

SLIDE 1

Boating and Environmental Stressors

- Sun
- Wind
- Waves

SLIDE 2

Boating under the influence is an offence under the Criminal Code of Canada.

SLIDE 3

"Impaired Operation of a Vessel" (Canadian law)

1st offence - minimum fine of \$1000

2nd offence – at least 30 days of imprisonment

3rd & subsequent offence – at least 120 days of imprisonment

SLIDE 4

When is Drinking allowed when Boating

- Boat is anchored or docked
- Has permanent toilet, cooking facilities, sleeping facilities

SLIDE 5

Bill 209, Highway Traffic Amendment Act (Drinking and Boating Offences), 2006 is now law in Ontario

- Allows police to suspend the driver's licence of anyone operating a boat while impaired

SLIDE 6

Treat your boat like you would your vehicle, you don't drink and drive, you don't drink and boat

SLIDE 1

Boating and Environmental Stressors

Are you aware of the environmental stressors when you are on the water that can have an effect on you, these include the rocking motion of the boat, waves, sun, wind, noise and vibration. They can intensify the effects of alcohol or drugs, making drinking while boating even more dangerous than drinking and driving. And each drink multiplies your accident risk.

SLIDE 2

Operating a boat while under the influence of alcohol or drugs is an offence under the Criminal Code of Canada. You are considered to be 'impaired' or 'under the influence' if your blood alcohol level exceeds 0.08 (80 mg of alcohol per 100 mg of blood).

SLIDE 3

"Impaired Operation of a Vessel" (Canadian law)

The fines and penalties for driving a boat while under the influence of alcohol or drugs are the same as those applicable to operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs. There is NO difference between drunk driving and drunk boating.

In the Canadian law under "Impaired Operation of a Vessel", for your first offence, it will be a minimum fine of \$1000. For your second offence you could have at least 30 days of imprisonment. With your third and subsequent offences, it is at least 120 days of imprisonment.

SLIDE 4

When is Drinking allowed when Boating

In all provinces and territories, boat passengers may legally consume alcohol on board a boat so long as the boat has a permanent toilet, cooking facilities, sleeping facilities and it is anchored or docked. It is illegal in most provinces and territories to transport OPEN alcohol. Quebec does have an exception for carrying open alcohol while the boat is underway.

SLIDE 5

Bill 209, Highway Traffic Amendment Act (Drinking and Boating Offences), 2006 is now law in Ontario

Bill 209, Highway Traffic Amendment Act (Drinking and Boating Offences) was introduced in 2006 in Ontario. Under the amendments, the Highway Traffic Act authorizes marine police to suspend your driver's licence for 12 hours if you're caught with up to 50 to 80 milligrams of alcohol per 100 millilitres of blood. If you blow over 80 mgs., your licence will be suspended for 90 days.

A first conviction for impaired driving of a motorboat in Ontario will now result in the suspension of your licence to drive a motor vehicle on land. The law was also amended to extend the penalties for drunk driving on the road to boaters convicted of driving while impaired or with excess alcohol.

A first conviction for impaired boating will result in a one-year suspension of your driver's licence. To get that licence reinstated, you will have to pay \$150 and enroll in the transport ministry's Back on Track driver rehabilitation program – which will set you back another \$500.

When your licence is reinstated, you'll have to use an ignition interlock device in your car for at least a year (say goodbye to another \$1,000).

SLIDE 6

Treat your boat like you would your vehicle, you don't drink and drive, you don't drink and boat.

Ensure you stay up-to-date impaired legislation. Contact the local RCMP, Sûreté du Québec (SQ) or Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) for more information about the laws for boating with alcohol in your area.