REMEMBER/ WE FISH USUALLY SCHOOLS!

IN CASE YOU WERE WONDERING HOW I GOT THIS JOB!

0

- ALWAYS WEAR YOUR LIFE JACKET WHEN YOU GO BOATING!
- CHECK THE WATER DEPTH BEFORE YOU JUMP IN!
- ONLY GO ON ICE WHEN YOU'RE WITH A GROWN-UP!
- & ALCOHOL AND BOATS DON'T MIX!
- A TAKE A BOATING SAFETY COURSE!
- A TAKE SWIMMING LESSONS!
- ALWAYS SWIM WITH A BUDDY!
- A, STAY AWAY FROM LOWHEAD DAMS!
- ONLY A TRAINED LIFEGUARD SHOULD ATTEMPT A SWIMMING RESCUE!



# A note from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

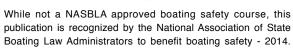
Dear parents and educators...

"H2O TOONS" explains many of the basic principles of boating and water safety. It's intended for children who are perhaps beyond the age of being interested in the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) "Water Safety Coloring and Activity Book," but too young to take the DNR home study Watercraft Operator's Permit course.

We hope that you will take a few minutes to read through "H2O Toons" with your child, discuss the safety concepts and how they might apply to him or her.

Besides providing entertainment, we hope "H2O Toons" will help to lay the foundation of good water recreation safety habits for Minnesota's most precious resource...our children!







### **Boating Laws to Remember**

#### Life Jackets

Minnesota law requires a Coast Guard approved wearable life jacket (Type I, II, III or V) for each person on board. The device may either be worn or readily accessible (except on personal watercraft - see below). In addition, if your boat is 16 feet or longer (except for canoes and kayaks) you must also have one Type IV throwable device (buoyant cushion or ring buoy) for the craft. Children under 10 years old are now required to wear a life jacket when boating in Minnesota, except: 1) when the boat is anchored and being used as a swimming platform or 2) when the child is below decks or in an enclosed

#### Operator Age for Motorboats

(not including personal watercraft - PWCs, Jet Skis, etc. - see below)

- A person under the age of 12 years may operate 25 hp or less with no restriction. If more than 25 hp thru 75 hp, they must have someone at least 21 on board within reach of the controls. Over 75 hp, they cannot operate, even
- Persons 12 17 years of age may operate 25 hp or less with no restriction. If over 25 hp, they must either have a Watercraft Operator's Permit, or someone at least 21 on board within reach of the controls.

### **Personal Watercraft Laws** (PWCs, Jet Skis, etc.)

- A person under the age of 13 years may not operate a personal watercraft, even with an adult on board.
- A 13 year old operating a personal watercraft must either have someone at least 21 on board, or have a Watercraft Operator's Permit and be under visual supervision by someone at least 21.
- Persons 14 through 17 must have a Watercraft Operator's Permit, or have someone at least 21 on board.
- It is unlawful for the owner of any watercraft to permit its operation in violation of the age restrictions.
- Everyone operating or riding on a personal watercraft (PWC) must wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved Type I, II, III,
- You may only operate a PWC between 9:30 a.m. and one hour before sunset.
- You may not travel at greater than slow-no wake speed within 150 feet of a dock, swimmer, swimming raft, moored or anchored watercraft, non-motorized watercraft or shore (unless launching or landing a skier by the most direct
- If you tow a person on water skis or other device, there must be another person on board to act as an observer, or the PWC must be equipped with factory-installed or factory-specified accessory rearview mirrors.
- If the PWC is equipped by the manufacturer with a lanyard-type cutoff switch, it must be attached to the person, life jacket or clothing of the operator when underway.
- You may not operate a PWC if the spring-loaded throttle has been removed or tampered with so it interferes with the
- You may not travel at greater than slow-no wake speed through emergent or floating vegetation.
- You may not weave through congested watercraft traffic, or jump the wake of another watercraft, within 150 feet of the
- You may not chase or harass wildlife.
- A PWC rules decal must be on the craft in full view of the operator.

# Credits

Penciled/Inked/Colored by: Bill Fugate

Written by: Bill Fugate and Department of Natural Resources

Also, our sincere thanks to Pamela Majors at the National Spinal

Cord Injury Association for her advice on the information on page 4

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT BOAT AND WATER SAFETY, CONTACT:

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources - Boat and Water Safety, 500 Lafayette Rd., St. Paul, MN 55155-4039. Telephone: 651-259-5400. In Greater Minnesota call toll free 888-646-6367.

