



The rise in popularity of paddle sports over the past several years had led to an increase in the number of search and rescue missions launched to save paddlers who may, or may not, actually be in distress.

Paddlers can arm the U.S. Coast Guard and other would-be rescuers with information by using a vessel identification sticker. These reflective, waterproof stickers should be filled out using a waterproof marker and adhered to a visible portion of a kayak or canoe. If found unattended, authorities can quickly determine if the vessel is adrift accidentally or if a boater is missing and a search should be launched.

Request your sticker today. Contact Rachel Vetterlein at the American Canoe Association (540-907-4460 x104) or the U.S. Coast Guard. West Coast residents should contact the 13th District Public Affairs office at (206) 220-7237. On the East Coast, contact 1st District Recreational Boating Specialist Walt Taylor at (617) 223-8464.