

Jersey Shore Open for Boating

“Of course we’re going to have a boating season—this is New Jersey! Sandy was devastating, but the State is cleaning up our waterways. We’re going to have a great shore season, you just need to be a little more careful than before Sandy and use a little more common sense out there.

”
- Governor Chris Christie

New Jersey waterways are open to recreational boating, fishing and hunting. Marinas are cleaning up, slip rentals are available, charter boats and party boats are booking customers, and kayak liveries and sail schools are gearing up for paddlers and sailors.

Governor Christie is committed to ensuring that coastal communities are open for tourism and recreation this summer. The State is removing storm-related debris and sand from its waterways throughout coastal New Jersey and our storm-impacted bays. Cleanup likely will continue into the fall. Superstorm Sandy was extremely destructive and you may encounter hazards in the water, so use caution.

Be a responsible boater:

- Stay in the navigation channels or deeper water.
- Proceed at lower speeds and use a lookout, as if piloting in uncharted waters.
- If you see an area marked to stay away from, stay away from it. Keep your eyes open for debris that might be out there but isn’t marked.
- Always wear a life jacket.
- Stay clear of debris removal and dredging operations.

Be aware of potential changes in waterway conditions since Sandy:

- Existing navigation charts and GPS data may not reflect actual conditions.
- Shifted channels, new shoals, altered bottom contours and changes in waterway depths.
- Floating or submerged debris and vegetation.

To report debris in the water, call the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection at **1-877-WARN-DEP**.

Anyone finding oil or chemical pollution should contact the National Response Center (NRC) at **1-800-424-8802**.

For more information and updates on New Jersey’s waterway debris removal, visit www.nj.gov/dep/special/hurricane-sandy/wwdebris.htm.

For the latest “Local Notice to Mariners” information, visit www.navcen.uscg.gov.