TTY (hearing impaired) 651-296-5484 or toll free 800-657-3929.

Send us an e-mail at: boatandwater.dnr@state.mn.us

## Connect with us:

mndnr.gov/boatingsafety

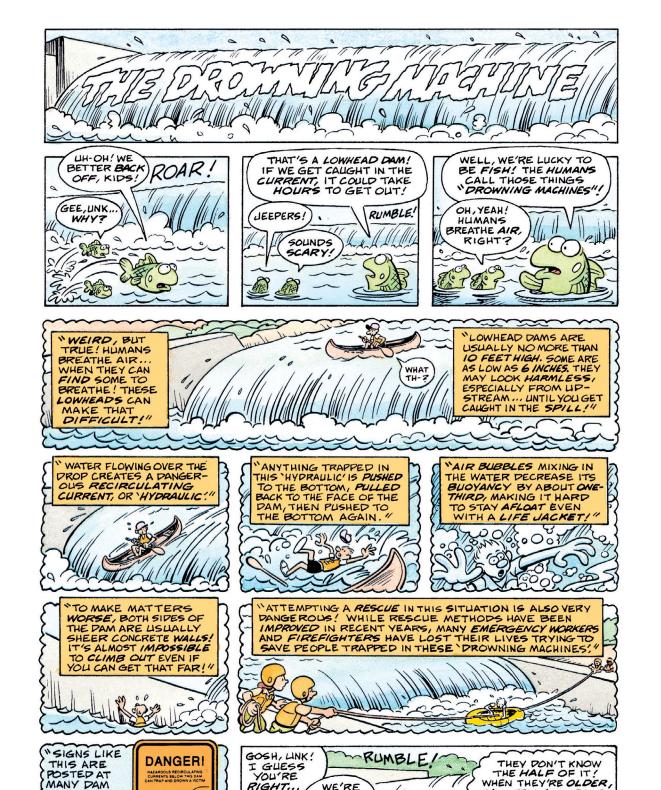
f facebook.com/MnDNRBoatandWaterSafety

This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling the phone numbers above.

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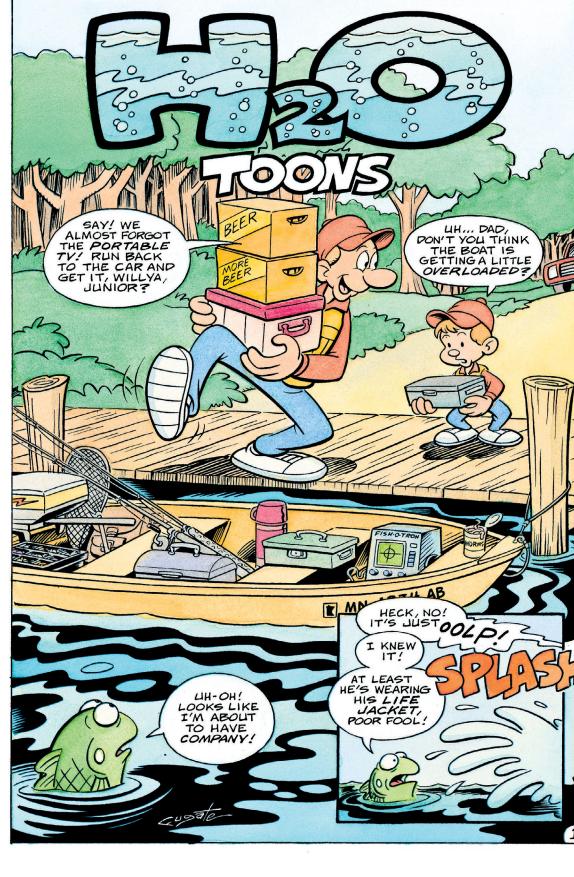
Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is available to all individuals regardless of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, public assistance status, age, sexual orientation, disability or activity on behalf of a local human rights commission crimination inquiries should be sent to the Affirmative Action Officer at Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, 500 Lafayette Road, Saint Paul, MN 55155-4049 or the Office of Civil Rights, U.S. Coast Guard, 2100 2nd Street SW, Washington, DC 20593-0001



