

Township of Muskoka Lakes

P.O. Box 129, 1 Bailey Street, Port Carling, Ontario, P0B 1J0

Website: www. muskokalakes.ca

Phone: 705-765-3156 Fax: 705-765-3197

SHORT TERM RENTAL ACCOMMODATION (STRA) BOATER SAFETY INFORMATION

BEFORE YOUR DEPARTURE:

- Check the condition of your boat including: the body of the boat is not damaged in any way; the electrical, propulsion, throttle, and steering are working well; the oil level is sufficient; spark plugs are clean; battery is charged, and the load of people and gear is well distributed. Check your fuel and ensure you have enough for your trip, to return, and extra in case of an emergency.
- Ensure an appropriate first aid kid and safety kit is on board, in good working condition, and easily accessible. There are different requirements depending on the size of the vessel. Please check with Transport Canada for specifications.
- Carry and wear a Canadian approved lifejacket or PFD of the proper size, for each person on board. Make sure they are in good condition.
- Ensure the driver is carrying a valid Pleasure Craft Operator Card.
- Ensure you have a map or other reliable navigational tool on board.
- Ensure no one on board is or has been consuming alcohol, cannabis, or any other substances and medications that may cause impairment.
- Tell someone where you are going and when you will be back. Ensure all communication devices on board are operable and in good working condition.
- Check and monitor the marine weather forecast.

DURING YOUR TRIP:

- Operate your vessel in accordance with all speed regulations and distance requirements from shore.
- Be aware of all hazards including water levels, rocks, dams, locks, docks, and ferries.
- Be aware of other users of the water including pleasure crafts, commercial barges, non-powered crafts, and swimmers.
- All boaters are required to give right-of-way to towing boats, emergency crafts, non-powered crafts (canoes, kayaks, paddle boards), and swimmers.
- If you are participating in water activities such as water tubing, water skiing, and wake boarding, ensure you have a spotter.
- Sound travels on the water! Operate all music and sound devices in a respectful manner in consideration of all users of the lake, and property owners on the lake.
- If you are boating at night, ensure all navigational lights are turned on and are in good working condition. Follow standard navigational rules and give right-of-way to white lights.



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