

# Vessel Numbering Instructions

## Vessel registration and display

Vessel owners must display registration numbers and decals on the vessel's bow as shown.

Vessel registration numbers must be visible from the outside of the vessel. You may paint or permanently attach the number directly to the vessel or use a backing plate if you have a rubber boat or your boat is not built so the numbers would be otherwise visible.

Registration numbers remain with the vessel permanently.

## Documented vessels

Federal regulations prohibit the display of the **WN** registration number on documented vessels.

State registration decals are required and must be displayed on the forward half of the vessel so they are easily visible for law enforcement.

## Tenders

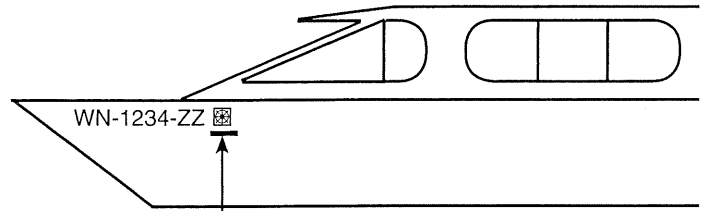
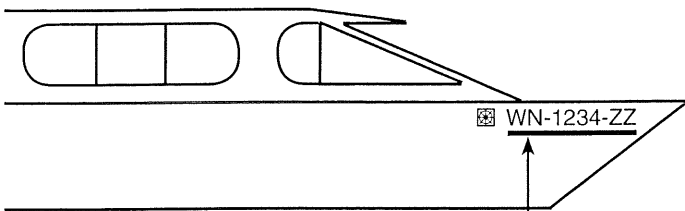
A vessel's tender (dingy, small boat, or inflatable) is used exclusively for transportation from the documented or registered parent vessel to and from shore. The tender is a separate vessel and must be properly numbered and registered except when both of the following apply:

- If the motor is less than 10 horsepower
- If the tender is properly identified with the parent vessel's registration numbers followed by the number "1" displayed on both sides of the bow.  
(Example: WN 1234 ZZ 1 or WN-1234-ZZ-1)

*The number shown below is an example and is not your vessel number.*

STARBOARD

PORT



### Registration numbers and letters must:

- Have a hyphen or equivalent space between the three segments of the number
- Be BLOCK style
- Be painted or attached to both sides of the bow
- Be at least 3 inches high
- Contrast with the color of the background
- Be distinctly visible
- Always read from left to right

### Decals must:

- Be within 6 inches of the registration number
- Be placed on both sides of the bow
- Be aft of and directly in line with the registration number