SITES. TOO

MANY PEOPLE HAVE DIED BECAUSE THEY WERE UNAWARE OF THE DANGER

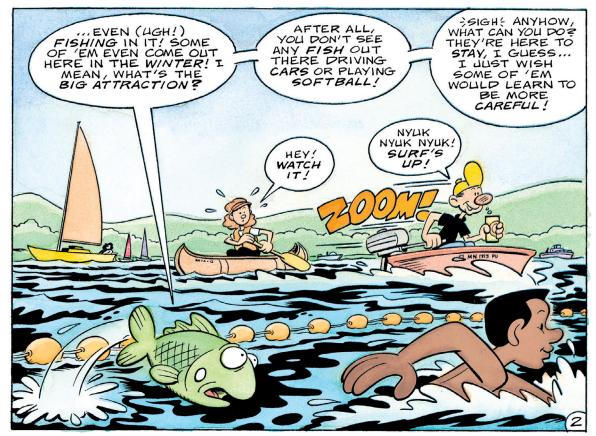
OF LOWHEAD

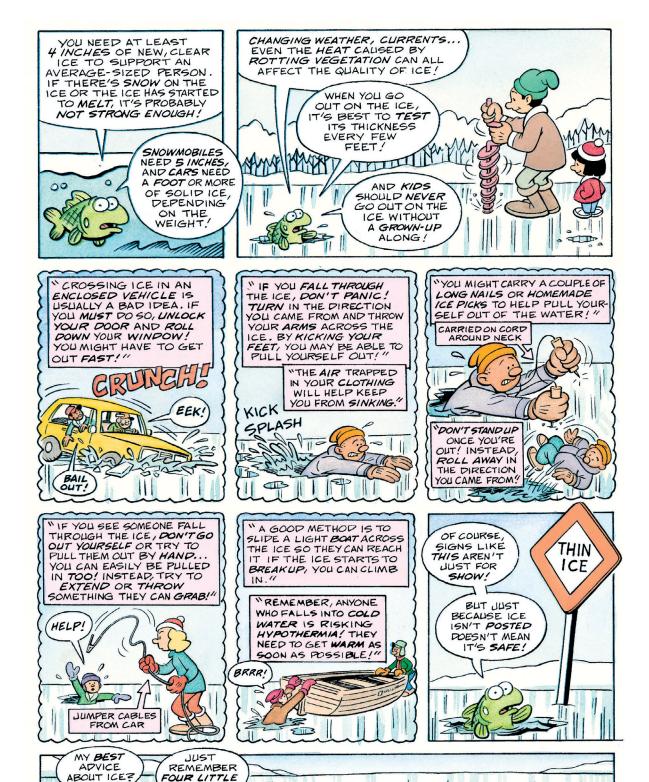












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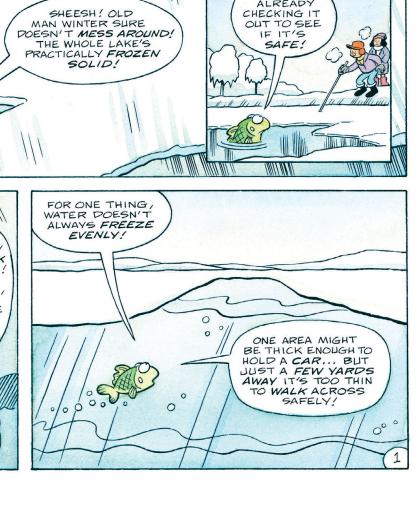


BUT YOU

LOOKS.

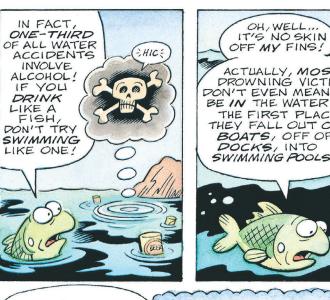
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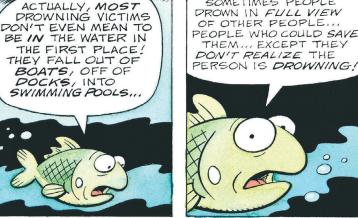
WAY IT



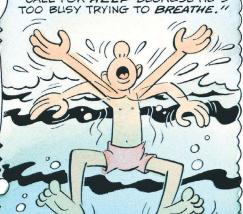










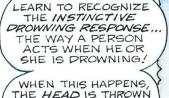




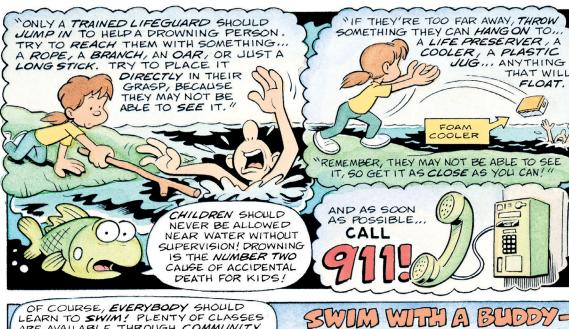
CAN DROWN IN LESS THAN

AN INCH OF WATER!

