



Fire Extinguishers

If you require a fire extinguisher for your vessel, ensure it is a multi-purpose ULC listed fire extinguisher with a minimum 5 or 10B:C rating depending on the size of your boat. Also, consider placing additional fire extinguishers at all cabin exits and near the engine compartment cover or hatch.

P.A.S.S. Procedure:

The basic steps for using a fire extinguisher:

PULL the pin (twist and pull)

AIM the extinguisher at the base of the fire.

SQUEEZE the handle to activate the extinguisher

SWEEP the nozzle to direct the fire retardant material across the base of the fire.

IMPORTANT !

- Fire extinguishers work for only 5 – 10 sec.
- Take the opportunity to learn to use a fire extinguisher before you set sail.
- A fire can burn out of control, faster than you are able to react. If in doubt, get out!



Fire Prevention At The Marina....

Contact the marina manager if you have concerns regarding any the following:

- Emergency instructions should be prominently posted on all docks and in the marina building.
- Access should be provided to a centrally located emergency telephone. (For calling 9.1.1.)
- Marina docks and building exits must be maintained free of obstructions.
- Old boat parts, scrap wood or refuse must not be dumped on the marina property.
- Flammable liquids and propane cylinders must be safely stored at all times.
- Fire hydrants must remain unobstructed by vehicles, cradles, cranes or snow.
- Marina staff should be trained in the use of multi-purpose fire extinguishers and know the emergency procedures for the marina.

Consider establishing a fire safety committee at your marina...

Your Fire Evacuation Plan....

The safest course of action if a fire occurs on your boat is to:

- **Evacuate** the boat and surrounding dock area immediately.
- **Call 9.1.1.** to report the emergency.
- **Shut the power off** on the boat (*including shorepower*).
- Extinguish the fire (*only if it is safe to do so*).
- Do not move the burning vessel, move adjacent boats away from the hazard (*only if it is safe to do so*).
- Instruct a bystander to meet and direct responding firefighters to the fire scene (at the marina entrance).
- Prior to leaving the dock, identify the location of all the vessels life safety devices, including fire extinguishers, PFDs, buoyancy aids, life raft(s) and communication devices.

It is imperative that all passengers, crew and guests understand the evacuation procedures for your boat and the marina where you are docked.

Consider a boating safety course from a local provider or the Canadian Power Squadron.

Nautical Escapes: www.nauticalescapes.ca

Whitby Yacht Club www.wyc.ca

Canadian Power Squadron www.cps-ecp.ca

For More information Contact:

Whitby Fire and Emergency Services (905) 668-3312 www.whiby.ca/fire

Durham Regional Police Service (905) 579-1520 www.drps.ca

Ontario Provincial Police 1-888-310-1122 www.opp.ca

Marine Fire Safety

Harbor Days Issue

Whitby Fire and
Emergency Services



Smoke Alarms

If your boat has a galley, sleeping accommodations and a washroom, then you require a smoke alarm on your boat. Smoke alarms are not just for residential buildings and they will save your life in the event of a fire. A battery powered smoke alarm is easily installed on the ceiling of any cabin.

The best place to install the smoke alarm is in the passageway outside any sleeping areas.

FIRE: Calling For Help

At The Marina: Contact the local Fire Department via telephone (9.1.1.)

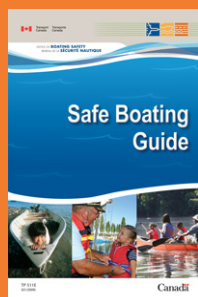
On The Water: Contact the **Canadian Coast Guard** on **VHF Chanel 16** or on a cell phone by **calling *16**.

- If you are on unregulated waterways or land locked lakes, calling the regional or provincial police service may be the fastest way to obtain help in an emergency. (Call 9.1.1.)

Always file a sail plan with your yacht club or marina prior to your departure.

*Expired marine signal flairs can be disposed of by the **Durham Regional Police Service**.*

- *Never place marine signal flairs in the municipal garbage.*



Check Transport Canada's **Safe Boating Guide** to ensure you have all of the required life safety equipment for your vessel.

Transport Canada

www.boatingsafety.gc.ca

DON'T TAKE SHORT CUTS WITH FUEL SAFETY !

Safe Engine Use:

Always ventilate the engine compartment for four minutes prior to starting the engine and after conducting engine maintenance or repairing fuel lines.

Refueling...

- Use only listed (ULC) containers for transporting and storing fuel.
- Always store fuel on the upper deck of your boat and do not carry more fuel than what is required for your intended trip.
- Prior to refueling the engine, you must always shut off the engine, turn off all ignition sources on the boat and ensure the fuel tank or boat is bonded or grounded if required.
- Clean up any spilled fuel immediately and ensure the engine compartment is thoroughly ventilated prior to restarting the engine.

Flammable vapors from spilled gasoline or leaking propane can easily reach their explosive range if allowed to leak onto the bilge.

When you put your boat in the water...

- Inspect the fuel tank for leaks (*also check the bilge for fuel*)
- Check the boats electrical system for bare and broken wires,
- Shorepower electrical cords must be maintained in good condition.
- Operate the engine compartment blower, emergency lighting, signal horn and bilge pump to ensure proper function.
- Ensure signal flairs are stored safely and have not expired.
- Test the marine radio to ensure your signal is received.
- Inspect all your throw ropes, and life ring (if required).
- Check the first aid kit. The contents may have expired.
- Obtain all required charts prior to your voyage.
- Check your fire extinguishers, replace or service them if they are more than 6 years from the date of manufacture.
- Keep a copy of the vessel's ownership and insurance in a safe location onshore. (*You will need both should a fire occur*)

Remember, when you leave the dock, the local fire department may not be able to get to you. Having additional fire extinguishers may provide you with your only chance of remaining on board in the event of a fire.

Personal Flotation Devices

Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs) are required on all pleasure craft. Regulations require that there be one for each person on board and that they be readily available at all times.

Ensure the PFD you choose is listed for use by Underwriter Laboratories Canada (ULC). This will ensure that your PFD will meet or exceeds the minimum standards in Canada.



Ensure that any children are wearing life jackets specifically designed for their size and weight. A child's PFD will automatically lift their head out of the water should they become submerged.