

PRACTICAL BOATING COURSE



2023 Eagle Hill
Natural History
Science Seminars
on the coast of
eastern Maine

Instructor: Craig Shipp

When: September 10th-16th, 2023



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). This ABC offering is sanctioned by the Penobscot Bay Chapter (PBSPS) of the United States Power Squadrons, America's Boating Club. This part of the program will be about half of the overall course and will be scheduled mostly in the afternoons.

The on-water part of the program takes many of the topics discussed in the classroom and applies them by demonstration and hands-on activities during on-water situations. Various outings will be scheduled throughout the week, leading up to a day-long cruise to an offshore island, pending favorable weather. This part of the program will be the other half of the overall course and will be scheduled mostly in the mornings, when conditions are more favorable on the water.

Participants who own and plan to bring their own trailerable, outboard boats are especially encouraged to register, as this is a great opportunity to expand your knowledge and experience in operating your boat in the marine environment. Additional cost charged by PBSPS for the ABC is \$60, which covers text and certification registration. For additional information on personal equipment needed, and schedule, request the detailed 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 holds a merchant mariner credential for vessels up to 100 gross-ton in near coastal waters. He operates a small boat-charter touring business to view seabirds, which is based in Steuben, Maine. Additionally, during the summer, 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.