



Safe Boating Display and Vessel Safety Exams

Provided by members of the Meriden Power Squadron.

Safety display at [Pattaconk Yacht Club](#), Chester CT

Saturday, June 05 2021

9:00 AM until 12:00 Noon



A Vessel Safety Check is a *courtesy* examination of your vessel to verify the presence and condition of certain Safety Equipment required by State and the Federal regulations.

The Vessel Examiner (VE) is a trained specialist and is a member of the United States Power Squadrons or the US Coast Guard Auxiliary.

This is not boarding or a law enforcement issue, it is a courtesy examination. No citations for non-compliance will be given as a result of this encounter.

Vessels that comply with all requirements will be able to display our distinctive VSC decal. This does not exempt you from law enforcement boarding, but you can be prepared to make this a positive encounter should it occur.

Some of the major items we check are:

- ✓ Proper display of numbers
- ✓ Registration/Documentation paperwork current
- ✓ Personal Flotation Devices (quantity and general condition of life jackets & throwables)
- ✓ Visual Distress Signals (condition and expiration dates of flares)
- ✓ Fire extinguishers (sufficient charge, placement, and mounting of units)
- ✓ Ventilation (blowers operable)
- ✓ Backfire flame control
- ✓ Sound producing devices (horn operating, bell, whistle)
- ✓ Navigation lights (properly operating)
- ✓ Onboard sanitation equipment (heads, holding tank systems, and required lockouts)
- ✓ State requirements
- ✓ Overall vessel condition (deck hazards, pollution issues, and other general conditions of concern).

In addition, the vessel examiner will discuss with the recreational boater the purpose of specific marine safety equipment, will clarify various federal and state regulations, will discuss certain safety procedures and practices, and will answer any boating related questions.

