



NSS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

August 2019

Water Safety

For many Canadian families, summer includes activities such as boating and swimming. But each year, tragic and avoidable water-related fatalities occur across Canada. Boating is BIG in Canada. The Canadian Safe Boating Council estimates that approximately 40% of Canadians participate in boating and that there are about 5 million boats in Canada.

As the boat operator, it is YOUR responsibility to make sure your boat meets these requirements. Always ensure to have lifejackets that are for the proper weight and size for all passengers and yourself.

Here is a quick checklist of items you should have onboard before heading out on the water:

- Lifejackets and Personal Floatation Devices
- Fire Extinguisher
- Bells and Whistles
- Visual Distress Signals
- Navigation Rules
- Anchor
- First Aid Kit
- VHF Radio
- Extra Fuel
- Extra food and water
- Tool Kit with flashlight
- Sun screen, bull repellent, etc.
- Oars and/or paddles



Did You Know?

It is now illegal to paddle dangerously (s. 249 of the *Criminal Code*), to hit-and-paddle (s. 252), to drunk-paddle (s. 253), or to be impaired with a paddle in hand, i.e., having the care or control of a canoe, even a motionless one, while being impaired (s. 253). The definition under the new *Criminal Code* provisions includes canoes, kayaks, paddleboats, rowboats and stand-up paddle boards.



Facts:

In Ontario, the fines and penalties for a person who operates a boat under the influence are the same as those for a person who drinks and drives their automobile.

Ontario boaters convicted of operating a boat under the influence may have their driver's license suspended for a minimum of one year.

If you have a small open boat, like a canoe, kayak or small motorboat, you cannot drink on board at all and can only transport alcohol from point to point if it is in a sealed container.

Ministry of Labour Inspection Blitz

Inspectors will focus on workplaces that are newly registered with the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board and haven't had a proactive health and safety visit in the last five years. The focus for inspections will be on retail, restaurant, food, beverage, hospitality and recreational services. The blitz will run until August 30, 2019



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