**Homeland Security**
Boaters must be cautious and constantly aware of surroundings. It is now illegal to stop or anchor beneath bridges. Secure and lock your boat when not on-board and, when stored, disable the engine. Avoid restricted areas such as dams, power plants, etc. and observe all security zones, especially around military installations.

Naval Vessel Protection Zone – You must stay at least 100 yards away from any military vessel and maintain minimum steerage speed within 500 yards. Violators face quick and severe response, not more than six years in prison and not more than a $250,000 fine. You should report the following to the U.S. Coast Guard (see page 4 for telephone numbers):
- Suspicious persons conducting unusual activities near security areas, bridges, on or near the water.
- People establishing roadside stands near marinas and waterfront facilities.
- Unknown persons photographing or creating diagrams around power plants, under bridges, waterfront facilities or any other high risk areas.
- Unknown or suspicious persons loitering around waterfront areas.
- Suspicious persons attempting to borrow or rent watercraft
- Suspicious vendors attempting to sell or deliver merchandise or drop off packages in waterfront areas.

**Safety and Security Zones - Boaters should not:**
- Enter buoyed areas off the Niantic Bay or Jordan Cove side of Dominion/Millstone Power Plant, Waterford, CT.
- Enter waters within 100 yards of any anchored U.S. Coast Guard vessel.
- Stop, moor, anchor or loiter beneath a bridge or approach within a 25-yard radius of any bridge foundation, support, stanchion, pier or abutment except as required for the direct, expeditious transit beneath a bridge.

In addition to the areas listed above, all boaters should be aware of multiple Security Zones on the Thames River. These Security Zones are located at Electric Boat Shipyard - Groton, U.S. Coast Guard Academy - New London and Naval Submarine Base – Groton. Travel through these zones may be subject to periodic speed and entry restrictions. All vessels transiting these areas should listen for specific instructions via VHF marine radio, a loudhailer from official patrol vessels or personnel on shore. Boaters should comply with any instructions as quickly and as safely as possible.

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**Helpful Internet Addresses**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA):** [www.noaa.gov](http://www.noaa.gov)

Print-on-Demand Charts and Historical Map and Chart Collections: [https://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/](https://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/)

National Ocean Service Data Discovery Portal: [https://data.noaa.gov/datasetsearch/](https://data.noaa.gov/datasetsearch/)

Chart No.1: Nautical Chart Symbols, Abbreviations and Terms: [https://nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/publications/us-chart-1.html](https://nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/publications/us-chart-1.html)

National Weather Service: [https://www.weather.gov](https://www.weather.gov)


Sunrise/Sunset Calculator: [www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/grad/solcalc/sunrise.html](http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/grad/solcalc/sunrise.html)

Real time tide information: [https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/tide_predictions.html?gid=1394](https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/tide_predictions.html?gid=1394)

**U.S. Coast Guard websites**

U.S. Coast Guard Local Notice to Mariners (by district): [www.navcen.uscg.gov](http://www.navcen.uscg.gov)

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary: [www.cgaux.org](http://www.cgaux.org)

**Other websites**

U.S. Power Squadrons: [www.usps.org](http://www.usps.org)

provides cooperative charting information & training

Maptech (for raster nautical charts): [www.maptech.com](http://www.maptech.com)

Print on Demand Charts: [www.oceangrafix.com](http://www.oceangrafix.com)

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (provide information for navigable rivers, ports & channels): [www.usace.army.mil](http://www.usace.army.mil)

Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles: [https://portal.ct.gov/dmv](https://portal.ct.gov/dmv)