

Appendix IV

Recommendations for Trailering Training

Boat and Trailer Combinations Talking Points

1. Discussion of tow vehicle and trailer combinations
 - a. Tow vehicle capacity and ratings
 - b. Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR): Maximum amount of weight of tow vehicle or trailer can handle should not exceed 85% of rating including truck, trailer, boat, gear and passengers
 - c. Gross Axle Weight Rating (GAWR): Maximum weight axle is designed to carry
 - d. Hitch/coupler/ ball selection
 - i. Make sure all components of tow vehicle are adequate for the trailer being towed. Every item has a capacity and only as strong as weakest component.
 - e. Safety Chains: should be criss-crossed under the tongue
 - f. Tongue weight
 - g. Electrical and wiring
 - h. Braking system
2. Recommended practical Skills for Trailer Training.
 - a. Safety check and inspections of tow vehicle and trailer
 - i. Check tires, wheel bearings, safety chains and straps, look for any damages to trailer
 - b. Proper loading of trailer and gear
 - i. Ensure load is distributed and secured
 - c. Turning and slow speed maneuvering

- i. Set up course in parking lot or field, practice turning
- d. Controlled braking and stopping
 - i. Towing a trailer will increase the stopping distance of a vehicle
- e. Backing and parking of trailer
 - i. Set up course in parking lot or field, practice backing and parking of trailer
- f. On road trailering
- g. Launching and retrieval of vessel
- h. Post trip inspection