

Be Safe—Boating Fatalities On The Rise For The Year

After three straight years of decreases in fatalities in boating accidents in North Carolina, things changed for the worse during 1993.

Thirty people died in boating accidents in the state during 1993, according to the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission's Report of Boating Accidents and Fatalities.

That is nine more than were killed in 1992 and four more than in 1991. Sixty-one fatalities were recorded in the initial report in

1972 when 92,607 boats were registered.

Commission records show that 294,058 boats were registered in 1993, almost 11,000 more than the previous year. Registrations have increased every year except one since the commission started keeping boating statistics.

The 30 deaths for 1993 came in 25 accidents, and there were 154 non-fatal accidents. The 179 total accidents involved 241 vessels, and medical treatment was needed in

103 cases.

Only one vessel was involved in 65 percent of the accidents. In 1977, the all-time high of 218 boating accidents was recorded. The all-time low was 101 in 1981.

Capsizing was the number-one cause of death for 1993, with that being the case in 10 accidents. Falls overboard, which was the number-one cause a year earlier, affected seven cases. Collision between two vessels ranked as the number-one cause of accidents in non-fatal cas-

es.

Leading causes of fatal accidents were hazardous waters in five cases; operator inattention in four cases; and alcohol, weather and excessive speed tied at three each.

Overloading was involved in two cases. One accident was caused by each of the following: no proper lookout, improper loading, operator

inexperience, submerged object or unknown.

The Intracoastal Waterway led in the number of accidents with 14, but no fatalities were involved.

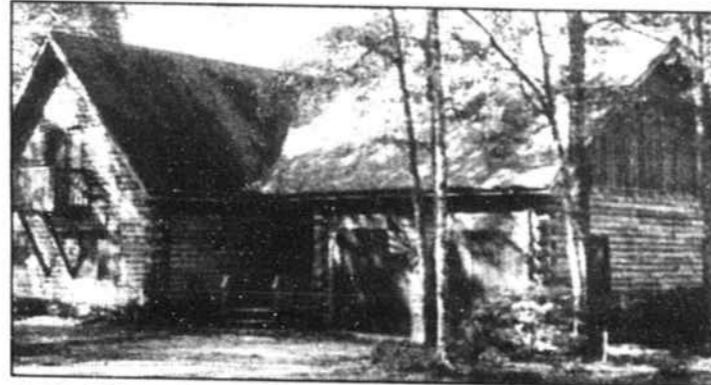
Anyone wishing to take a safe boating course may obtain a list of courses being offered in the state by telephoning the boating education hotline at 1-800-336-BOAT.



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36 CAROLINA SHORES DR.—Classic brick ranch-style home with antique brick Pella windows, quality throughout. View of 5th fairway from family room and patio. Lovely cabinetry. Loads of extras. This home has great value. \$159,900.



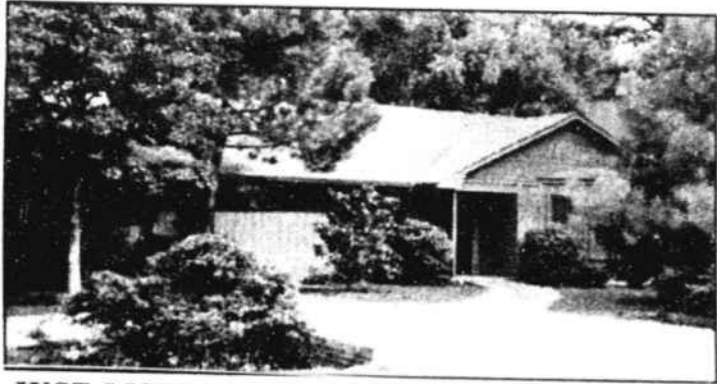
1699 STAR CROSS RD.—RUSTIC CHARM!! 3-BR, 2-bath log home. Acre+ lot on water. MBR w/huge dressing area. Lovely wood floors, 2-car garage. Outbuilding. Appliances. (H129) \$124,900.



GOLF COURSE LIVING AT ITS BEST—This lovely home has it all. Open and spacious, overlooking pond and course. Split BR, stone FP, eat-in kitchen, upgraded appliances, skylights, ceramic tile bird bath with established clientele. Only \$146,900.



CALABASH ACRES—This lovely home is one of the kind. Older portion of the home has been completely remodeled and a large addition has been added. Open floor plan with vaulted ceilings, brick FP, hardwood floors, tile counters, lg. screened porch, corner lot with lovely trees. \$134,900.



