



SALMON UNLIMITED WISCONSIN, INC. • P.O. BOX 081333 • RACINE, WI 53408.

Board of PRCS,

June 12, 2015

My name is Craig Bender. I am a member of Salmon Unlimited of Wisconsin, one of the larger Lake Michigan sport-fishing clubs in Wisconsin. Lake Michigan plays an important part to millions of people who live in and around the area. It boasts some of the best fishing and boating waters in the world. In fishing alone, several million dollars are brought into the Wisconsin economy each year.

Salmon Unlimited of Wisconsin is partnering with the Wisconsin DNR Conservation Wardens to implement the Kid's Don't Float Program at the 5<sup>th</sup> St Boat Ramp (Pershing Park) in Racine. The Kid's Don't Float Program has been a highly successful program for the past few years at over 45 boat launches throughout the state. The program provides loaner life jackets to those who don't have one.

It is imperative that all boaters have an appropriately-sized life jacket on each boat. That's where the Kid's Don't Float program is needed. Boaters simply go to the Kid's Don't Float station and obtain a life jacket. When done using, the jackets are returned to the station. These are for public use and there is no charge to any boater using a jacket.

I recommend the station to be placed near the kiosk. This way, the boaters can have access to the life jackets when they pay their fees. The Kid's Don't Float Program includes a container for housing the life jackets and signage. Salmon Unlimited and Wisconsin DNR Conservation Wardens will fund, monitor the station, and restock life jackets if necessary. In the winter season, the jackets will be removed and restocked again the following spring boating season.

On behalf of the members of Salmon Unlimited of Wisconsin, I encourage your support of this vital project in Racine.

Best regards,

Craig Bender  
Salmon Unlimited of Wisconsin