

LET'S KEEP EACH OTHER SAFE HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

BE RESPECTFUL AND KEEP YOUR DISTANCE. MAKE EYE CONTACT TO LET OTHERS KNOW YOU ARE AWARE OF THEIR PRESENCE AND TAKE EARLY AND SUBSTANTIAL ACTION TO AVOID COLLISION.

PADDLEBOARDERS

SAFETY: LEASH, PFD, WHISTLE, PHONE

DIRECTION: Straight, often to a landmark around Outer Harbour or to the Toronto Islands. Multiple launch zones.

STOP & TURN RADIUS: Short stopping distance and slow rounded turn radius.

SIGHTLINES/VISIBILITY: Good sightlines and visibility.

VULNERABILITIES: Sensitive to boat wake. Paddle boards move slowly and can be hard to see, especially if the paddler is on their knees, prone or has capsized.

HOW TO HELP: If a paddleboarder is in the water, ask if they are OK. They may ask for a tow to shore.

TAKE A CELLPHONE FOR EMERGENCIES.

PADDLERS/ KAYAKERS

SAFETY: PFD, WHISTLE, PHONE, FLASHLIGHT

DIRECTION: Straight, often to a landmark.

STOP & TURN RADIUS: Short stopping distance and slow shorter turn radius than rowers.

SIGHTLINES/VISIBILITY: Good sightlines and visibility.

VULNERABILITIES: The shorter and wider the kayak, the slower it is, paddlers may have difficulty getting out of your way. Carbon fiber kayaks and surf skis (the long, really thin ones) are fragile and unstable. The craft can be damaged by wake or even broken by a perpendicular wake, even a small one. The longer and thinner the craft, the more unstable.

HOW TO HELP: If a paddler is in the water, ask if they are OK. They may ask for a tow to shore or help in righting the craft.

OUTRIGGER CANOES

SAFETY: PFD, WHISTLE, SIGNAL LIGHTS, PHONE

DIRECTION: Loops with straightaways running parallel to the North Shore, turnaround south of Rat Spit.

STOP & TURN RADIUS: Short stopping distance and wide turn radius.

SIGHTLINES/VISIBILITY: Good sightlines and visibility.

VULNERABILITIES: Unstable, vulnerable to waves and wakes.

HOW TO HELP: Capsized outrigger canoes ("huli'd") can be righted & bailed; rescue the paddler(s) or tow.

ALWAYS TELL SOMEONE YOUR PLAN AND EXPECTED RETURN.

SWIMMERS

SAFETY: BRIGHT CAP, TOW FLOAT, WHISTLE, BUDDY

DIRECTION: Straight, parallel and close to shore (within 100m).

STOP & TURN RADIUS: Short stopping distance and turn radius.

SIGHTLINES/VISIBILITY: Can't see well with goggles, can't hear well with earplugs/cap and low lying in the water.

VULNERABILITIES: Easily startled by anything that approaches them. Keep over 15m distance and if possible, give a friendly thumbs up to say you see them. Hard to see.

HOW TO HELP: Approach slowly, try to make eye contact and ask if they need help.

ROWERS

SAFETY: PFD, BAILER

DIRECTION: Straight, row backwards, often to a landmark around Outer Harbour.

STOP & TURN RADIUS: Long stopping distance and wide turn radius - less manoeuvrable.

SIGHTLINES/VISIBILITY: Rowboats can make a lot of noise, and travel facing backwards, don't assume that rowers see or hear you.

VULNERABILITIES: Rowing shells are fragile/delicate, so a large wake caused by speeding boats can cause damage to the shells. Carbon fiber racing shells (the long, really thin ones) can break crosswise when hit by a large boat wake. Rowers (especially in smaller boats of 1-2 people) are not very stable, so please don't hit them with your wake.

HOW TO HELP: To assist crew reboarding if capsized, hold the metal outrigger to keep stable. Do not allow your boat to make contact with a rower's hull.

DRAGONBOATERS

SAFETY: PFD, WHISTLE, SIGNAL LIGHTS (LEDS), PHONE

DIRECTION: Straightaways.

STOP & TURN RADIUS: Short stopping distance and wide turn radius.

SIGHTLINES/VISIBILITY: Good sightlines and visibility. May not hear others with a large crew.

VULNERABILITIES: Slow and heavy, manoeuvrability is limited.

HOW TO HELP: Capsized dragon boats can be righted & bailed. Alert other dragon boat crews in the vicinity; they will offload paddlers, save for a skeleton crew to paddle their mostly-empty boat for rescuing. If all paddlers are out of the boat, towing a dragon boat is possible (250 kg).

