

QUICK REFERENCE

Emergency Radio Call Procedures

Have all persons put on life jackets.

1 Make sure radio is on.

2 *On digital selective calling (DSC) radios:*

- Lift cover.
- Press distress button for **5 seconds** and release.
- Verify radio has switched to **Channel 16***.

On non-DSC radios:

- Change to **Channel 16***.

3 Press and hold the transmit button.

4 Clearly say: "MAYDAY MAYDAY MAYDAY" 

5 State the following information:

- Vessel name and/or description
- Position and/or location
- Nature of emergency
- Number of people on board

6 Release the transmit button.

7 Wait **30 seconds**.

If no response, repeat "MAYDAY" call. 

*The U.S. Coast Guard does not monitor Channel 16 for inland waters. Local patrol units may monitor Channel 16 if capable.

Intentional hoax calls are an offense and subject to prosecution.

Find this information and more online at watercraft.ohiodnr.gov/safetytips