

# ACMA

---



## ADVISORY COUNCIL OF MARINE ASSOCIATIONS

### ACMA Coalition Agreement Principles

Members of the Advisory Council of Marine Associations (ACMA) agree to adhere to the principles set forth in this document when conducting government relations or advocacy efforts in their state or region. Members agree that these principles are critical to supporting, growing, and strengthening every stakeholder involved in the recreational marine industry and that alignment between state and national organizations is imperative in achieving shared goals. The principles set forth herein will be discussed and approved annually at the MRAA Dealer Week Conference and Expo and ACMA will meet regularly throughout the year to discuss legislative and regulatory issues of importance to the coalition, actions taken, and opportunities for collaboration across coalition members.

---

### Boating Safety

The Advisory Council of Marine Associations believes that a safe environment for recreational boaters is not only imperative to ensuring the boating public has an enjoyable and memorable time on the water, but necessary for the continued growth and success of the recreational marine industry.

#### Key Points:

- Advocate for boater education programs which are based on incident data and the use of born-after dates to ensure that education is targeted to at-risk groups.
- ACMA advocates for on-water training to increase operator competence, however, it is not mandatory for vessel operation.
- ACMA believes in the use of incident data to guide safety requirements when necessary.
- ACMA members will participate in awareness focused on increasing boater safety on the water and raising awareness about boating under the influence.

---

## **Responsible Access**

The Advisory Council of Marine Associations believes the responsible access to our shared bodies of water is the most basic necessity for recreational boating and fishing and must be supported by the entire recreational boating and fishing industry.

### **Key Points:**

- ACMA members are opposed to restrictions on access that not grounded in sound science or formed without local stakeholder input.
- ACMA members support and advocate for government support and funding for recreational boating infrastructure.
- ACMA members support and promote “user-pay, user-benefit” structure for fees.
- ACMA members prioritize and support conservation efforts that maintain a healthy boating environment.

---

## **Small Business Advocacy**

The Advisory Council of Marine Associations believes that small businesses are the backbone of the American economy and the recreational marine industry. ACMA will advocate on behalf of small businesses generally and the recreational marine industry specifically.

### **Key Points:**

- ACMA members will focus on legislative issues like taxes, zoning, and reporting requirements which stand to have a negative impact on small businesses in the recreational marine industry.
- ACMA members will oppose burdensome regulations affecting small businesses.
- ACMA members will seek opportunities to support legislative and regulatory proposals that will benefit small businesses in the recreational marine industry.

---

## **Workforce Development**

The Advisory Council of Marine Associations recognizes the current workforce needs of the recreational marine industry, the importance for a strong workforce to support small businesses, and will advocate for workforce development programs, funding, and other needs to address workforce shortages. Furthermore, ACMA members will be invited to participate in other recreational marine industry workforce initiatives such as career fairs, campaigns to raise awareness and educate prospective workers, and more.

### **Key Points:**

- ACMA members will support initiatives aimed at supporting or funding workforce programs in the recreational marine industry, to include but not limited to, apprenticeship programs and on the job training.
- Where applicable, ACMA members will participate in career fairs and awareness campaigns for industry jobs.