



Contacts of Interest

Canadian Coast Guard
Office of Boating Safety
Tel: 1-800-267-6687
Web site:
[www.ccg-gcc.gc.ca/
main.htm](http://www.ccg-gcc.gc.ca/main.htm)

Canadian Red Cross
Ontario Division
5700 Cancross Court
Ottawa, ON L5R 3E9
Tel: (905) 890-1000
Fax: (905) 890-1008
Web site: www.redcross.ca

Canadian Power & Sail Squadron
26 Golden Gate Court
Scarborough, ON M1P 3A5
Tel: (416) 293-2438
Fax: (416) 293-2445
Web site: www.cps-ecp.ca

Fisheries & Oceans Canada
Office of Boating Safety
200 Kent St.
Ottawa, ON K1A 036
Tel: 1-800-267-6687
Fax: (613) 996-8902
Web site: <http://ncr.dfo.ca/>

Life Saving Society of Canada
287 McArthur Avenue
Ottawa, ON K1L 6P3
Tel: (613) 746-5694
Fax: (613) 746-9929
Web site: www.lifesaving.ca



What is Boater Fatigue? Research shows that four hours of exposure to noise, vibration, sun, glare, wind and motion on the water produces a kind of fatigue, or “boater’s hypnosis” which slows reaction time almost as much as if you were legally drunk. This exposure can triple the effects of alcohol on boaters. In addition, the sun dehydrates you, and alcohol can be absorbed more quickly. This results in a higher blood alcohol content (BAC) than someone who is not dehydrated.

Did you know?

- * More than 40% of recreational boating deaths in Canada are alcohol related.
- * Drowning is the second leading cause of unintentional death in Canada, surpassed only by motor vehicle crashes and falls.

Source: Lifesaving Society of Canada, 1998

Ontario Sailing Association
1185 Eglinton Ave E Ste 7002
North York, ON M3C 3C6
Tel: (416) 426-7271
Fax: (416) 426-7347
Web site: <http://sailon.org>

Ontario Provincial Police
Traffic and Marine Safety
Bureau
777 Memorial Ave, 3rd fl
Orillia, ON L3V 7V3
Tel: (705) 329-6120
Fax: (715) 329-6123
Web site:
www.gov.on.ca/opp/

YMCA/YWCA
100 Wright Crescent
Kingston, ON K7L 4T9
Tel: (613) 546-2647

Your decision to drink is your business.

Your decision to drink and drive is everyone’s business.

Let’s make our roads, walkways, trails and waterways safe.

Thanks for boating sober!



Alcohol, boating, and you

Boating Safety: Why take a course?



If you own or operate a powerboat or PWC (personal watercraft), Canadian-wide regulations require you to have a Pleasure Craft Operator Card. A course covers: minimum safety equipment requirements required on board your boat, the Canadian Buoy system, how to share waterways, a review of all pertinent regulations, and how to respond in an emergency situation.

... please see **Why Take a course?** p. 2

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Did you know?

- It is illegal for anyone to drink alcohol on a pleasure boat when it is underway.
- You may only have open alcohol aboard a boat that is equipped as a residence (i.e. has a sleeping area, permanent cooking facilities, and a fixed toilet with pumpout).
- Drinking and driving rules apply whether you are on the road or the water.
- Consuming liquor in other than a licensed premise, residence or private place carries a substantial fine.
- Operating or having care and control of a boat underway with an open container of liquor carries a substantial fine.



Greater Kingston Safe & Sober Community Alliance • c/o KFL&A Health Unit • 221 Portsmouth Avenue Kingston, ON K7M 1V5 • Tel: (613) 549-1232, ext. 508 • Fax: (613) 549-7896 • Email: cedwards@healthunit.on.ca



OPERATION LOOKOUT[®] *marine*

How it works

OPERATION LOOKOUT[®] combines the eyes of the community with the capabilities of police. Citizens who believe they have seen an impaired driver or boater are encouraged to phone the police and:

1. State that they have seen an impaired driver / boater.
2. State the location.
3. Vehicle/vessel description: *license plate number, colour, make and model.*
4. Direction of travel.
5. Description of driver if possible.

