



# GEORGIA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

## LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

### SPLASH Water Safety Campaign 2017



Law Enforcement *Off the Pavement*

# SPLASH



## SPLASH Water Safety Campaign



Department of Natural Resources  
Law Enforcement Division



# Campaign History



First Lady  
Sandra Deal  
kicks off her all  
encompassing  
SPLASH water  
safety  
campaign  
2017!



# A Decade of Water Deaths



## Georgia Water Deaths 2007 – 2016

• Boating Fatalities	163
• Drownings	<u>438</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>601</b>





# The Campaign



A campaign to encourage boating, swimming, and overall water safety!



# DNR LED on Patrol



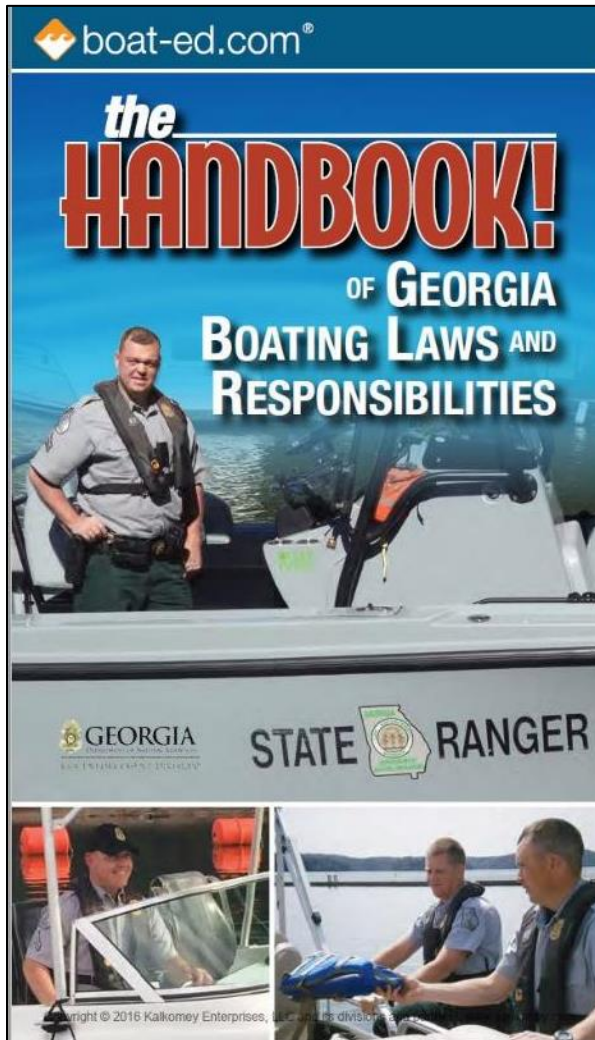
Game Wardens actively patrol Georgia's waterways from the smallest of rivers, to inland waterways and reservoirs, to the coastal ocean.



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# Life Jackets



30 It's the Law!

**TYPE I: Offshore Life Jackets**  
These vests are geared for rough or remote waters where rescue may take a while. They provide the most buoyancy, are excellent for flotation, and will turn most unconscious persons face up in the water.

**TYPE II: Near-Shore Vests**  
These vests are good for calm waters when quick rescue is likely. A Type II may not turn some unconscious wearers face up in the water.

**TYPE III: Flotation Aids**  
These vests or full-sleeved jackets are good for calm waters when quick rescue is likely. They are not recommended for rough waters because they will not turn most unconscious persons face up.

**TYPE IV: Throwable Devices**  
These cushions and ring buoys are designed to be thrown to someone in trouble. Because a Type IV is not designed to be worn, it is neither for rough waters nor for persons who are unable to hold onto it.

**TYPE V: Special-Use Devices**  
These vests, deck suits, hybrid PFDs, and others are designed for specific activities, such as windsurfing, kayaking, or water-skiing. *To be acceptable, Type V PFDs must be used in accordance with their labels.*

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# Georgia Law



## Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs)

- All vessels must have at least one USCG–approved Type I, II, III, or V personal flotation device (life jacket) for each person on board. However, Type V PFDs are acceptable only when worn and securely fastened.
- *Georgia law requires that all children under 13 years of age wear a U.S. Coast Guard–approved PFD while on board any moving vessel. This law does not apply when the child is in a fully enclosed cabin.*
- In addition to the above requirements, one Type IV U.S. Coast Guard–approved PFD must be on board all boats (except vessels less than 16 feet long, including PWCs, canoes, and kayaks) and readily accessible.
- One Type V PFD may be substituted for any other type if it is specifically approved by the U.S. Coast Guard for the activity at hand. Type V PFDs may not be substituted on children weighing less than 90 pounds.
- Each person riding on a PWC must *wear* a U.S. Coast Guard–approved Type I, II, III, or V personal flotation device that is properly fitted and fastened. Inflatable PFDs are not approved for use on PWCs.
- All PFDs must be in good and serviceable condition and must be readily accessible.
- Persons being towed must *wear* a ski belt, ski jacket, or Type I, II, or III personal flotation device that is properly fitted and fastened.





