

# Titling Watercraft and Outboard Motors

**Selling or purchasing a watercraft? Let us help make your titling experience as quick and efficient as possible!**



## **What do I need to know?**

1. No person is permitted to sell, purchase or otherwise acquire any of the following in Ohio without an Ohio certificate of title ([ORC 1548.03](#)):
  - a. An outboard motor of 10 horsepower or greater;
  - b. A watercraft 14 feet or greater in length;
  - c. A watercraft less than 14 feet in length with a permanently affixed mechanical means of propulsion of 10 horsepower or greater.
2. All watercrafts require a 12-character HIN before the title can be transferred ([ORC 1547.65](#)).
  - a. If your boat does not have a 12-character HIN, please contact the Ohio Division of Watercraft.
3. Trailers must have an empty weight of more than 4,000 lbs. to be titled in Ohio.

## **What do I need to do to sell my boat or outboard motor?**

The seller(s) must complete the assignment of ownership portion on the back of their current Ohio title. On an Ohio title assignment, the seller(s) must fully complete the assignment, including the buyer's full name and address, date of transfer, and purchase price, and all seller(s) must sign the title in the presence of a deputy clerk or notary public. Any active lien must be cancelled by the lienholder before transfer.

If the watercraft and/or motor was *not* previously titled, the seller must present proof of ownership to our office and establish an Ohio title in the seller's name prior to the sale. Call (614) 525-3090 for assistance.

## **What do I need to bring to transfer a boat or outboard motor into my name?**

1. Physical certificate of title properly assigned by the seller.  
*Joint ownership requires all owners to be present unless a notarized power of attorney is provided. Social security numbers for all owners are required. Photocopies of titles are **not** accepted.*
2. A valid government-issued driver's license or identification card.
3. Payment for the \$15.00 title fee (*additional fees may apply*).  
*We accept cash, check or credit card (with a 3% convenience fee). Please make checks payable to: Franklin County Clerk of Courts. **Note:** A \$5.00 late fee will be assessed if title is not applied for within 30 days of the assignment.*

## **Need to get started?**

Visit [franklincountyautotitle.com/schedule](http://franklincountyautotitle.com/schedule) to schedule an appointment at one of our four branches:

**Auto Title North:** 980 Morse Road, Cols., 43229  
**Auto Title East:** 1583 Alum Creek Drive, Cols., 43209  
**Auto Title South:** 45 Great Southern Blvd., Cols., 43207  
**Auto Title West:** 4153 W. Broad Street, Cols., 43228



## **Need Forms or Have Questions?**

Call our dedicated title help line at (614) 525-3090 or visit [franklincountyautotitle.com](http://franklincountyautotitle.com).