- 1. If you are operating a motorized boat or personal water craft (PWC), **you must have a Pleasure Craft Operator Card** and it must be readily available.
- 2. All required safety equipment must be on the vessel you are operating.
- 3. There must be one lifejacket onboard for every person on the vessel.
- 4. To operate a PWC, you must be 16 years of age or older and have an Operator Card.
- 5. To tow a skier or tuber from a PWC, there must be a spotter and there must be a seat on the PWC for each person being towed.
- 6. If the PWC is a three-seater, only one person can be towed. If the PWC is a two-seater, towing a skier or tuber is illegal.
- 7. If you are impaired while operating a vessel, your Motor Vehicle Driver's Licence will be suspended on the spot for a minimum of 3 days.
- 8. Stay clear of the shore and docks with your vessel to ensure the safety of swimmers and to avoid damaging docks and water fowl nests with your boat wake.
- 9. Always be aware of your wake. Ensure that it is not impacting others on the lake. IE kayakers, boarders, canoers and swimmers.
- 10. When swimming away from shore, make yourself visible to boaters and PWC operators. If you choose to swim across the lake or to an island, have a boat accompaniment. An alternative would be to wear a bright coloured lifejacket or marker that would make you clearly visible to boaters and PWC operators.
- 11. Fines
  - a. Not having a lifejacket, whistle, bailer, etc \$200
  - b. Not having an Operator Card \$250
  - c. Operating a vessel while under the influence of alcohol or drugs automatic 3 day suspension of your Motor Vehicle Driver's Licence
    - i. First offense Minimum \$600 fine
    - ii. Second offense Minimum \$600 fine and at least 14 days in prison
    - iii. Third offense Minimum \$600 fine and at least 90 days in prison

Additional boating offences and fines are list on the back of this page

THE OPP WANTS TO HEAR FROM THE COMMUNITY ABOUT DANGEROUS BOATING CALL 1-888-310-1122

"COURTESY & SAFETY ON THE WATER MAKES FOR GOOD NEIGHBOURS"





## WATER SAFETY

## BOATING OFFENSES AND ASSOCIATED FINES

Here is a list of some boating offenses and their fines as presented in the Contraventions Regulations\*. Note that they do not include administrative charges.

Operating a vessel if you are under age	\$250
Failing to have proof of competency on board	\$250
Failing to have the required pleasure craft licence on board	\$250
Altering/Defacing/Removing hull serial number	\$350
Operating a boat in a careless manner, without due care and attention for others	\$350
Operating a vessel with safety equipment not in good working order or not readily accessible and available for immediate use	\$200
Operating a human-powered pleasure craft without PFD's or lifejackets of appropriate size for each person on board (\$200). Plus \$100 for each PFD or lifejacket missing	\$200 + \$100
Operating a power-driven vessel without a muffler that is in good working order	\$250
Operating a vessel to tow a person on water or in air without seating space on board for every person being towed	\$250
Operating a vessel to tow a person on water or in air without a person on board other than the operator keeping watch on every person being towed	\$250
Operating a vessel in an unsafe manner	\$500

You should also know that some boating offenses can result in fines to both the operator of the boat as well as well as to its owner. An example of this would be allowing someone under the age of 16 to operate your PWC.

<sup>\*</sup>Fine amounts are subject to change.