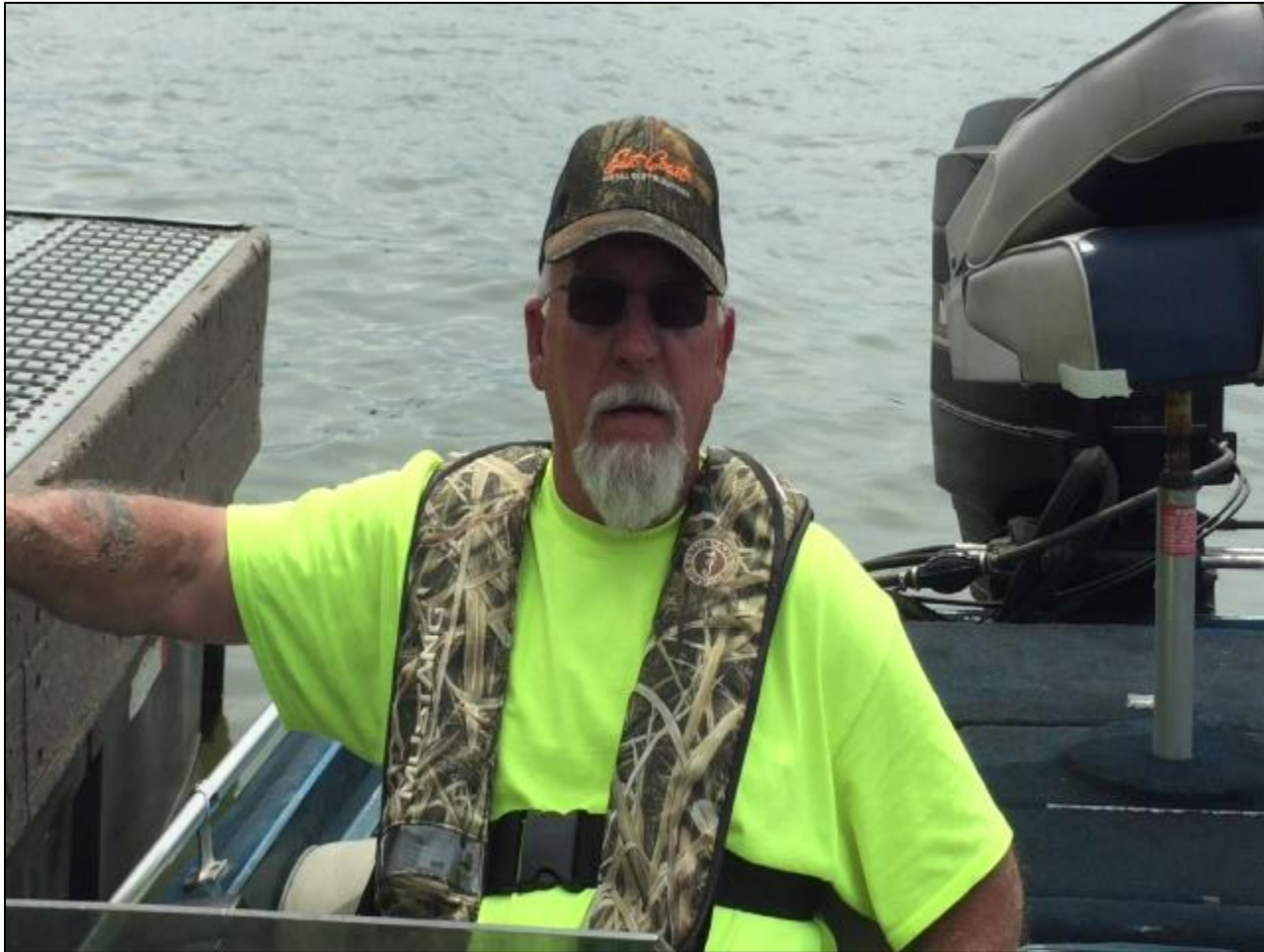
# Allatoona Boat Crash



In February 2017, Edward Bentley was the sole survivor of a two vessel crash on Allatoona Lake. The operators of both vessels did not survive. No one was wearing a life jacket. Edward lost his cousin, Ronnie, who was operating this bass boat. His opinion on wearing life jackets.....



# Edward Bentley



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# Life Jackets Save Lives



Drownings are the leading cause of death in children ages 1 - 4



# Then & Now



**VS.**





# Other Water Deaths



- Pools
- Hot Tubs
- House Tubs
- Lake/River Swimming



# Swim Safe Kids!



Swimming is a great recreational sport that can be enjoyed by people of all ages. But it's important to know how to be safe while you're in the water. The American Red Cross offers these important swimming safety tips you should be aware of before you head out to the pool or beach:

