

## ***Five minutes to save your life.***

After spending Good Friday next to the fuel-dock waiting for an early Saturday morning lift to repair a broken shifter cable. I was over whelmed with the amount of boat operators that do not use their blowers. Consider a hot engine shut down in the engine room with the carburetor full of hot fuel at boiling temperature evaporating into the bilge, along with the hot oil vapors, and to top it off the fuel vapors from filling. Now take this deadly mixture and add a spark! It only takes once and you will get such a kick in the shorts that you may not land (in one piece) again. After you have successfully blown your self and your family to bits you don't necessarily have to worry about the fire you have left behind for the rest of us to fight, not to mention cleaning up the mess. I have been out with friends in raft-up's and have noticed that they continually do not use the blower on their boat. I am at the point of laying down the law and asking them to not raft to me unless they intend to use the blower as required. It is for my safety as well as theirs. An explosion does not happen often but when it does the consequences are devastating. After being in the fire protection business for over 15 years I have seen first hand the results. Run your blower when you are paying for your fuel or when you are getting ready to get under way from the weekend raft. You and the people around you will appreciate in for the rest of their lives, five minutes at a time.

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