

## PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES (PFDs)

**Michigan law specifies that:**

All motorboats and vessels, when in use, are required to have aboard one Coast Guard approved personal flotation device for each person on board.

A Type III PFD is any approved wearable device designed so the wearers can place themselves in a vertical or slightly backward position.

All recreational boats less than 16 feet in length and all canoes or kayaks must have one Type I, II, III or IV PFD aboard for each person. All recreational boats 16 feet in length or over must have one Type I, II, or III PFD aboard for each person and, in addition, one throwable Type IV PFD.

A Type IV PFD is any approved devices designed to be thrown to a person in the water and grasped and held by the user until rescued.

A Type I PFD is any approved wearable device that is designed to turn most UNCONSCIOUS persons in the water from a face-down position to a vertical or slightly backward position.

Wearable PFDs must be readily accessible and throwable devices must be immediately available for use.

A Type II PFD is any approved wearable device designed so the wearers can place themselves in a vertical or slightly backward position.