

(iv) A vessel used for public service and owned by the United States government, another state, or any political subdivision;

(v) A ship's lifeboat;

(vi) A vessel propelled only by sail;

(vii) A vessel numbered according to the Federal Boat Safety Act of 1971; or

(viii) A vessel manually propelled.

(2) The Department, by regulation, for the period the Department prescribes may exempt any vessel or class of vessels from the numbering provisions of this subtitle, if the vessel or class of vessels is exempted from the federal numbering requirements by statute, or rule or regulation.

(b) The owner of any vessel to be numbered by this subtitle shall file an application for a certificate of number with the Department. The application is on forms the Department approves, accompanied by the requisite fee, and signed by every vessel owner.

(c) (1) [The annual fee for each certificate of boat number is \$12 for the calendar year in which the certificate is issued. However, any vessel 16 feet in length or less equipped with a 7 1/2 horsepower motor or less is exempt from this fee.] CERTIFICATES OF NUMBER ISSUED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE VALID FOR A PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED 2 YEARS. THE OWNER OF THE VESSEL MAY APPLY EVERY OTHER YEAR FOR RENEWAL OF THE CERTIFICATE. THE RENEWED CERTIFICATE SHALL EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31 OF THE CALENDAR YEAR FOLLOWING THE YEAR THE CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED. THE FEE FOR A 2-YEAR CERTIFICATE FOR VESSELS THAT ARE LESS THAN 16 FEET IN LENGTH IS \$10. THE FEE FOR VESSELS THAT ARE 16 FEET IN LENGTH OR GREATER IS \$24. IS \$24. VESSELS 16 FEET IN LENGTH OR LESS AND EQUIPPED WITH A 7 1/2 HORSEPOWER MOTOR OR LESS ARE EXEMPT FROM THIS FEE. The fee to replace a lost, destroyed, or corrected certificate is \$2. The Department shall record any transaction or transfer of numbered boats. The Department may record any amount of money owing on a vessel required to be numbered at the time of sale. The Department may not effect a transfer of ownership until the amount of money owed as shown on the records of the Department is fully paid or recorded on the new title. Any vessel that is required to be numbered under this section that is exempt prior to January 1, 1974 shall be exempt from payment of this title tax.

(2) Emergency rescue boats that belong to fire departments or rescue squads in Maryland:

(i) Shall be exempt from all registration fees; but

(ii) Shall apply for a registration renewal every 3 years.

(d) Upon receipt of the application in approved form, the Department shall issue to the applicant a certificate of boat number which shall contain the boat number issued to the vessel and additional information the Department prescribes by regulation. The certificate of boat number shall [be pocket size and shall] be available for inspection