STATE OF ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

BOATING ACCIDENT REPORT - 1977

During the calendar year of 1977, there were 111 reportable accidents to this office. Property damage amounted to approximately $197,802.00. Thirty-Eight (38) accidents occurred in which Eighteen (18) were personal injuries and Twenty Seven (27) were fatals.

MONTH

April	7	September	11
May	16	October	6
June	23	November	1
July	27	December	1
August	19	Total	111

COUNTY

Cook	40	Clinton	1
Lake	13	Coles	1
McHenry	5	DuPage	1
La Salle	5	Effingham	1
Jersey	3	Franklin	1
Kankakee	3	Henderson	1
Lee	3	Jefferson	1
Peoria	3	Macoupin	1
Adams	2	Moultrie	1
Carroll	2	Pike	1
Grundy	2	Putnam	1
Jo Daviess	2	St. Clair	1
Macon	2	Scott	1
Marion	2	Shelby	1
Randolph	2	Vermilion	1
Rock Island	2	Whiteside	1
Calhoun	1	Will	1
Cass	1	Winnebago	1
		Total	111

BODY OF WATER

Lake Michigan	28	Bluff Lake	1
Illinois River	14	Glasgow Sportsman Club Lake	1
Mississippi River	14	Pistakee Lake	1
Little Calumet River	5	Cal-Sag Canal	1
Rock River	4	Vermilion River	1
Fox River	4	Lake Sara	1
Fox Lake	4	Lake Catherine	1
Chicago Locks	3	Shannon Shore	1
Lake Shelbyville	2	Grass Lake	1
Kankakee River	2	Rend Lake	1
Lake Decatur	2	Round Lake	1
Kaskaskia River	2	Nippersink Lake	1
Montrose Harbor	2	Otter Lake	1
Chicago River	2	Burnham Park Harbor	1
Lake Centralia	2	Des Plaines River	1
Lake Marie	2	Lake Carlyle	1
Old West Frankfort Lake	1	Embarras River	1
Channel Lake	1	TOTAL	111

TYPE OF BOAT

Open Motorboat	77
Cabin Motorboat	35
Auxiliary Sail	14
Sail	8
Rowboat	3
Other	13
Unknown	9
TOTAL	111

WEATHER

Clear	84
Cloudy	15
Rain	5
Hazy	3
Unknown	4
TOTAL	111

WATER CONDITIONS

Calm	61
Choppy	25
Rough	9
Very Rough	7
Strong Current	7
Unknown	2
TOTAL	111

WIND

None	10
Light	55
Moderate	27
Strong	15
Storm	3
Unknown	1
TOTAL	111

VISIBILITY

Good	92
Fair	13
Poor	5
Unknown	1
TOTAL	111

OPERATION AT TIME OF ACCIDENT

Cruising	50	Tied To Dock	10
Approaching Dock	6	Fishing	2
Water Skiing	7	Other	18
Racing	2	Unknown	2
Drifting	10	TOTAL	111
At Anchor	4		

TYPE OF ACCIDENT

Grounding	2	Collision with fixed object	15
Capsizing	12	Collision with floating object	8
Flooding	1	Falls overboard	8
Sinking	6	Falls In Boat	1
Fire or Explosion (fuel)	2	Hit by Boat or Propeller	8
Collision with vessel	78	Other	14
		Unknown	4
		TOTAL	111

AGE AND HOURS EXPERIENCE OF OPERATORS

Age	Less Than 20 Hours	20-100 Hours	100-500 Hours	Over 500 Hours	Unknown	Total
Teenage	1	1	4	1	0	7
20-29	1	11	14	8	1	35
30-39	0	9	13	15	2	39
40-49	2	7	4	18	0	31
50-59	0	3	5	14	2	24
60-Over	2	0	2	5	1	10
Unknown	0	0	0	3	10	13
				*GRAND TOTAL		159

* There were 111 reportable accidents involving 159 boats. 62 accidents involved one boat and 48 accidents involving two boats. and one accident involving 3 boats.