

- Waterskiing, where the boat follows a trajectory perpendicular to the shore
- In rivers less than 100 m (328' 1") in width, or canals or buoyed channels
- In waters where another speed is prescribed under a schedule to the regulations

This limit is not posted.



## Safety in historic canals and locks

When visiting one of Canada's historic canals make sure your boat has good mooring lines and securely-fastened floating fenders in sufficient numbers and size.

There are a number of activities prohibited while in a canal, some being:

- No excessive noise between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m.
- No fishing within 10 m (32'10") of a lock or

approach wharf or fishing from a bridge that passes over a navigation channel.

- No diving, jumping, scuba-diving or swimming in a navigation channel or within 40 m (131') of a lock gate or a dam.
- No waterskiing or other towing activities while in a navigation channel or within 100 m (328' 1") of a lock structure.
- No mooring a vessel to a navigation aid.

Visit Parks Canada at [www.pc.gc.ca](http://www.pc.gc.ca) for information on historic canals.



## Passage through a lock

Obey the posted speed limits and mind your boat's wake, especially when approaching a lock (wake limits have precedence over speed limits). Other things to remember:

- Keep clear of the channel near lock gates so vessels coming or going can do so safely.

- A blue line on the mooring wharf indicates the waiting zone for vessels awaiting the next lockage.
- Follow the instructions given by lockmasters and bridge operators (at a number of lock stations, a green traffic light is your signal to proceed).
- Enter the lock slowly (the maximum speed limit is 10 km/h) and have people at the bow and stern of your boat with mooring lines ready to use.
- If the lock is equipped with drop cables, loop boat lines around them once safely positioned in the lock. Do not tie your boat to the drop cables. If the lock is equipped with floating docks you may be told to tie-up to one inside the lock chamber.
- Tend vessel lines carefully during the lockage; looping a line around a deck cleat may provide extra leverage.
- Never leave bow or stern lines unattended.
- Switch off the engine(s) and generator. Open flames and smoking are prohibited during lockage.
- The bilge blower must be operating during lockage.

When the lock gates open, wait for staff to direct you to restart your engine. Make sure all lines are returned to your boat and exit slowly and in order if necessary. Watch out for wind, currents and other vessels.

Procedures for using the St. Lawrence Seaway locks differ from those outlined here. Consult the St. Lawrence Seaway Authority's Pleasure Craft Guide, available from:

Head Office  
202 Pitt Street  
Cornwall, Ontario  
K6J 3P7  
613-932-5170  
[www.greatlakes-seaway.com](http://www.greatlakes-seaway.com)

### **Safety around dams**

Operators should be cautious near canal dams and waste weirs where currents and undertows can be very dangerous. It is illegal to jump, dive, scuba-dive, swim or bathe within 40 m (131') of a dam.

