

Bonneville County Sheriff's Office

News Release

June 24th through June 26th 2011 the Bonneville County Sheriff's Office will be taking part in a National Program called Operation Dry Water.

The National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) are coordinating this event. They are working with the U.S. Coast Guard, individual states and Law Enforcement agencies,

Operation Dry Water is a National weekend of Boating Under the Influence (BUI) detection and enforcement aimed at reducing the number of alcohol and drug-related accidents and fatalities and fostering a stronger and more visible deterrent to alcohol and drug use on the water.

Curbing the number of alcohol and drug-related accidents and fatalities is the key to achieving a safer and more enjoyable environment for recreational boating. According to the most recent U.S. Coast Guard statistics, Boating under the Influence is still the leading contributing factor in fatal boating accidents, with 17 percent of boating fatalities a direct result of alcohol or drug use.

If a Bonneville County Sheriff's Deputy finds that a boat operator is BUI, the vessel's voyage will be terminated, the boat may be impounded and the operator may be arrested. Penalties may include fines, imprisonment, impoundment of the boat, even loss of driving privileges.

During this weekend we will have additional officers on the waterways patrolling for boat operators who are impaired by Alcohol and Drugs.

This is a nationwide enforcement priority, it is not a onetime event, We will continue enforcing these laws all summer long.

There are public service announcements, radio sound bites at <http://www.operationdrywater.org/>.

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