

UWL River Studies Center Boat Use–Safety

Safety Protocols

- 1. All RSC boat users are required to complete boater education training through one of the following sources:**
 - US Fish and Wildlife Service
 - La Crosse or Onalaska YMCA
 - City of La Crosse Parks and Recreation
 - Online training - <https://www.boat-ed.com/wisconsin/>
 - Online training - <http://www.boaterexam.com/usa/wisconsin/>
- 2. Students using RSC boats must always do so with another boater safety certified student or faculty.**
- 3. RSC boat users must wear PFD at all times while on the water.**
- 4. First time boat users should contact Colin Belby (Geography), Roger Haro (Biology), or Eric Strauss (Biology) to go over boat features.**
 - Colin Belby (2021 Cowley, cbelby@uwlax.edu, office 608-785-8339; cell 608-799-9325)
 - Roger Haro (105E Graff Hall, rharo@uwlax.edu, office 608-785-6970; cell 608-797-8857)
 - Eric Strauss (2033 Cowley, estrauss@uwlax.edu, office 608-785-8262; cell 608-421-0264)
- 5. Boaters must have a working cell phone while using boat. Dial 911 in case of an emergency.**
- 6. Boaters must have an emergency contact available while using boat in case of breakdown.**
- 7. Students using RSC boats must notify their research advisor prior to going out on the water.**

I. UWL River Studies Center Boat Use—Boats available

Boats available through the River Studies Center

- i. 16 ft Crestliner flat bottom boat (WS 3468 DL)
 - 30 HP Mercury outboard and 9.9 HP Mercury kicker motor
 - No key required to start motors
 - 2 inch hitch ball

- ii. 16 ft Crestliner flat bottom boat (WS 3466 DL)
 - 30 HP Mercury outboard and 9.9 HP Mercury kicker motor
 - No key required to start motors
 - 2 inch hitch ball

- iii. 16 ft Crestliner flat bottom boat (WS 3467 DL)
 - 27 HP GoDevil surface drive motor for shallow water operation
 - 2 inch hitch ball
 - *Key required to start motor*

- iv. 16 ft Apex Marine pontoon boat (WS 3587 JD)
 - 30 HP Mercury outboard
 - 2 inch hitch ball
 - *Key required to start motor*
 - Note that this boat does not have any seats on it

- v. We-no-nah Champlain canoe #1

- vi. We-no-nah Champlain canoe #2

II. UWL River Studies Center Boat Use–Boat reservations

Reserving and transporting boats

Reservations:

- 1) View boat availability at <https://tinyurl.com/yyvncx2k>
- 2) Complete the checkout form at <https://forms.gle/MKZZGQgnQNkccEa2A>

If boat IS NOT moored in Pool 8, then you will have to transport it to the desired location

1. Obtain keys for boat and trailer. One key on chain is to open padlocks on storage boxes, hitch, and spare tire. The other keys on the chain are for the GoDevil and the pontoon boat motors.
2. Keys can be obtained from:
 - i. Lynn Smith, Biology Department ADA (3005 Cowley – office phone 608-785-8238)
 - ii. Debra Gerke, Geography Department ADA (2004 Cowley – office phone 608-785-8219)
 - iii. Lori Hanson, Chemistry Department ADA (4004 Cowley – office phone 608-785-8268)
 - iv. The following individuals also have spare sets of keys, but users should check out keys from one of the ADAs listed above.
 - Roger Haro (105E Graff Hall, rharo@uwlax.edu, office 608-785-6970; cell 608-797-8857)
 - Eric Strauss (2033 Cowley, estrauss@uwlax.edu, office 608-785-8262; cell 608-421-0264)
 - Colin Belby (2021 Cowley, cbelby@uwlax.edu, office 608-785-8339; cell 608-799-9325)
 - Greg Sandland (2032 Cowley, gsandland@uwlax.edu, office 608-785-6982)
3. All individuals using a *personal or fleet vehicle* (“Truck reservation” section) for University business, including students, must complete a Driver Authorization Application. The application can be found at <https://www.uwlax.edu/business-services/our-services/driver-authorization/>. **NOTE** - Approval may take several weeks.

III. UWL River Studies Center Boat Use–Boat pick-up

1. Pick up boat from TK Valley Storage located at 1637 Saint James Road, La Crosse. The location is shown on this map <https://tinyurl.com/y473mju2>. The code for entering and exiting the storage lot is 1199.

