

## Waterway Markers

All official waterway markers (signs, buoys, lights, etc.) are designed to assist the boater by marking unsafe areas, directing traffic through safe channels, preventing accidents, and protecting resources. Honor them--they have been placed for your benefit.

- **Placement of all buoys or markers:** It is unlawful to place any aids, markers or buoys on shore or in the waters of this state unless authorized by the political subdivision or municipality having jurisdiction. They in turn must obtain the necessary approvals from the Department of Natural Resources and any Federal Agencies concerned before the aid is placed.

## REGULATORY BUOYS

All regulatory buoys are white with a single orange band at the top and bottom of the exposed buoy. The control symbol is spaced between these bands and is also orange in color. Any wording or message will be in black letters.



**BOATS KEEP OUT:** This buoy is signified by a cross in the center of an open diamond. Boats Keep Out buoys mark areas where vessel operation is prohibited. Typical areas for these buoys are swim beaches and dams.



**DANGER:** This buoy is signified by an open diamond. Danger buoys mark areas that are hazardous to vessel operation. Typical areas for these buoys are submerged rocks or shoals.



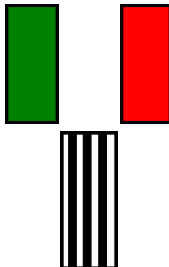
**CONTROLLED AREA:** This buoy is signified by an open circle. Control buoys mark areas where vessel speed or wake is controlled for safety purposes. Some control buoys may limit water skiing or other activities. Typical areas for these buoys are around boat launches and other congested areas.

*NOTE: "Slow-no-wake" is a common message on controlled area buoys. Slow-no-wake means that speed at which a boat moves as slowly as possible while still maintaining steering control.*



**INFORMATIONAL:** This buoy is signified by an open rectangle. Informational buoys convey messages other than danger, control or restriction, which may contribute to health, safety or well-being.

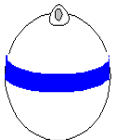
## AIDS TO NAVIGATION



**All-green and all-red companion buoys** indicate that the boating channel is between them. In flowing water, the red on the right side of the channel when facing upstream. The boating channel lies between these buoys.

**BLACK & WHITE VERTICAL STRIPES:** Marks the center of the channel. Pass closely on either side.

## MOORING BUOYS



**Mooring buoys** are all white with a blue stripe mid-way between the top and the waterline. They will be spherical or ovate in shape with a minimum of 18 inches above the water-line.

