

Attention Recreational Boaters and Marine Community Members:

Please do your part to prevent the spread of COVID-19:

*COVID-19 is a serious health threat, and the situation is evolving daily. Canadians, including those who are **recreational boaters**, should continue to think ahead about the actions that they can take to protect their health and safety, and prevent the spread of COVID-19 to others.*

- **Follow the latest advice from federal and provincial public health leaders:**
 - [Avoid all non-essential travel](#)
 - You must self-isolate and monitor for symptoms (cough, fever or difficulty breathing) for 14 days if you have travelled outside of Canada.
 - Practice [social distancing](#) by avoiding close contact with others – keep 2 metres apart from others as much as possible.
 - Practice [proper hygiene](#);
 - Wash your hands often, for more than 20 seconds;
 - Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, then throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands;
 - Clean and disinfect objects and surfaces
 - Contact your local health authority if you are developing flu-like symptoms.
- **If you are planning on heading out on the water, carry all required safety equipment and documents on board your vessel.**
 - Have the required safety equipment on board the pleasure craft, based on type and size of your vessel. **This safety equipment is required** and must be ready and accessible in case of emergencies. (See attached to this email for a table of the minimum safety equipment requirements)
 - Carry a copy of your Pleasure Craft Licence or Registration paperwork, government photo ID and operator competency, on board whenever you operate your pleasure craft.
- **Be Prepared for the Unexpected**

- Create a plan and follow a pre-departure checklist before you head out on the water. (Link to the pre-departure checklist: <https://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/marinesafety/tp-tp14525-menu-1085.htm>)
 - Prepare yourself and your family in the event of an emergency, please visit [GetPrepared.ca](https://www.getprepared.ca).
- **Operate your vessel in a safe manner**
 - Be aware of what is going on around you and be ready to stop, slow down, and yield to large vessels.
 - Read and follow the Collision Regulations: [https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/PDF/C.R.C., c. 1416.pdf](https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/PDF/C.R.C.,_c._1416.pdf)
- **Keep first responders safe**
 - If you are in an emergency situation while boating and require assistance, please alert first responders if you have been out of the country and/or are experiencing flu-like symptoms.
 - Help keep first responders safe by following their directions.

For more details related to COVID-19, please refer to: <https://www.canada.ca/coronoavirus>

For more details on Boating Safety please refer to: <https://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/marinesafety/debs-obs-menu-1362.htm>

For more information or clarification, please contact Office of Boating Safety, Pacific Region:

Tel: 604-666-2681 or

Email: pacobs@tc.gc.ca