

BE A WATER SMART BOATER









Water Smart® Boaters:

- **Boat sober.** Alcohol consumption is a factor in almost 40% of boating-related fatalities.
- Always wear a lifejacket or PFD. Lifejackets don't work if you don't wear them.
- Get trained in boat safety. Take a BOAT™ course to get your Pleasure Craft Operator Card.
- Drive in control at moderate speeds. Drive with caution and use proper lights after dark.
- Know before you go. Check the weather forecast. Learn about local hazards (i.e. shallow areas, rapids).
- Have a boat safety kit. This should include: first aid kit, bailer, paddles, whistle or horn, flashlight and a throw rope.
- Watch out for swimmers and other boaters. Always have a spotter when towing water-skiers and tube riders.
- Don't boat alone. Boating alone was a major risk factor in 30% of boating-related fatalities.
- Stay seated. You can easily fall out of a small powerboat, canoe or kayak.

Information sourced from Canadian Drowning Report - 2016 Edition

The Lifesaving Society Alberta and Northwest Territories Branch gratefully acknowledges funding support from the Alberta Community Injury Control Fund (funding provided by Alberta Health).

Lifesaving Society Alberta and Northwest Territories

Canada's Drowning Prevention Charity Reg. Charity No. 11912 9021 RR0001

13123 – 156 Street NW Edmonton, Alberta Canada T5V 1V2 T: 780-415-1755 | F: 780-427-9334 experts@lifesaving.org www.lifesaving.org