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MARITIME SAFETY & SECURITY BULLETIN 39-11

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COLD WATER MONTHS APPROACHING

This is a reminder that cold water months are fast approaching so be prepared. **November 1st through May 15th** are the cold water months for the entire Chesapeake Bay and each of its tributaries. This means the federal safety equipment regulations change for certain types of vessels. We strongly suggest you check your cold water survival equipment prior to November 1st. For example:

- Where are my survival suits stowed?
- What kind of condition are they in?
- Is my cold water survival equipment readily accessible?
- Have all my crewmembers tried on their survival suits?
- When was the last time my life raft was inspected?
- Have I checked the batteries in my PFD lights?

These are just some of the items you should be thinking about prior to November 1st. For more information on cold water safety equipment requirements please visit the Coast Guard website at:

<https://homeport.uscg.mil/mycg/portal/ep/home.do> or call our Uninspected Vessel Branch at 443-257-7816.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kelly M. Post".

KELLY M. POST
COMMANDER, U.S. COAST GUARD
CHIEF, PREVENTION DEPARTMENT
COAST GUARD SECTOR BALTIMORE