



Table of Contents

THE BOATER

Your guide to safe boating..... 5

Common sense and maximizing your personal safety 6

Don't cruise with booze7

Whose responsibility is safe boating?7

Take a boating safety course 8

Relevant laws that apply to pleasure craft..... 8

Small Vessel Regulations..... 8

Collision Regulations9

Canada Shipping Act.....9

Boating Restriction Regulations.....9

Charts and Nautical Publications Regulations 10

Navigation Safety Regulations 10

Criminal Code of Canada 10

Competency of Operators Pleasure Craft Regulations 11

Other regulations 11

Boating law enforcement 12

Inspecting your pleasure craft 13

Pleasure Craft Courtesy Checks 13

Pre-departure checklists 13

Making and filing sail plans 15

Avoiding specific hazards 15

Monitoring the weather..... 15

Using nautical charts..... 16

Emergency! What are you going to do?17

Marine radio communications..... 17

Marine VHF radio and GPS 17

Global Positioning System (GPS) 18

Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB).... 19

Cellphones and *16..... 19

Distress signals..... 19

Overboard recovery techniques..... 20

Surviving in cold water 21

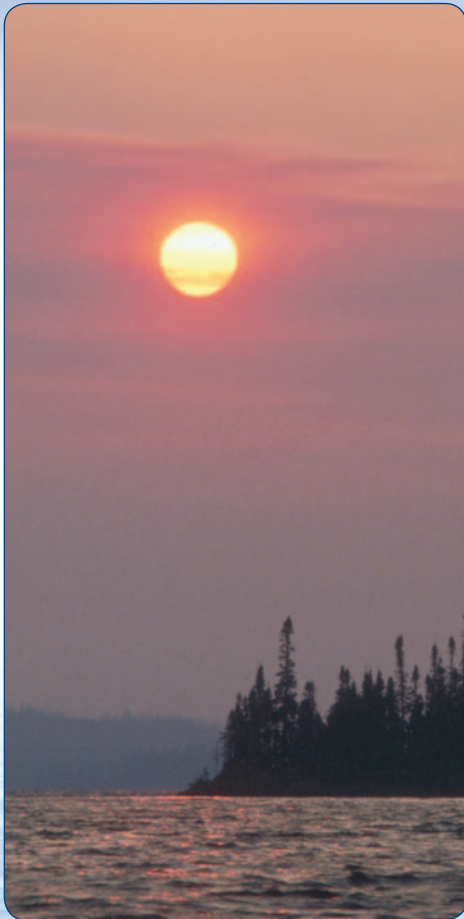
Fuel safety and carbon monoxide awareness.. 22

Engine start-up..... 23

Fuel-burning appliances 23

Ignition protection 24

Fuelling procedures 24



THE BOAT

Pleasure craft and pleasure craft activities25

Personal watercraft operators25

Kayakers26

Anglers and hunters26

Construction Standards for Small Vessels27

Canadian compliance labels27

Hull identification number (HIN)28

Overloading your boat28

Minimum required equipment 28

Sailboards29

Paddleboats and watercycles less than 6 m (19'8")
in length30

Canoes, kayaks, rowboats and rowing shells less than
6 m (19'8") in length31

Unpowered pleasure craft less than 6 m (19'8")
in length32

Personal watercraft (PWC)33

Powered pleasure craft less than 6 m (19'8") in length ...34

Pleasure craft greater than 6 m (19'8") in length but no
greater than 8 m (26'3") in length35

Pleasure craft greater than 8 m (26'3") in length but no
greater than 12 m (39'4") in length37

Pleasure craft greater than 12 m (39'4") in length but no
greater than 20 m (65'7") in length39

Specific requirements for pleasure craft involved in competition 40

Alternative equipment for racing canoes, racing kayaks
and rowing shells40

Alternative equipment for racing-type pleasure craft...41

Personal protection equipment 41

Lifejackets41

Personal flotation devices (PFDs)42

Keeping kids afloat43

Labels44

Proper care of your flotation device44

It won't work if you don't wear it44

Buoyant heaving lines45

Lifebuoys45

Reboarding devices45

Boat safety equipment 45

Manual propelling device45

Bailers and manual water pumps46

Anchors46

Portable fire extinguishers46

Reacting to a fire47

Distress equipment 47

Watertight flashlights47

Distress flares47

Navigation equipment	49
Sound-signalling devices	49
Sound-signalling appliances	49
Navigation lights	49
Radar reflectors	49
Towing	49
Charts and publications	50
Suggested items to take on board	50
Tool kits and spare parts	50
First aid kit	50
Proper documentation	51
Licensing your pleasure craft	51
New pleasure craft?	51
Transferring ownership	51
Registering your pleasure craft	52



THE BOATING ENVIRONMENT

Sharing waterways	53
Rules of the road	53
Right-of-way rules	54
Maintaining a proper lookout and avoiding a collision	54
Be aware and be considerate	54
Reduce engine noise	55
Keep your distance from divers below the surface	55
Steer clear of shipping lanes	55
Operate at a safe speed	56
Waterskiing and other towing activities	56
Respect and protect the aquatic environment	57
Boating restrictions	58
Reading a restriction sign	58
Province-wide shore-line speed restrictions	58
Safety in historic canals and locks	59
Passage through a lock	59
Safety around dams	60



QUICK REFERENCE MATERIAL

Quick reference cards.....	61
Sail plan.....	61
The Canadian Aids to Navigation System	62
Operating rules	62
Distress signals.....	65
Contact information	66
Regional Transport Canada Centres.....	66
Marine and Air Search and Rescue emergency telephone numbers.....	67
Charts, tide and current tables and more	68
Marine weather forecasts	68
Marine publications	68
Pleasure craft licensing	68