



# CWLP News Release

Amber Sabin, 217.789.2116 ext.2629  
amber.sabin@cwlp.com

February 18, 2011

## **CWLP-IDNR YOUTH BOATING CLINICS SCHEDULED**

In cooperation with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), City Water, Light and Power will again offer the Melissa Kwedar Safe Boating Clinics. Two courses will be held this spring over two-day sessions on consecutive Saturdays at the utility's Property Management Center at 200 E. Lake Shore Drive, located east of the Spaulding Dam Boat Launch:

- April 2 and April 9 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- May 7 and May 14 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The free classes are open to anyone 12 years or older but are especially geared to teens. Everyone who successfully completes a two-day session will receive a boating Safety Certificate from IDNR, which is required for those from age 12 to 17 who will pilot a motorized watercraft solo on Illinois waterways. Course content includes: basic boat knowledge, equipment, navigation, safety on and in the water, emergency measures, and skipper's duties.

Although the Kwedar Safe Boating Clinics are free, persons wishing to attend must pre-register by calling 757-8660, ext. 1203. Space is limited. Children under age 15 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Participants may bring snacks for breaks.

The Kwedar Safe Boating Clinics originated as a memorial to Melissa Kwedar, a Springfield teen who was killed in a 1982 boating accident. For that reason, there is special emphasis on the safe boating habits of youth.

###