2. Prior to departing the storage lot, check the following on trailer.
 - Trailer light harness is connected and ALL trailer lights are functioning.
 - Trailer swivel jack wheel is stowed parallel to trailer tongue after lowering trailer onto hitch.
 - Trailer safety chains are crossed, attached to hitch, and not dragging on the ground
 - Padlock secured in hitch coupler to prevent it from opening while in transport.
 - All tires are properly inflated, including spare (use tire gauge in tool kit).

3. Prior to departing the storage lot, check that the following are on the boat.
 - Plugs (secured within drain holes at back of boat).
 - Fuel tanks (2 per boat)
 - Locked gear box should contain:
 - i. Boat user log
 - ii. Boat registration
 - iii. 2 PFDs, sizes medium and large (obtain more from RSC cage if needed)
 - iv. Bilge pump
 - v. 2 telescoping paddles
 - vi. Air horn
 - vii. First aid kit
 - viii. Stern and bow boat lights
 - ix. Flashlight
 - x. Maps for Pools 7 and 8.
 - xi. Control head for sonar
 - xii. Flares (3)
 - xiii. Spare AAA batteries
 - xiv. Repair tools

4. If using davit with a flat bottom boat, ALSO ensure that you have:
 - Aluminum frame that is attached to gunwales by four clamps.
 - Wooden base with aluminum support that goes on boat floor beneath frame.
 - Aluminum crane with hand winch.

IV. UWL River Studies Center Boat Use–Boat return

- 1. After pulling the boat out of the water -**
 - i. Pull the drain plug and drain all water while still at the boat landing.**
 - ii. Remove all materials (e.g. macrophytes, zebra mussels) that may have become attached to boat and trailer while still at the boat landing.**
 - iii. Complete the user log and return it to the storage box on the boat.**
 - iv. Clean up and organize materials inside the boat.**
 - v. Unless wet, return all other items to the storage box. Lock to box.**
 - vi. Coil up bow and anchor ropes.**
 - vii. Dispose of all trash.**
 - viii. Secure boat cover on flat bottom boat.**
 - ix. Stow awning on pontoon boat.**

- 2. Return boat to the TK Valley parking lot.**

- 3. Return truck keys to UWL Maintenance building and sign in on log. Key can be placed in after hour drop box.**

- 4. Return boat keys to ADA.**

- 5. Report any issues with boat to Colin Belby (contact info above).**

UWL River Studies Center Boat Use–Truck reservations

Reserving a truck for boat transport

1. Contact Mary Dixon at Facilities Planning and Management to reserve a truck to transport the boat. Mary can provide current pricing for using trucks (daily rate + mileage). **Truck reservations need to be made a couple of days in advance of truck use**
 - i. Mary Dixon (103 Maintenance Building, mdixon@uwlax.edu, 608-785-8586)
 - ii. Have account number for billing at time of reservation.
 - iii. Guidelines on use of a UWL fleet vehicle can be found at <https://www.uwlax.edu/fpm/university-central-fleet/>

2. Contact Troy Cina (UWL auto technician - 112 Maintenance Building tcina@uwlax.edu, 608-785-8725) at Facilities Planning and Management to notify him that you will be using one of the fleet vehicles to tow a boat. Troy can assist with preparing the truck.

3. Obtain truck key from 103 Maintenance Building located at 855 East Avenue North.
 - Truck key and wallet with credit card for fuel from Mary Dixon. Pick up contract with key.
 - Keys can only be checked out from the Maintenance Building between 7:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

4. Prior to leaving the UWL Maintenance Building, check that the following are in the truck:
 - Properly sized hitch ball is in the truck (Refer to “Boat available” section).
 - Adapter for the 4-way trailer wiring harness is in the truck.
 - Enter starting mileage on contract.

5. When finished, return truck, truck key and wallet with credit card to UW-L Maintenance building. If returning after hours, key and wallet can be placed in drop box along with completed contract.

Boatbox checklist - Crestliner flat bottom boat with 30 HP Mercury (WS 3468 DL)

Safety/Emergency Equipment

- 2 PFDs (sizes large and x-large)
- Signal air horn
- First Aid Kit
- Emergency whistle
- Survival Medic Kit
- 4 handheld signal flares

Tool Box

- Flashlight
- 2 spare drain plugs
- Screwdriver with 4 bits
- Precision screwdriver with 12 bits
- Utility knife
- Extra utility knife blades
- Duct tape
- Electrical tape
- Vice grip
- 25' tape measure
- 8" Zipties
- 6" crescent wrench
- 6" long nose plier
- 6" slip joint plier
- 6" diagonal plier
- 9 piece SAE hex key set
- 7 piece metric hex key set
- Spare AAA batteries
- Spare boat kill switch and lanyard
- Spare key float
- Tire pressure gauge
- Compass

