



DO I NEED WATERCRAFT INSURANCE?

Most states don't require you to carry watercraft insurance while out on the water, but by skipping out on this important coverage, you leave yourself open to some very costly risks.

What if I'm not concerned with damage to my watercraft?

Most commonly our clients think watercraft insurance is only for the damage that may occur to the watercraft itself, but there is much more to a watercraft policy than just physical damage. Some of the common base coverages and endorsements include:

- Watercraft Liability
- Medical Payments
- Uninsured & Underinsured Watercraft Coverage
- Collision & Comprehensive Coverage
- Personal Effects & Fishing Equipment
- Towing, Breakdown & Trip Interruption Coverage

Do I need a separate policy, or will my home insurance provide coverage?

Some home insurance policies will include liability coverage for certain watercraft types, sizes, motor styles and a maximum horsepower. However, there are a few gaps in protection by utilizing your home insurance liability extension for watercraft liability:

- Watercraft liability on home insurance only covers your liability if you injure someone not on your watercraft, or cause damage to someone else's property while driving your watercraft.
- If a passenger is injured on your watercraft, there is no medical payments coverage.
- If someone else on a watercraft causes an accident with you and does not carry insurance, you will not have any uninsured or underinsured boater's coverage for you and your passengers.
- There is no physical damage included for your watercraft.

When do I need a separate policy or rider?

There are a few reasons you may want or need a separate watercraft policy or rider:

1. You need or want physical damage coverage for your watercraft.
2. You have a higher performance motor that exceeds the maximum horsepower allowed for a liability extension from your home insurance.
3. You frequently have guests on your watercraft that you want to also provide protection for.
4. You have expensive fishing equipment, or personal belongings on your watercraft.
5. You tow your watercraft long distances, and don't want to be stranded if your watercraft or trailer breaks down.

As always, check with your insurance advisor on coverage options to help you make an informed decision!