- • Swim in designated areas supervised by lifeguards.
- Always swim with a buddy; do not allow anyone to swim alone.
- Never leave a young child unattended near [water](#) and do not trust a child's life to another child; teach children to always ask permission to go near water.
- Have young children or inexperienced swimmers wear U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jackets around water, but do not rely on life jackets alone.
- Maintain constant supervision.
- Make sure everyone in your family learns to swim well. Enroll in age-appropriate Red Cross water orientation and [learn-to-swim courses](#).
- If you have a pool, secure it with appropriate barriers. Many children who drown in home pools were out of sight for less than five minutes and in the care of one or both parents at the time.
- Avoid distractions when supervising children around water.
- If a child is missing, check the water first. Seconds count in preventing death or disability.
- Have appropriate equipment, such as reaching or throwing equipment, a cell phone, life jackets and a first aid kit.
- Know how and when to call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number.
- Enroll in Red Cross [home pool safety](#), [water safety](#), [first aid and CPR/AED](#) courses to learn how to prevent and respond to emergencies.
- Protect your skin. Limit the amount of direct sunlight you receive between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. and wear sunscreen with a protection factor of at least 15.
- Drink plenty of water regularly, even if you're not thirsty. Avoid drinks with alcohol or caffeine in them.



# Life Jackets are Cool!



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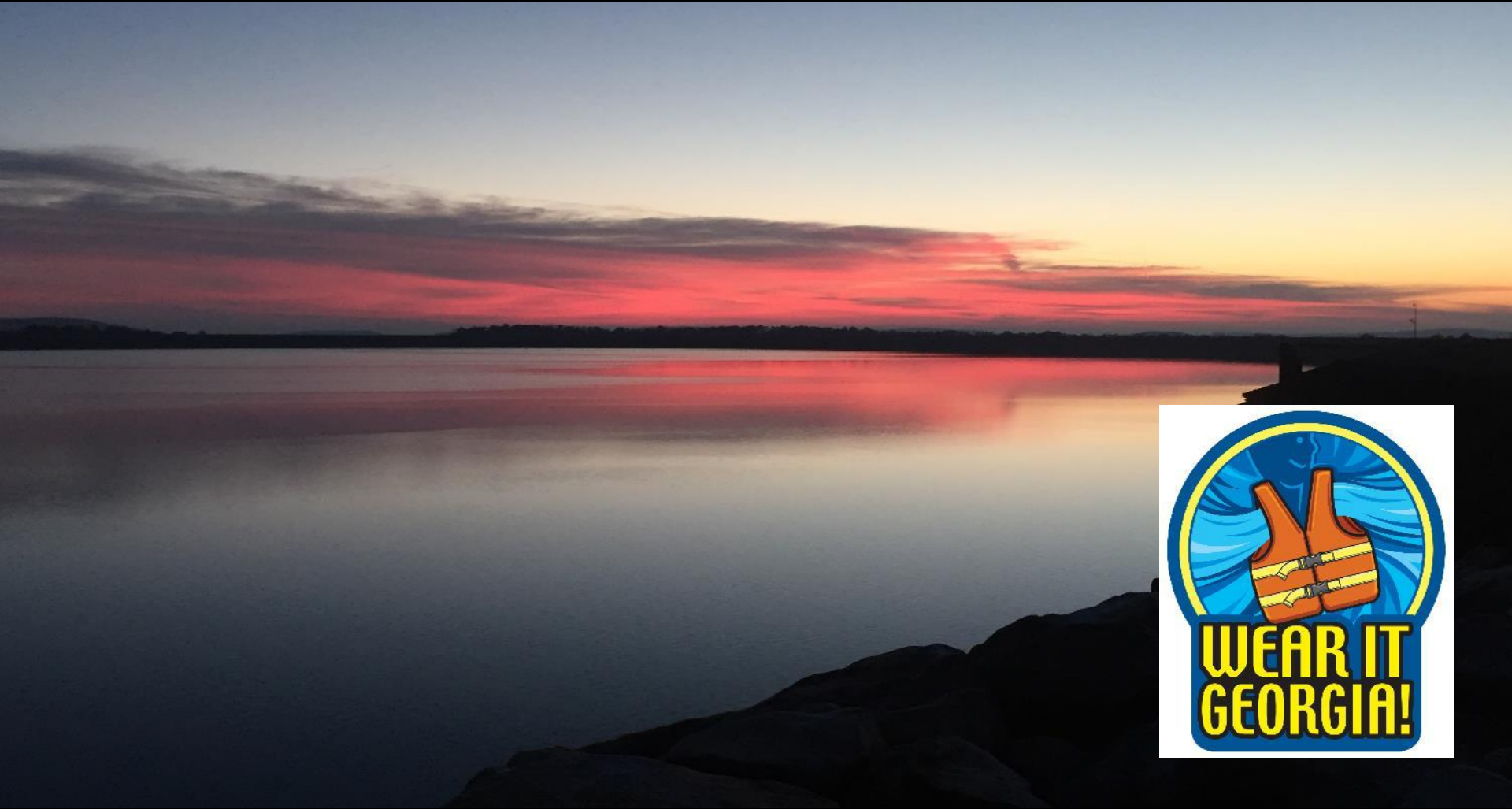
# Who Needs to Wear It?



- Marginal Swimmers
- Children
- Younger/Older Generation
- Disabled
- Safety-minded



# Wear It Georgia!



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# Questions?



**GEORGIA**  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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**LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION**

*Law Enforcement Off The Pavement*

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