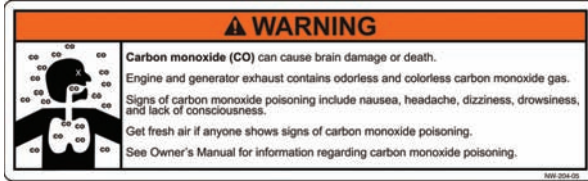


## You must display a CO warning sticker; it's the law

Any new or used motor driven vessel, other than personal watercraft, must display a CO warning sticker, visible to passengers, on the interior of the vessel.



## How do I get one?

If you own a motor driven vessel that is registered with the Department of Licensing (DOL), the sticker will be given to you when you renew the registration.

If you purchase a motor driven vessel from a dealer, the dealer will attach a CO warning sticker before the transaction is completed.

If you purchase a motor driven vessel from an individual, DOL will give you the sticker when the vessel ownership is transferred.

## Will a CO warning sticker installed by the manufacturer or issued by another state meet this requirement?

Yes, any sticker warning of the dangers of CO poisoning will be accepted, provided the warning sticker is attached to the interior of the vessel and is visible to the passengers.

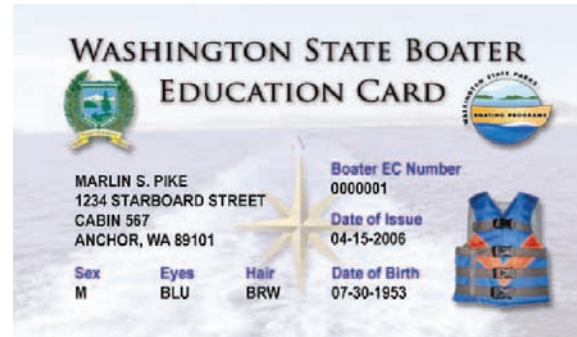
For questions about this brochure or the CO sticker, contact DOL at (360) 902-3770, option 5.

For more CO information visit the US Coast Guard website at [www.uscgboating.org](http://www.uscgboating.org).

## Washington's New Mandatory Boating Safety Education Program

A new Mandatory Boating Safety Education law goes into effect in 2008. This law requires all boaters 12 years of age and older to pass a boating safety exam before operating any powerboat of 15 horsepower or greater on Washington waterways.

The law will be phased in by operator age over several years. Beginning January 1, 2008, boat operators 12 to 20 years old will be required to have successfully passed an approved boating safety exam and carry a Boater Education Card when operating a vessel.



This card is issued by the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission for \$10.00 and is good for a lifetime. For additional information about obtaining a Boater Education Card or other details on the Mandatory Boating Education Program, check the State Parks website at [www.parks.wa.gov/boating](http://www.parks.wa.gov/boating) or call (360) 902-8844.



*The Department of Licensing has a policy of providing equal access to its services. If you need special accommodation, please call (360) 902-3600 or TTY (360) 664-8885.*

R 10/06

DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING

## Boating and the Dangers of Carbon Monoxide

If you could see



carbon monoxide around your boat



it might look like this.

[dol.wa.gov](http://dol.wa.gov)

**There is a silent killer aboard your vessel... idling your engine even a short period of time can put you and your passengers at risk. And, the threat can linger even after you shut off your engine. Exposure to exhaust fumes can cause Carbon Monoxide poisoning and death.**

### **What is Carbon Monoxide?**

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colorless, odorless, and tasteless gas. It is produced when carbon-based fuel - such as gasoline, propane, charcoal, or oil, burns. Sources on your boat may include engines, gas generators, cooking ranges, grills, space and water heaters.

### **Why is it so dangerous?**

CO enters your bloodstream through the lungs, blocking the oxygen your body needs. Prolonged exposure to low concentrations or very quick exposure to high concentrations can kill you.

### **What are the symptoms?**

Early symptoms of CO poisoning include irritated eyes, headache, nausea, weakness, drowsiness, vomiting, fatigue, confusion, and dizziness. These symptoms are often confused with seasickness or intoxication, so those affected may not receive the medical attention they need.

### **How can I protect myself and others?**

- Know where your exhaust outlets are located and keep everyone away from these areas.
- Install and maintain marine grade approved CO detectors.
- Maintain your engine. Engines that are not properly tuned produce more CO.

### **Suspect CO poisoning?**

1. Get everyone to fresh air right away.
2. Call Washington Poison Center at 1-800-222-1222.
3. If the person is unconscious, call 911.

**CO can accumulate in all of the following manners:**



Inadequately ventilated canvas enclosures.



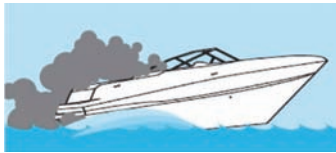
Exhaust gas trapped in enclosed places.



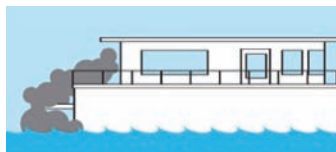
Blocked exhaust outlets.



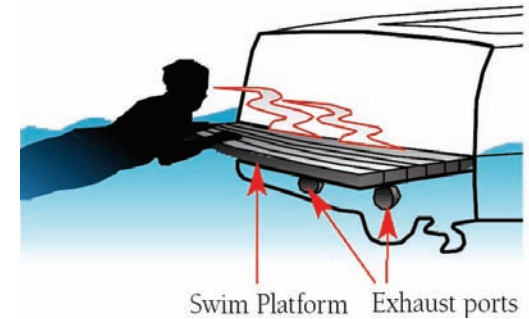
Another vessel's exhaust. CO from the boat positioned next to you can be just as deadly.



"Station wagon effect" or back drafting.



At slow speeds, while idling, or stopped, CO can remain at dangerous levels in and around your boat, even if the engine is no longer running.



### **"Teak Surfing"**

Teak surfing requires an individual hold on to the swim platform of a vessel underway while it builds up a wake to be able to body surf.

### **Its Dangers**

Teak surfing puts the individual directly in the path of the vessel's exhaust and poisonous external carbon monoxide. The Coast Guard warns that teak surfing exposes people to dangerous levels of carbon monoxide and two other deadly risk factors:

- Exposure to a boat's propeller. A typical recreational propeller can travel from head to toe on an average person in less than one tenth of a second.
- Failure to wear a lifejacket.

### **Not only is it dangerous, it's against the law**

It is a violation of Washington State law, punishable by a fine of up to \$100, to operate a vessel's engine while a person is occupying or holding on to the swim platform, swim deck, swim step, swim ladder or teak surfing behind the motorized vessel. The law provides exceptions for briefly assisting with docking or departure, exiting or entering the vessel, or engaging in law enforcement or emergency rescue activity. However, there is no exception for teak surfing behind the vessel at any time.