

SLIDE 1

Plan Route

- Nautical Charts
 - Paper
 - Electronic
- Mobile Navigation Apps

SLIDE 2

Check Weather

- Marine Forecast

SLIDE 3

Float Plan is like a Flight Plan

- Same idea as a flight plan
- Planned route used to keep others informed of what you are doing and where you are going

SLIDE 4

Float Plan

- Should have the details about your boat, size and colour and registration number
- Include details about the trip, where you are going, when you plan to be back and number of passengers
- Make a note of your cell phone number
- Identify medical conditions

SLIDE 5

Float Plans

- Instruct the person that if you do not contact them one hour after you are due back from your boat trip to contact the authorities
- With your float plan, the person you left it with will be able to provide all the details necessary to help the authorities start a search.
- It is your responsibility if you are delayed and it is not an emergency, to inform the person with your Float Plan so they don't contact the authorities unnecessarily and start a costly search for you.

SLIDE 6

Pre-departure Inspection

- General inspection
 - Hull
 - Gas and Oil levels
 - Belts, hoses and bilge

SLIDE 7

Proper Loading

- Never load beyond your boat's safe carrying capacity
- Reasons a boat rides low in the water and becomes unstable:
 - Too many people
 - Too much gear
 - Too big an engine

SLIDE 8

Capacity Plate

- Follow the information on the capacity plate and adhere to all limits for each
- Required on all motorized vessels less than 20 feet
- Capacity Plate Information:
 - Maximum horsepower
 - Maximum number of people
 - Maximum weight permitted

SLIDE 9

Distribute The Load Evenly

- Distribute the load evenly fore and aft and from side to side
- Keep the load low and centered
- Secure it to prevent it from shifting

SLIDE 10

Proper Prep - important to safe boating

- Create a Float Plan
- Check weather and decide route
- Follow the information on the capacity plate
- Load your boat properly

SLIDE 1

Plan Route

Nautical charts show the safest route and hazards above and below the surface. In an event of an emergency, a chart provides your position so that you can communicate it with search & rescue to help them find you quicker. The law states that a boater must carry up to date charts in the largest scale possible for the body of water that they are boating on unless they are familiar with the area and its hazards.

Digital charts are digitized marine charts. They provide the same information that paper charts do and are updated regularly. Mobile navigation apps with digital charts are a great navigation tool. If you are using a mobile app or electronic charts, it is a good idea to carry paper charts as a backup in case of equipment failure.

SLIDE 2

Check Weather

Check the marine forecast as a public forecast will not provide an accurate picture of wind strength and direction on the water. And wind speed and wave height forecasts are very important for smaller vessels because even moderate waves can make it uncomfortable and sometimes a dangerous on the water. You will find marine forecasts on the environment Canada website or as part of the weather network's local forecast.

SLIDE 3

Float Plan is like a Flight Plan

Most people have heard of a flight plan. This is the planned route a pilot uses to keep air traffic control informed of what the pilot is doing and where the pilot is going. It makes flying safer. Well in boating there is also a plan. It's called a float plan.

SLIDE 4

Float Plan

It provides all the details about your boat and most importantly the trip are intending to make. There is a lot to fill in about your boat, its equipment, the person who normally drives it, your emergency contact information and ways to contact the boat like if the boat has a radio. There is a space to fill in your cell phone number if you are carrying one with you, but, be aware that often times you all be outside a coverage area while you are boating.

A good idea is to make up one float plan, fill all these details in once, and then copy it. That way you just need to fill in the information about your trip when you go boating.

For each trip, you should fill in where you're going and when you plan to be back.

Make sure to put in the information about your passengers and make sure to identify if you or anyone with you has any medical conditions

SLIDE 5

Float Plan

You should make up a float plan every time you go boating and leave it with a responsible person. Because you are depending on this person, make sure it is someone who likes you.

Instruct the person that if you do not contact them one hour after you are due back from your boat trip to contact the authorities. In many cases that will be the local enforcement agency like the police.

With your float plan in hand, the person you left it with will be able to provide all the details necessary to help the authorities start a search for you. But it is your responsibility if you are delayed and it is not an emergency, to inform the person with your Float Plan so they don't contact the authorities unnecessarily and start a costly search for you.

SLIDE 6

Pre-departure Inspection

It is important to do a pre-departure inspection to ensure there are no easily visual problems with the boat. This starts with a general inspection of the hull...check for cracks or holes...check the bilge for water...if you find more than normal, it could indicate a problem. Inspect the belts and hoses for cracks and wear. And check to see that your oil and other fluid levels are okay. Have a sniff and if you smell gas fumes, don't start the engine until you have discovered and fixed the problem.

SLIDE 7

Proper Loading

The key to proper loading of your vessel is to never load it beyond its safe carrying capacity. Too many people, too much gear or too big an engine can over load / weigh your boat may cause it to ride too low in the water and become unstable

SLIDE 8

Capacity Plate

To help you, follow the information on the capacity plate. It is required on all motorized vessels less than 20 feet. A capacity plate provides you information on the maximum horsepower for the boat, the maximum number of people allowed and the maximum weight permitted in the boat including the people, motor and gear. Do not exceed any of the numbers listed on the capacity plate.

SLIDE 9

Distribute The Load Evenly

When you load your boat, distribute the load evenly fore and aft and from side to side

Keep the load low and centered in the boat and secure it to prevent it from shifting

SLIDE 10

Proper Prep

Proper planning and proper loading is important to safe boating and it is not difficult.

Make a float plan every time you go boating and leave it with a responsible person.

Follow the information on the capacity plate and load your boat properly.

If you do all your boating trips will be round trips.