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P R E S S R E L E A S E

**Student Boating Safety Ambassador Award Program
6:00 PM TONIGHT at DEEP Headquarters, Old Lyme**

Connecticut’s Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) tonight will recognize 22 students who participated in this year’s pilot Student Boating Safety Ambassador Program as part of National Safe Boating Week.

“Introducing safe boating practices and procedures to students at the middle and high school level will help prepare them for the future – when they may be boating with family and friends,” said Robert Klee, DEEP Commissioner. “Our goal is to educate students on safe, recreational boating procedures by providing important information to them during their teenage years.”

The program was designed to create awareness at their schools about boating safety in a peer to peer approach. Students from 14 shoreline middle and high schools created boating safety presentations that were put on display for a month at the ambassador’s school. The displays were also showcased at the Legislative Office Building this past week during National Safe Boating Week (May 16-22).

The student’s will receive credit for their project as either a community service project, senior project or extra credit. For their hard work, the students will be awarded Certificates of Appreciation from the DEEP.

Students are from the following towns:

Groton	Ledyard	New Haven	New London
Old Saybrook	Stonington	Wallingford	Waterford