



Welcome to the SEIC Newsletter! We have created this monthly newsletter to supply updates, information, and important news to increase communication and connectivity between the ACA Safety Education and Instruction Council, Discipline Committees, the ACA Staff, and certified instructors and trainers.



#WearYourLifeJacketToWorkDay

Did you know that National Safe Boating Week is May 18th-24th? National Wear Your Life Jacket To Work Day kicks off this nationwide campaign to promote safety on the water. The ACA Regional Activity Council (RAC) has done amazing work in coordinating and supporting events that bring paddling safety awareness to the forefront of communities all over the US.

“The US Coast Guard is excited to support the ACA's “Kayaking 101” as a powerful volunteer-led initiative to share the love of paddlesports and help train newcomers how to do it safely,” said Verne Gifford, Chief, U. S. Coast Guard Boating Safety Division (CG-BSX-2). “It is amazing to see the local ACA instructors, paddling clubs and paddling leaders join forces to address this need in their communities. They saw a chance to make a difference and they stepped up to be part of the solution!”

Check out the full article in this great feature from [Paddling Magazine!](#)



We are proud to share that the ACA's Safety, Education, and Instruction Program has crossed a major milestone - over 50,000 instructor certifications have been issued since the initiation of the program!



New Online Courses Modules! Great for your students!

Through a partnership the U.S. Coast Guard, the ACA is pleased to present the following new Paddlesports Safety Online Course modules:

- Kayak Fishing Safety - **NEW!**
- Self and Assisted Rescue Techniques - **NEW!**
- Nautical Rules of the Road - **NEW!**

These three new content areas build upon the original ACA Paddling Safety Online Course, which covers:

- Shopping for Paddling Equipment
- Securing a Boat to Your Vehicle
- Trip Planning
- Filing a Float Plan
- On-water Group Management
- Waterway Hazard Identification
- Challenging Weather
- Temperature Regulation & Self Care
- Rescue Priorities & Protocol
- And more!

Upon successful completion of the course, finishers will receive a completion certificate. This course is a great, free resource for your paddling class students!

[Check It Out](#)

Meet the Safety, Education, and Instruction Council!



The Safety Education and Instruction Council's (SEIC) mission is to develop and implement effective paddlesports safety, education, and instructional programs and materials that inform, train, and serve the public at all skill levels and in all aspects of paddlesports. The SEIC shall represent the interests of member ACA National Discipline Committees to the ACA National

Board of Directors.

To learn more about SEIC's activities and the dedicated paddling experts who make it all happen, [visit the ACA website](#).

Remember To Review Your Certification Expiration Date & Renewal Requirements!

By the end of your 4-year certification period, the following minimum maintenance requirements must be met for your certification to be renewed for an additional 4 years:

- Maintain annual ACA membership and SEIC registration.
- Instructors must teach and properly report a minimum of two classes every four years. At least one class must be at their highest level of certification.
- Successfully complete an Instructor Update during the certification period.

Instructor Updates can be accomplished by one of the following methods:

- Participate in an actual Instructor Update course at your highest certification level.
- Assist with an IDW or ICE at the highest level of certification (with the pre-approval of the facilitating IT) and complete a review of ACA Policies & Procedures with the IT.
- Co-teach a skills course at your highest level of certification under the supervision of an IT in that discipline and complete a review of ACA Policies & Procedures with the IT.

If you need assistance with reporting courses that you have taught, please consider reading the user manual and update bulletins located in the "Help and Training" tab within the CMS. To access the CMS, use your regular ACA username and password to [log in](#).

Cool tip: When you log into your CMS account, you'll see a link directly to the right side of your certification. Click that link, and it will take you to a page called "Progress Towards Certification Renewal." That page outlines all the certification renewal requirements, which ones you have met, and which ones you may have not yet met.

We've got resources and tools for ACA Instructors and Trainers!

- [Instructor & Trainer Resources YouTube Playlist](#)
- [Course Management System \(CMS\) Log In & Tools](#)
- [Free Online Paddling Safety Course for Students](#)
- [About the ACA Presentation](#)
- [ACA Presentation Template \(PPT\)](#)
- [ACA Outreach Flyer](#)
- [SEIC Newsletter Archives](#)

[Instructor Resource Collection](#)

