Dear Residents of Lake Angelus,

With boating season on its way, here are a few pre-season reminders.

As citizens of our wonderful city, state, and country we have certain laws and regulations to follow. Please remember that now is a great time to **start the education process** for both new and experienced boat operators. It's important to develop a plan for boater safety classes and to formulate an on-going "safety-first" mindset.

In addition, now is a great time to **schedule any pre-season boat repairs** that need to be done to make the vessel seaworthy and ready to go.

Another important reminder, as communicated last summer and at the end of the boating season, boats **must display MC numbers and up-to-date registration decals**. See attached excerpts from the Michigan Boating Laws. Most owners and or boat dealers who were taking boats out last fall were reminded of this important obligation. Please understand that your city, under state and federal law, cannot allow boats on Lake Angelus that do not meet the proper requirements for MC numbers and registration decals.

We're hoping that these early reminders will give you time to get ready to enjoy the season ahead.

City Council:

It's the Law

All operators are required to obey laws that regulate your vessel's registration, titling, and operation.

Registering Your Vessel

You must have a Michigan Certificate of Number (registration) and validation decals to operate your vessel.

The only exceptions are:

- · Privately owned rowboats 16 feet or less in length
- Privately owned non-motorized canoes or kayaks
- Vessels registered in another state or country using Michigan waters for 60 days or less

All watercraft with a motor must be registered including electric and inflatable vessels.

The Certificate of Number and validation decals are obtained by submitting the proper application and fee to any Secretary of State branch office.

The Certificate of Number (registration card) must be on board and available for inspection by an enforcement officer whenever the vessel is being operated.

The registration number and validation decals must be displayed as follows.

- Number must be painted, applied as a decal, or otherwise affixed to both sides of the bow as high above the water line as practical.
- Number must read from left to right on both sides of the bow.
- Number must be in at least three-inch-high BLOCK letters.
- Number's color must contrast with the color of the background and be distinctly visible and legible.
- Letters must be separated from the numbers by a space or hyphen: MC 3717 ZW or MC-3717-ZW.
- No other numbers may be displayed on either side of the bow.
- Decals must be affixed on each side of the vessel and placed three inches after the last character of the registration number.



Where to Title and Register

The Certificate of Number and validation decals are obtained by submitting the proper application and fee to any Secretary of State branch office. You can find your closest branch office:

- By calling 1-888-SOS-MICH (1-888-767-6424)
- On the Internet at <u>www.michigan.gov/sos</u>

Where to Renew Your Certificate of Number

A Certificate of Number is valid for three years and may be renewed:

- Over the Internet at <u>www.michigan.gov/sos</u>
- At any Secretary of State branch office