



# City of Bellevue | Proclamation

**Whereas:** Recreational boating is a popular activity in the many lakes and waters around Bellevue; and

**Whereas:** Since 2020, there has been a surge of people engaging in paddling activities, many without any training; paddling fatalities now constitute more than 25% of all boating fatalities nationwide; and

**Whereas:** Knowledge and skills are important in allowing boaters to protect themselves and their friends and family through safe practices and precautionary measures; and

**Whereas:** Most of the serious boating and paddling accidents are caused by lack of training, human error or poor judgment; and

**Whereas:** Failing to follow nautical rules, using drugs or alcohol while controlling a boat or choosing not to wear a life vest add significant risks; and

**Whereas:** The proper equipment, such as life jackets, and engaging in preparedness activities, such as checking the weather ahead of time, save lives; and

**Whereas:** The U.S. Coast Guard and The America's Boating Club of Bellevue are invested in the wellbeing of the community and are committed to providing free vessel safety checks for the community.

**Now, therefore, I,** Lynne Robinson, Mayor of the City of Bellevue, Washington, and on behalf of its City Council, do hereby proclaim the week of **May 18-24, 2024**, as:

## **National Safe Boating and Paddling Week**

and urge all community members to practice year-round safe boating practices, and to "Boat Smart – Boat Safe – and Wear It" while on the water.

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Lynne Robinson, Mayor  
City of Bellevue