The police are then armed with information that will help them locate and stop the driver or boater before he/she can harm themselves or others. The key is public awareness. If the public knows about **OPERATION LOOKOUT[®]**, they will report impaired drivers. For more information, go to Canadians for Safe & Sober Driving/Against Drunk Driving at www.add.ca, and click on **OPERATION LOOKOUT[®]**.

S.A.V.E.: Snowmobile, All Terrain Vehicle, Vessel Enforcement Teams

The Ontario Provincial Police have SAVE Teams dedicated entirely to reducing fatalities and injuries on Ontario's waterways and recreational trails. These mobile, four-season teams address high-risk operator behaviours on waterways and trails, regardless of the season, and enhance ongoing activities through additional patrols, education and enforcement. Teams are based in North Bay, Orillia and Odessa.



Why take a course, cont'd

Who offers accredited boating courses? The local Kingston chapter of the Canadian Red Cross offers **On Board**. You may study their **On Board** manual, use a CD-ROM, or go on-line. You can reach them at (613) 548-4929, or email Kingston@redcross.ca.



The Canadian Power and Sail Squadron (CPS) offers the **Boat Pro** course, through various local squadrons. Go to the Kingston Power & Sail Squadron Web site (<http://kingstonpowersailsquadron.org>) for more information.

You can also contact the Coast Guard Boating Safety Hotline at 1-800-267-6687. Or check the Office of Boating Safety online at www.ccg-gcc.gc.ca. This card is good for life.



Safety on the water

1. Boat sober & always wear a life jacket or pfd!
2. Make sure your boat is equipped with all the required safety gear.
3. Never allow a person under the influence of alcohol to operate your boat. You are responsible for the safety of your passengers and crew.
4. If you plan to take friends water-skiing, serve them alcohol only after the activity is finished and you are back on shore.
5. Make non-alcoholic drinks & food available.



Drinking alcohol while boating can:

- affect your judgement, balance, coordination, peripheral vision, and the ability to think clearly,
- slow your response time,
- reduce your depth perception, focus, and night vision,
- disturb your inner ear, which can make it impossible for you to tell the difference between up or down if you are suddenly immersed in water,
- increase your risk of hypothermia, if you are immersed in water, and
- affect your psychomotor skills and reduce your ability to hold your breath underwater.

Safe Boating Quiz

Answers

A. The penalties for drinking and driving are different than for drinking and boating.

B. If your blood alcohol level is below .08 (80 mg/100 ml of blood), you can't be charged for impaired driving.

C. The first offence for a conviction of impaired operation of a vessel is a \$200 fine.

D. 50% of boaters who drowned were not wearing a PFD or lifejacket.

E. More than 40% of recreational boating deaths in Canada are alcohol related.

F. Small vessel regulations, introduced in April 1999 apply if you canoe or kayak.

A. False: Boating while impaired is an offense under the Criminal Code of Canada. Drinking and boating is just as illegal as drinking and driving. The same rules apply. B. False: The Criminal Code of Canada states that you can be charged for driving while impaired even at levels below 80 mg of alcohol per 100 millilitres of blood. C. False: A first offense is a minimum fine of \$600. A second offence is imprisonment for not less than 14 days. A third and each subsequent offence is imprisonment for not less than 90 days. D. False: 70% of boaters who drowned were not wearing a PFD or lifejacket at the time of the incident. E. True: It is estimated that 40% of recreational boating fatalities are alcohol related. F. True: Small vessel regulations, introduced in April 1999 apply if you: 1) operate a powerboat or personal watercraft, 2) participate in paddling sports such as canoeing or kayaking, and 3) sail or board sail.