
For a complete list of navigation rules of the road, review section 219 of the Colorado boating regulations and statutes.

Passing
To overtake another watercraft going in the same direction, the craft being overtaken must maintain its course and speed. The passing watercraft must keep a sufficient distance to avoid collision or endangering the other craft from its wake.

Meeting
Two watercrafts approaching each other head-on must alter their course to the right to avoid a collision. If the two watercrafts are far enough to the left of each other, no change in direction is needed.

Crossing
If two watercrafts approach each other at a right angle, the watercraft to the right has the right-of-way.

Non-motorized craft
Sailboats, canoes and other non-motorized crafts have the right-of-way over motorized crafts in all situations, except when the non-motorized vessel is overtaking or passing.

Emergency craft
All watercrafts will yield right-of-way to an authorized watercraft displaying a red or blue flashing light.

Red light vs. green light
Navigational or running lights are an easy way to understand right-of-way situations. If you see the green light on an approaching vessel, you have the right of way. If you see the red light on an approaching vessel, you need to give way.
Waterway Markers (Buoys)
Buoys are designed for the safety of everyone on the waterway as well as the safety of the environment. The buoys displayed on the left are commonly found on Colorado waterways.

Navigational Lights
Boats operating between sunset and sunrise must have U.S. Coast Guard approved lighting. These lights are the best way to see and identify other vessels.
All motorboats and sailboats must have sidelights (red on the left and green on the right), a white masthead light and a white stern light. If the vessel is less that 39.5 feet long, the masthead and stern light can be one all-around white light.
Newer motorboats and sailboats have lights installed on them to meet U.S. Coast Guard requirements. If you intend to install lights on your boat, use the chart below as a guideline.
Hand-propelled vessels on white water do not need to have lights. Hand-propelled boats that are not on white water must have a lantern or flashlight on hand to show one white light in time to prevent a collision. One all-round white light must be displayed at all times for boats on anchor.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location of lights on vessel</th>
<th>Visible range in miles</th>
<th>Arc in degrees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Less than 12 meters</td>
<td>12 meters or more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masthead light</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All-round light</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sidelights</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stern light</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>