JUST LISTED—17 CAROLINA SHORES DRIVE, CAROLINA SHORES—Do you prefer golf to yard work? We have the perfect home for the active retiree, easy to maintain, great location, 3 BR, 2 baths, screened porch, brick FP, open floor plan. Priced to sell. \$97,900.



872 CAROLINA ST., CAROLINA COVE—Neat brick home in lovely country setting, large well-landscaped lot, oak cabinets, lg. closets, brick fireplace. Nice screened porch on back. Oversized garage. Call on this one. \$87,500.

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SOUND FACTS

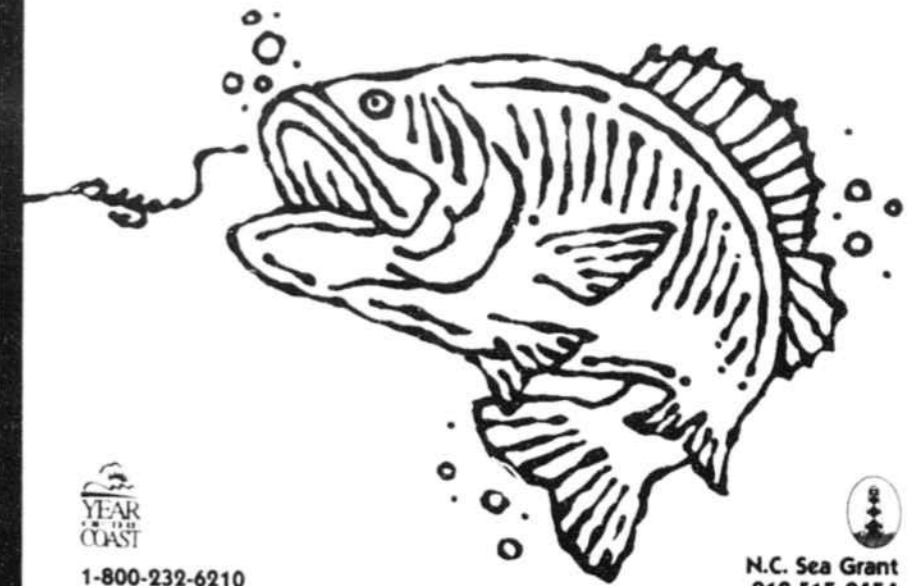
Fishing Ethics

Fall is a prime time for fishing in coastal North Carolina. Anglers can snag bluefish, mackerel, mullet, snappers and others. But don't be greedy when reeling in your catch.

Keep only what you can use. Be aware of fishing regulations that set size and bag limits for certain species. And don't leave unwanted fish such as stingrays, puffers and toadfish on the beach or pier to die. These fish have a place in the ocean ecosystem too. Release them back into the water intact.

If your line needs changing while you're on the water, don't toss it overboard. Fishing line can be deadly for coastal critters that become entangled in its almost invisible lengths.

For those fish you do catch, ice them immediately to keep them at their freshest. Some species such as sharks, tuna, big bluefish and other large gamefish should also be bled first.



1-800-232-6210



N.C. Sea Grant
919-515-2454

A Bird Lovers Find For N.C.

The coastal region of North Carolina is a popular destination for bird-watchers from across the country. It is a seasonal home to approximately 400 species of birds, some of which are found more easily here than anywhere else in the United States.

Several species reach their southern breeding limit in coastal North Carolina, and in winter there are vast flocks of waterfowl, including Iceland and Glaucous gulls, eiders and Harlequin Ducks. Species typically associated with the Deep South, like the Wilson's Plover, Red-cockaded Woodpecker and Painted Bunting can also be found—if you know where to look.

In *A Birder's Guide to Coastal North Carolina* (University of North Carolina Press), Fussell provides the first guide to the prime bird-watching spots of the Tar Heel coast and nearby areas—including national seashores, national forests and wildlife refuges, state parks and game lands, and other public areas.

Written for both casual and serious birders, the book is a guide to birding sites rather than a field guide. It features detailed site descriptions for the entire coastal re-

gion, including the Outer Banks. Fussell provides an annotated checklist, habitat information and frequency graphs indicating seasonal abundance for all regularly occurring species.

The book also includes a section on the 141 most sought-after species on the coast. Fussell describes the best places and conditions—seasonal, weather and tidal—for finding these popular varieties. Detailed maps of most of the major birding sites complement the text.

According to Fussell, many species are found far more easily in places like Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge and the Bodie Island area than anywhere else in the state—especially during autumn migration. And although habitat loss is rampant, much of the critical habitat is in public lands such as national seashores and national parks, and groups like the Nature Conservancy and National Audubon Society are protecting special natural areas in the region.

A Birder's Guide to Coastal North Carolina is available in paperback (16.95) and hardcover (\$29.95).