



CANOE KAYAK SUP RAFT RESCUE

## SAFETY SERIES

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# DEFENSIVE BOATING



### 1. VISIBILITY

Never assume that power boat operators can see you. Avoid high traffic areas whenever possible, and proceed with caution when you must cross a channel or busy waterway.



### 2. BRIGHT COLORS

Choose a brightly colored life jacket and clothing that will make it easier for others to see you on the water.

### 3. ENVIRONMENT

Be aware of environmental factors like choppy or tall waves, fog or glare that make small water craft more difficult to spot.



### 4. KNOW THE RULES OF THE ROAD

- When meeting another water craft head on make a right turn (starboard) so that you pass the other water craft on the left (port-side).
- When being overtaken from behind, hold your course straight so as to not surprise the passing water craft.
- When navigating in restricted water areas (docks, bridges, etc.), give way to less maneuverable water craft, usually larger boats.



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