturday
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A 26-year-old male is deceased after capsizing an 8-foot kayak. At some point he ended up in the water and was then seen struggling to stay above water. He eventually went under water and did not resurface. The victim's body was recovered approximately three hours later. He was not wearing a life jacket at the time of the incident and had no formal boating safety education. Drugs or alcohol may have been a factor.

209.	2 Fatalities 8/19/2023	Private Pond 8:56 P.M.	Clinton County Saturday
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A 41-year-old male and an 11-year-old male are deceased after their 6-foot homemade unpowered boat capsized while fishing. Two other children were onboard at the time of the incident and swam to shore to get help. The victims' bodies were recovered a

short time later. The victims were not wearing life jackets and had no formal boating safety.

210.	1 Fatality	Mountain Top Lake	Monroe County
	11/23/2023	2:40 P.M.	Thursday

A 31-year-old male is deceased after leaving his kayak to assist another kayaker. The victim and two children were onboard a 13-foot kayak. The victim left his kayak to assist a third child whose 8-foot kayak had capsized. After several attempts to right the third child's kayak, the victim disappeared under water. The three children were all wearing life jackets and made it to shore safely. The victim was not wearing a life jacket and his body was recovered a short time later. The victim was reported to be a good swimmer and had previous kayak experience. Sudden coldwater immersion may have been a factor.

211.	1 Fatality	Susquehanna River	Dauphin County
	02/16/2024	9:24 A.M.	Friday

A 44-year-old male is deceased after he fell overboard from his 12-foot anchored kayak in cold water. The victim was reported to be an accomplished kayaker. He was wearing a manual inflatable lifejacket which was not activated and waders at the time of the incident. The victim was later recovered after several days of search and rescue efforts by first responders. The victim did not have any formal boating safety education. Sudden coldwater immersion may have been a factor.

212.	1 Fatality	Juniata River	Juniata County
	03/15/2024	9:30 P.M.	Friday

A 45-year-old male is deceased after he fell overboard from his 16-foot open motorboat in cold fast water while attempting to anchor. The other three passengers also fell overboard but were rescued from the water. None of the individuals were wearing lifejackets. The victim did not have any formal boating safety education. Sudden coldwater immersion, alcohol, and drug use may have all been factors.

213.	1 Fatality	Susquehanna River	Union County
	04/20/2024	7:55 P.M.	Saturday

A 37-year-old female is deceased after she fell overboard from a 13-foot open motorboat while approaching a boat access ramp. The other two passengers also fell overboard but both were able to swim ashore. The individuals were wearing lifejackets but the victim's came off when she fell overboard. The victim did not have any formal boating safety education. Sudden coldwater immersion may have been a factor.

214.	1 Fatality	Schuylkill River	Montgomery County
	04/30/2024	2:15 P.M.	Tuesday

A 70-year-old male is deceased after he separated from his 10-foot kayak while fishing above Norristown Dam on the Schuylkill River. It is believed that the victim was wearing a lifejacket but did not any formal boating safety education.

215.	1 Fatality	Shermans Creek	Perry County
	05/19/2024	8:00 A.M.	Sunday

A 36-year-old male is deceased when he became entangled in the anchor line after the 14-foot canoe swamped. The water was high and swift due to recent rainfall. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket and had no formal boating safety education.

216.	1 Fatality	Schuylkill River	Berks County
	07/06/2024	5:17 P.M.	Saturday

A 41-year-old male is deceased after capsizing from his 10-foot sit-on-top kayak. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket and there were none onboard. The victim did not have any formal boating safety education. Alcohol use may have been a factor.

217.	1 Fatality	Monongahela River	Washington County
	07/13/2024	10:13 A.M.	Saturday

A 39-year-old male is deceased while barefoot water skiing from a 20-foot open motorboat. During a maneuver the victim slid into a docked boat after letting go of the tow rope. The victim contacted the docked boat and was unresponsive. The occupants of the boat rendered aid to the unresponsive skier until first responders arrived. The victim did have formal boating safety education and was wearing a waterskiing wetsuit at the time of the incident.

218.	1 Fatality	Hammond Lake	Tioga County
	07/27/2024	8:17 A.M.	Saturday

A 16-year-old male is deceased after falling overboard from his 12-foot kayak while fishing. The victim did not have any formal boating safety education. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket but there was one onboard.

219.	1 Fatality	Yellow Breeches Creek	Cumberland County
	08/10/2024	4:53 P.M.	Saturday

A 10-year-old male is deceased after capsizing from his kayak. There was a group of kayakers, three adults and four children. There was a tree down across the creek. As the group was trying to get out of the water above the log, the victim got caught against the log and capsized his kayak. He went underwater and never resurfaced. The water was high and swift due to recent rainfall. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket and there were none onboard. The victim did not have any formal boating safety education.

220. 1 Fatality
08/15/2024

Susquehanna River
10:36 P.M.

Lancaster County
Thursday

A 39-year-old male is deceased after leaving his 20-foot open motorboat that had run out of fuel and had drifted aground on a rock shelf. The victim left the boat voluntarily to swim to shore and seek help. Witnesses say they watched him swim and then go underwater and not resurface. The victim was not wearing a lifejacket and there were none onboard. The victim was an experienced boat operator and had formal boating safety education.