

NYSG developed bilingual resources to alert the beach-going and boating public to weather hazards that impact water-based recreation.

## Beach and Boating Weather Hazards Bilingual Rack Cards: Creating Awareness, Increasing Safety

**W**ith nearly 1,300 bathing beaches and more than 20,000 registered recreational boaters in New York State, education about the water-based hazards that the public may encounter is pertinent, and can be life-saving.

Many drowning deaths are related to weather hazards, therefore, in 2021, New York Sea Grant (NYSG) developed a pair of bilingual rack cards (one side in English, one side in Spanish) detailing the types of weather hazards, their associated recreational impact, and what to do in hazardous situations. The cards are being distributed across New York to marinas and public bathing beaches.

Distribution of the rack cards (3.5 inches wide x 8.5 inches tall) began in late summer 2021. A large supply of rack cards was presented to attendees of the November 4, 2021 Marine Trades Workshop in Cicero, NY, which attracted marina managers from throughout New York State.

Proper precautions can help prevent death by drowning.

New York Sea Grant, observing a need to educate

recreational boaters and beach-goers

on the weather hazards associated with swimming and boating,

created bilingual informational rack cards for

New York's marinas and public bathing beaches.

As distribution continues into 2022, the rack cards will be prominently displayed at marinas and beaches, where boaters and beach-goers will have the opportunity to see them before engaging in water recreation. The cards are also available online at http://www.nyseagrant.org/weathertogo.

## **Project Partners:**

- Weather-Ready Nation
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- NYSG Discover Clean & Safe Boating Program

Bilingual rack cards (partial sections seen at right) alert New York's freshwater and marine beach-goers and recreational boaters to weather hazards and ways to protect themselves. Each card includes the project partners' logos.





## Sea Grant Focus Area for this project: Resilient New York Communities and Economies.

New York Sea Grant is a joint program of Cornell University, the State University of New York, and NOAA. Contact: New York Sea Grant Extension, 112 Rice Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853; www.nyseagrant.org.

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