

A PUBLIC EDUCATION RESOURCE FOR THE US COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

Equipment for Your Life Jacket

Life jackets and using them has been a major topic for preventing the loss of life. Wearing them properly has been an issue and should be reviewed by instructors in every public education class.

Properly equipping a life jacket with a few additional safety items and learning how to use those tools can improve the probability of detection when a person is in the water. Boating after sunset means decreased visibility and requires extra safety precautions when operating during the hours between sunset and sunrise. Adding the safety equipment to every person's life jacket will insure that they are more visible in the water during times of reduced visibility.

Additional Items that should be attached to life jackets include:

- Strobe or chemical light, optional dye marker
- Signaling mirror
- Whistle

Adding a knife to adult life jackets is optional, but should be considered.