UNIVERSAL HAND/WHISTLE SIGNALS

OK= THUMBS UP  **OR TAP ON TOP OF YOUR HEAD**

GET ATTENTION = SHORT WHISTLE BLASTS



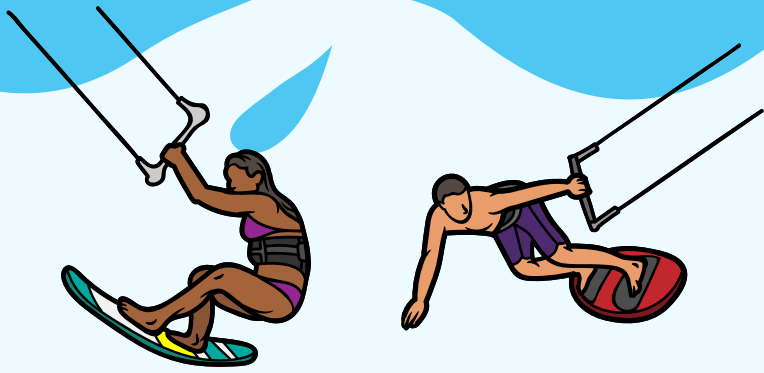
DISTRESS = FULL ARMS OUT AND WAVING UP AND DOWN OR LONG WHISTLE BLASTS ON A PEALESS WHISTLE,



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TRANSPORT CANADA
SAFE BOATING GUIDE



KITEBOARDERS

SAFETY: PFD, WHISTLE, HELMET

DIRECTION: Zig zag (upwind/downwind) from launch at Cherry Beach to Rat Spit. More advanced riders go east to the Lighthouse, north to Rat Spit and west toward the end of Wards Island.

STOP & TURN RADIUS: Short stopping distance. Easy to manoeuvre.

SIGHTLINES/VISIBILITY: Good sightlines and visibility in front. Don't see well behind.

VULNERABILITIES: Wind changes that take the kiter toward open water and away from shore. Don't see behind or away from the direction of travel. Call out "Have an eye" or blow a whistle if you think you have not been seen by an approaching kiter.

HOW TO HELP: Alert other kites. Be aware there are 20m lines running from the kite to the kiter. Do not navigate boat between the kiter and kite.

**CHECK THE WEATHER.
THE GREAT LAKES CHANGE FAST.**

WINGERS

SAFETY: PFD, WHISTLE, HELMET, PHONE

DIRECTION: Launch at Toronto Windsurfing Club beach and zig-zag (upwind/downwind).

STOP & TURN RADIUS: Short stopping distance.

SIGHTLINES/VISIBILITY: Good sightlines and visibility in front. Don't see well behind.

VULNERABILITIES: Waves, drastic changes in wind strength, direction and power boat wakes.

HOW TO HELP: If you see someone struggling (in strong winds) or in the water, ask if they are OK. Standby at a safe distance, keeping clear from the wing and board to prevent injury. They may ask if you can tow them, flag another boat or radio for help.

**TO REPORT AN INCIDENT
NON-EMERGENCY 416-808-5860**

**IN AN EMERGENCY
DIAL 9-1-1**

RIGHT OF WAY (R-O-W) RULES

All vessels have the responsibility to **operate in a safe manner** and **take all necessary action to avoid a collision**.

All vessels yield to **SWIMMERS**.

MOTOR vessels give way to swimmers, human powered vessels and sailing vessels. Keep right, yield right and overtaking vessel keeps clear. **MOTOR VESSEL SPEED LIMIT:** 5 knots/10km within 150m of shore and 10 knots/19km elsewhere in the Inner/Outer Harbour.

SAILORS, WINDSURFERS and **WINGERS** follow Transport Canada sailing rules. Starboard tack vessels give priority over port tack.

KITEBOARDERS give way to all other water users, wind, human and motor vessels.

ROWERS, PADDLEBOARDERS and **DRAGONBOATERS** give way to all non-motorized vessels.

EXCEPTION: Large commercial vessels (ships) in the Eastern Gap channel have priority over all others.

WINDSURFERS

SAFETY: PFD, WHISTLE, HELMET, PHONE

DIRECTION: Launch at Toronto Windsurfing Club beach and zig-zag (upwind/downwind).

STOP & TURN RADIUS: Short stopping distance.

SIGHTLINES/VISIBILITY: Obscured by sail, don't see behind.

VULNERABILITIES: Waves, drastic changes in wind strength, direction and power boat wakes.

HOW TO HELP: If you see someone struggling (in strong winds) or in the water, ask if they are OK. Standby at a safe distance, keeping clear of the mast, sail and board in the water. They may ask if you can alert another windsurfer to help, flag down a boat or radio for help.

SAILORS

SAFETY: PFD, WHISTLE, BOOTIES, PHONE

DIRECTION: Zig zag (upwind/downwind). Multiple launch zones. Outer Harbour Sailing Federation clubs inside Rat Spit. Aquatic Park Sailing Club from Leslie Street Spit Cove.

STOP & TURN RADIUS: Sailboats stop by turning their bows into the wind until the force of the wind blowing against the boat stops its forward momentum. The larger and heavier the boat the longer it takes to turn and to stop.

SIGHTLINES/VISIBILITY: Obscured by sail.

VULNERABILITIES: Drastic change in wind strength, direction, waves and power boat wakes.

HOW TO HELP: If capsized, approach and ask if they are OK. Standby at a safe distance, keeping clear of the mast and rigging in the water. Collect any equipment floating nearby.



FRIENDS OF CHERRY BEACH & OUTER HARBOUR
powered by people and nature

