

BELFAST HARBOR SAFETY REMINDERS

SMALL NON-POWERED PADDLE AND ROWING VESSELS

- AVOID PADDLING IN THE CHANNEL, especially in areas with poor visibility and large vessel traffic such as around the City Landing and Inner Harbor (see chart on back)
- Always be aware larger vessels may not see you or may not be able to stop or change course

LARGE and ALL POWERED VESSELS

- Maintain steerage speed only in ALL areas of the channel and mooring field
- Watch your wake! Serious injuries and damage may occur from vessels and docks being tossed around

ALWAYS HAVE YOUR NAME AND
CONTACT INFORMATION ON YOUR VESSEL

KNOW THE RULES OF THE ROAD

- Keep to the right in the channel
- Know who has the right of way
- Be attentive to other vessel traffic and activities
- Maintain radio contact at all times on VHF channel 16
- Be sure other vessel operators know what your intentions are

SWIMMING IN BELFAST HARBOR

- Swimmers are very difficult to see from a vessel and are unexpected
- Swimmers should stay close to shore and away from all areas with poor visibility & vessel traffic

PASSENGER SAFETY

- All boaters should wear lifejackets at all times but children 10 years of age and under are required by State Law to wear life jackets (children's lifejackets may be borrowed at the Harbor Office)
- Never allow anyone to ride on the bow with their feet dangling over the side. A vessel cannot be stopped quickly enough to avoid a potentially serious or fatal accident.

COMMUNICATION IS IMPORTANT
BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER
YOUR BOAT TRIP

KNOW THE CONDITIONS

- Strong currents and winds, fog, and reflecting sunlight, all contribute to conditions where extra attention is needed
- Always know what the weather and tides are doing

USE COMMON SENSE AND BE
CONSIDERATE OF OTHERS !

HAVE A SAFE SEASON ON OUR HARBOR!

ALWAYS WEAR YOUR LIFEJACKET

City of Belfast, Maine
Harbor Master's Office

ALWAYS EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED !