



CITY OF BONITA SPRINGS PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Bonita Springs is blessed with an abundance of freshwater and coastal resources coupled with beautiful weather year-round, offering residents and visitors from around the world exceptional opportunities for water-related recreation; and

WHEREAS, in our community, boating is more than just a pastime - it embodies a way of life that is deeply woven into our identity, tourism, and economic vitality. With over 50,000 registered boats in Lee County alone and more than one million vessels across the state, Florida rightfully holds the title as the "Boating Capital of the World"; and

WHEREAS, boating safety is a critical concern, with an average of 700 lives lost annually in boating accidents across the United States, many of which stem from human errors that could be prevented through adherence to fundamental safety practices that include carrying emergency communication equipment, wearing life jackets, and maintaining sobriety while on the water; and

WHEREAS, National Safe Boating Week serves as an opportunity for every boater - from novices to seasoned mariners - to reaffirm their commitment to safe practices including responsible navigation, obtaining vessel safety checks, participating in boater education courses, and complying with all federal, state, and local boating laws.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Mike Gibson, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim the week of May 16-22, 2026, as:

National Safe Boating Week in the City of Bonita Springs

and express appreciation for the dedicated efforts of the following agencies in promoting boating safety and reducing accidents: the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary - Wiggins Pass Flotilla 96, the Lee County Sheriff's Office Marine Unit, the Florida Fish & Wildlife Commission, and all other organizations committed to boating safety awareness.

Done and ordered this 6th day of May, 2026.

Mike Gibson, Mayor
City of Bonita Springs, Florida