Boatbox checklist *continued* - Crestliner flat bottom boat with 30 HP Mercury (WS 3468 DL)

Misc. Boat Equipment

- Boat user log book**
- Boat registration**
- Maps for Pools 7 and 8**
- Control head for sonar**
- 2 collapsible paddles**
- Bilge pump**
- Orange seat cushion**
- Green flotation seat cushion**
- Bow and stern Lights**
- Bungee cords of assorted sizes**
- Quart of motor oil**

Boatbox checklist - Crestliner flat bottom boat with 30 HP Mercury (WS 3466 DL)

Safety/Emergency Equipment

- 2 PFDs (sizes large and x-large)
- Signal air horn
- First Aid Kit
- 2 emergency whistles
- Survival Medic Kit
- 4 handheld signal flares

Tool Box

- Flashlight
- 2 spare drain plugs
- Screwdriver with 4 bits
- Precision screwdriver with 12 bits
- Utility knife
- Extra utility knife blades
- Duct tape
- Electrical tape
- Vice grip
- 25' tape measure
- 8" Zipties
- 6" crescent wrench
- 6" long nose plier
- 6" slip joint plier
- 6" diagonal plier
- 9 piece SAE hex key set
- 7 piece metric hex key set
- Spare AAA batteries
- Spare boat kill switch and lanyard
- Spare key float
- Tire pressure gauge
- Compass

Boatbox checklist *continued* - Crestliner flat bottom boat with 30 HP Mercury (WS 3466 DL)

Misc. Boat Equipment

- Boat user log book**
- Boat registration**
- Maps for Pools 7 and 8**
- Control head for sonar**
- 2 collapsible paddles**
- Bilge pump**
- Orange seat cushion**
- Green flotation seat cushion**
- Bow and stern Lights**
- Bungee cords of assorted sizes**
- Quart of motor oil**

Boatbox checklist - Crestliner flat bottom boat with 30 HP Mercury (WS 3467 DL)

Safety/Emergency Equipment

- 2 PFDs (sizes medium and large)
- Signal air horn
- First Aid Kit
- 2 emergency whistles
- Survival Medic Kit
- 4 handheld signal flares

Tool Box

- Flashlight
- 2 spare drain plugs
- Screwdriver with 4 bits
- Precision screwdriver with 12 bits
- Utility knife
- Extra utility knife blades
- Duct tape
- Electrical tape
- Vice grip
- 25' tape measure
- 8" Zipties
- 6" crescent wrench
- 6" long nose plier
- 6" slip joint plier
- 6" diagonal plier
- 9 piece SAE hex key set
- 7 piece metric hex key set
- Spare AAA batteries
- Spare boat kill switch and lanyard
- Spare key float
- Tire pressure gauge
- 2 pins for sonar side mounts
- Compass

Boatbox checklist *continued* - Crestliner flat bottom boat with 27 HP GoDevil (WS 3466 DL)

Misc. Boat Equipment

- Boat user log book**
- Boat registration**
- Maps for Pools 7 and 8**
- Control head for sonar**
- 2 collapsible paddles**
- Bilge pump**
- Orange seat cushion**
- Green flotation seat cushion**
- Bow and stern Lights**
- Bungee cords of assorted sizes**
- Quart of motor oil**

Boatbox checklist – Apex pontoon boat with 30 HP Mercury (WS 3587 JD)

Safety/Emergency Equipment

- 2 PFDs (sizes large and large/x-large)
- Signal air horn
- First Aid Kit
- Emergency whistles
- Survival Medic Kit
- 3 handheld signal flares

Tool Box

- Flashlight
- Screwdriver with 4 bits
- Precision screwdriver with 12 bits
- Utility knife
- Extra utility knife blades
- Duct tape
- Electrical tape
- Vice grip
- 25' tape measure
- 8" Zipties
- 6" crescent wrench
- 6" long nose plier
- 6" slip joint plier
- 6" diagonal plier
- 9 piece SAE hex key set
- 7 piece metric hex key set
- Spare AAA batteries
- Spare boat kill switch and lanyard
- Spare key float
- Tire pressure gauge
- Compass

Boatbox checklist *continued* - Crestliner flat bottom boat with 27 HP GoDevil (WS 3466 DL)

Misc. Boat Equipment

- Boat user log book**
- Boat registration**
- Maps for Pools 7 and 8**
- 2 collapsible paddles**
- Bow and stern Lights**
- Bungee cords of assorted sizes**
- Quart of motor oil**