

# PRACTICAL BOATING COURSE

Instructor: Craig Shipp

When: September 18-24th, 2022



This classroom part of the program presents the *America's Boating Course (ABC)* curriculum and teaches the fundamentals of safe boating. This classroom material covers safety equipment, trip planning, navigation rules and aids, state and federal regulations, anchoring, dealing with adverse conditions and emergencies, communications, boat trailering, knots and lines, and more! The information is useful for operators of all types of watercraft and is applicable for both ocean and freshwater boating. Successfully completing the *ABC* multiple choice examination leads to certification in boating education before operating a watercraft. This certification meets the requirement to operate a watercraft in most states (Maine will begin this requirement in 2024). The *ABC* is sanctioned by the Penobscot Bay Sail and Power Squadron (PBSPS), a chapter of the US Power Squadron, America's Boating Club. This part of the program will be about half of the overall class and will be mostly scheduled in the afternoons.

The practical part of the program takes all the topics discussed in the classroom and applies them by demonstration and participating in on-water situations. Various activities and outings will be schedule throughout the week, leading up to a day-long cruise to an offshore island at the mouth of a Downeast river estuary, pending favorable weather. This part of the program will be the other half of the overall class and will be mostly scheduled in the mornings, when conditions are more favorable on the water.

Participants who own and plan to bring their own trailerable, outboard motorboats are especially encouraged to register, as this is a great opportunity to expand your knowledge and experience on operating your boat in the marine environment. Additional cost charged by PBSPS for the *ABC* is \$50, which covers text and certification registration. For information on personal equipment and supplies, participants are expected to bring, request the course syllabus.

**GENERAL INFO**

**CALENDAR**

**APPLY**

## about the instructor

**Craig Shipp** (craig.shipp@att.net) has been US Coast Guard-licensed captain for over 40 years and currently hold a merchant mariner credential for vessels up to 100 gross-ton in near coastal waters. He operates a small boat-charter touring business to mostly view seabirds, which is based in Steuben, Maine. Another seasonal on-water activity is working part-time, leading natural history tours in Frenchman Bay, adjacent to Acadia National Park. Additionally, during the summer, when he has a few free days, he volunteers as a monitor skipper for the Maine Island Trail Association, looking after a number of offshore islands between Deer Isle-Stonington area and Cobscook Bay on the Canadian Border.