SOMETIMES PEOPLE



THE HEAD IS THROWN BACK AS THE VICTIM GASPS FOR AIR. WHILE THE ARMS BEAT THE WATER IN AN UP AND DOWN MOTION, TRYING TO KEEP THE HEAD ABOVE THE SURFACE



ARE AVAILABLE THROUGH COMMUNITY SCHOOLS PROGRAMS AND THE AMERICAN RED CROSS! \*

AS YOU'VE PROBABLY NOTICED BY NOW- CARTOON FISH ARE A GOOD DEAL SMARTER THAN REAL ONES

> NATURALLY, EVEN GOOD SWIMMERS CAN MESSUR! SOMETIMES THEY GET A LITTLE OVERCONFIDENT! THEY FORGET TO LOOK BEFORE THEY LEAP ... LITERALLY!





" IF YOU'RE LUCKY, "IF THE WATER IS TOO SHALLOW, YOU MAY HIT THE SOMEONE MAY BE ABLE TO PULL YOU OUT BOTTOM WITH ENOUGH BEFORE YOU DROWN. FORCE TO INJURE OR BUT WHEN YOU BECOME BREAK YOUR SPINE! QUAPRIPLEGIC, LIFE IS VERY DIFFERENT.

"COLD WATER USUALLY KILLS BY ELIMINATING YOUR ABILITY TO STAY AFLOAT LONG BEFORE HEART FAILURE FROM THE COLD DOES YOU IN! SO IT'S IMPORTANT TO GET OUT OF THE WATER AS FAST AS YOU CAN! IF YOUR BOAT CAPSIZES, TRY TO GET ON TOP OF IT! YOUR CHANCES OF SURVIVAL IMPROVE IF YOU KEEP YOUR HEAD AND UPPER BODY ABOVE ATFR ///



DON'T TAKE OFF YOUR CLOTHES YOU FALL IN! CLOTHING TRAPS HEAT AND AIR THAT HELPS KEEP IOU AFLOAT! IT'S A GOOD IDEA TO DRESS WARMLY, IN LAYERS MANY LIFE LACKETS, BESIDES PROVIDING FLOTATION, ALSO HELF SLOW HEAT LOSS! MANY VICTIMS OF HYPOTHERMIA WOULD HAVE LIVED THEY'D WORN A LIFE LACKET,

"IF YOU'RE ADRIFT IN THE WATER BUT CAN STAY AFLOAT, YOU CAN CONSERVE HEAT BY CROSSING YOUR ARMS OVER YOUR CHEST AND CROSSING YOUR ANKLES IN THE "HELP POSITION" \*, WITH MORE THAN ONE PERSON, YOU CAN HUDDLE TOGETHER FOR

A PERSON SUFFERING FROM MILD HYPOTHERMIA CAN EASILY RECOVER WITH PROPER CARE! TAKE OFF ANY WET CLOTHING AND WRAP THE VICTIM WARMLY, TAKING CARE TO COVER THE HEAD AND NECK - AREAS OF MAXIMUM HEAT LOSS! WARM, SWEET LIQUIDS WILL ALSO HELP RESTORE VITAL BODY HEAT ... BUT NO ALCOHOL! ALCOHOL IS A DEPRESSANT AND WILL ACTUALLY LOWER THE BODY TEMPERATURE!" N-NEXT INSEVERE



THE WATER SAFELY ALL

YEAR LONG IF YOU'RE

PREPARED AND BEHAVE

RESPONSIBLY! NOBODY

HAS TO GET HURT

OUT HERE!

SAY :

WHAT

EXTRA WARMTH.

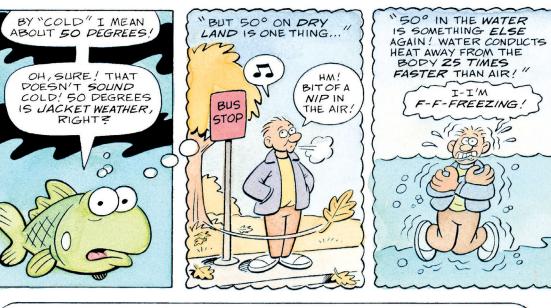
YEAR LET'S CASES, THE VICTIM MAY BE REVIVED THROUGH CPR CARDIO-PULMONARY RESUSCITATION) KEEP THEM WARM AND GET MEDICAL HELP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, CALL

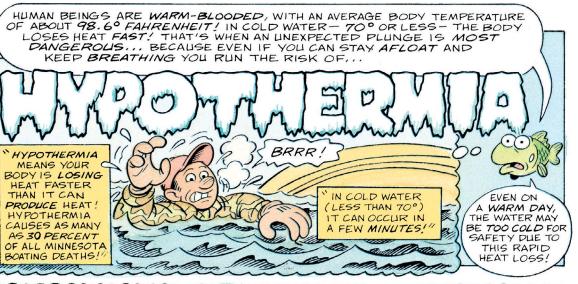














WHEN YOU FALL INTO COLD

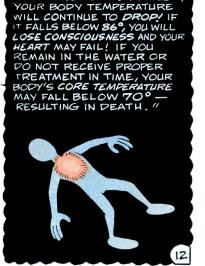
WATER, YOUR FIRST REACTION

BAD NEWS IF YOU GO IN HEAD

FIRST! AS YOUR BODY BEGINS

IS A SHARP GASP FOR BREATH.

YOU BEGIN TO SHIVER AS THE BODY TRIES TO WARM UP, BUT IN WATER THIS ONLY MAKES YOU LOSE HEAT FASTER! AS THE BODY BEGINS TO SHUT DOWN NON-VITAL FUNCTIONS YOUR ARMS AND LEGS LOSE STRENGTH AND COORDINATION SOON YOUR SWIMMING ABILITY WILL BE SO IMPAIRED YOU MAY BE UNABLE TO KEEP YOUR HEAD ABOVE WATER AND AVOID DROWNING!



EVEN IF YOU CAN STAY AFLOAT

LIKE OUR FRIEND I SEE HE LIGHTENED BUT AS I WAS HIS LOAD ... AND HE LEFT THE FROM PAGE ONE HERE. SAYING BEFORE, BEER AT HOME THIS TIME! OOKS LIKE HE'S READY MOST DROWNING TO TRY AGAIN! VICTIMS DON'T JUMP IN ... THEY FALL IN! Y'KNOW, MOST FATAL BOATING ACCIDENTS OCCUR WHEN BOATS CAPSIZE OR SOMEONE JUST FALLS OUT WITHOUT A LIFE JACKET! THIS GUY WAS WEARING ONE, SO HE JUST GOT 1 GUESS HE'S A LITTLE WET! NOT AS DUMB AS HE LOOKS!

JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE A GOOD SWIMMER DOESN'T MEAN YOU DON'T NEED TO WEAR A LIFE JACKET. MOST OF THE' PEOPLE WHO HAVE DIED IN BOATING ACCIDENTS KNEW HOW TO SWIM, BUT THAT WASN'T ENOUGH TO SAVE THEIR LIVES!

THERE ARE FIVE TYPES OF U.S. COAST GUARD APPROVED LIFE JACKETS.

SACH TYPE OF LIFE JACKET IS DESIGNED FOR DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES AND PURPOSES:

TYPE I

DE SURE YOUR LIFE JACKET HAS THE "U.S. COAST GUARD

SPECIAL USE DEVICE"

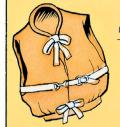
FOR SPECIAL USES LIKE SAILBOARDING OR WHITEWATER CANOEING.

PPROVED" LABEL ATTACHED INSIDE AND IS THE CORRECT SIZE!

THE LIFE JACKET LEAKS AIR OR FEELS HARD, THROW IT AWAY

SEAMS, STRAPS, ZIPPERS AND BUCKLES EVERY SEASON . IF

IFE JACKETS PON'T LAST FOREVER, SO BE SURE TO CHECK THE



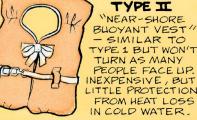
TYPEI OFFSHORE IFE JACKET USUALLY FOUND ON COMMERCIAL VESSELS TURNS MOST

INCONSCIOUS

/ICTIMS TO A

FACE UP

POSITION.





TYPE IX HROWABLE DEVICE THROWN TO VICTIM IN WATER . NEVER WEARA ON YOUR BACK! IT COULD TURN

FLOTATION CUSHION YOU FACE DOWN



FUNNY

THING ABOUT THESE GIZMOS THEY DON'T WORK IF YOU DON'T WEAR THEM!

IT'S TOO

