



Canadian Coast Guard / Garde côtière canadienne

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FR 1/2 B *guidelines*
Recreational Boating Restrictions

Your file / Votre référence

Our file / Notre référence

RECREATIONAL BOATING RESTRICTIONS

Provinces have the power to regulate recreational boating to ensure its safe enjoyment and reduce conflicts on inland rivers and lakes. Boating may be restricted for safety reasons, to prevent environmental damage, to restrict noise levels and to encourage one form of recreation over another (such as swimming or fly-fishing over water-skiing).

The boating restrictions, which come under the Canada Shipping Act, are enforceable with fines up to \$500.00.

Application to obtain restrictions on boat operations can be submitted by the various levels of government, by public or private bodies or by individuals, to the Provincial or Territorial governments.

When an applicant has received authorization, he will be given the power to place standardized signs notifying boaters of the restrictive measures, which could affect the operation and speed of any vessel, relating to such matters as noise nuisance, danger to other craft or swimmers, and erosion of shoreline by wash from passing boats.

Boating Restriction Applications - designated provincial authorities:

- (a) B.C. Ministry of Parks
Visitor Services Branch
2nd Floor - 800 Johnson Street
Victoria, B.C.
V8V 1X4 Attn: Ken Stewart, Manager
(604) 387-5002 Rafting & Boating Regulation Officer
- (b) Alberta Department of Forestry, Lands & Wildlife
Main Floor, North Tower, Petroleum Plaza
9945 - 108th Street
Edmonton, Alberta
T5K 2C9 Attn: Jim Struthers
(403) 427-8205 Assistant Director
Enforcement Services



(c) Sask. Saskatchewan Parks & Renewable Resources
3211 Albert Street
Regina, Saskatchewan
S4S 5W6
(306) 787-2796 Attn: Nancy Cherney

PROVINCIAL CONTACT - BOATING RESTRICTIONS

ALBERTA

Ministry of Forestry, Lands and Wildlife,
Fish and Wildlife Division
Main Floor, North Tower, Petroleum Plaza
9945 - 108th Street
Edmonton, Alberta
T5K 2G6

Attention: Mr. R.J. Adams
(403) 427-6735

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Ministry of Environment
Visitor Services Branch
2nd Floor - 800 Johnson Street
Victoria, B.C. V8V 1X4

Attention: Mr. Ken Stewart
(604) 387-5002

MANITOBA

Department of Natural Resources
Field Services - Enforcement,
Box 38, Room 201
1495 St. James Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3H 0W9

Attention: Mr. S.A. McIvor
(204) 945-6642

NOVA SCOTIA

Department of Justice
P.O. Box 7
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 2L6

Attention: Mr. Gregory Evans
(902) 424-4222

ONTARIO

Ministry of Natural Resources
Policy and Program Division
Resource Stewardship & Development Branch
6th Floor - 90 Sheppard Ave. East
North York, Ontario
M2N 3A1

Attention: Mr. Julian Paul
(416) 314-1090

SASKATCHEWAN

Department of Parks and Renewable Resources
3211 Albert Street
Regina, Saskatchewan
S4S 5W6

Attention: Ms. Nancy Cherney
(306) 787-2796

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

(not designated - contact only)

Government of the Northwest Territories
Community Planning Division
Department of Municipal and Community Affairs
Box 1320
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X1A 2L9

Attention: Brian Render
(403) 873-7569

YUKON

(not designated - contact only)

Department of Renewable Resources
Resource Planning Board
10 Barns Road
Whitehorse, Yukon
Y1A 2C6

Attention: P. Boyer
(403) 667-2438

BOATING RESTRICTION REGULATIONS

1. What are the Boating Restriction Regulations?

The Boating Restriction Regulations, made under the Canada Shipping Act, were created in 1972 in order to control the operation of small vessels on specified bodies of water. Restrictions or prohibitions of boating activities may be established in the interests of public safety or for the protection or convenience of the public.

2. What types of restrictions are there?

Presently there are nine types of restrictions which may be imposed on any specific body of water.

- Prohibition of all vessels
- Prohibition of power driven vessels
- Prohibition of power driven vessels, except for vessels with battery powered electric motors
- Limitation of Engine Power
- Limitation of speed
- Prohibition of water-skiing, or similar towing
- Limitation of wake height
- Prohibition of a regatta, marine parade or boat race unless authorized by a permit
- Prohibition of commercial river rafting operations unless authorized by a permit.

3. Where do restrictions apply?

Prior to the creation of the Regulations, an agreement was made between the federal and provincial governments that, except in the case of federal parks, requests for restrictions would only be accepted upon an application by a provincial authority designated to make such requests. To date, five provinces

(British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, Nova Scotia and Ontario) have waters for which restrictions exist.





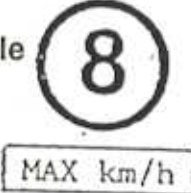



For provinces where no authority has been designated, it is suggested that applicants contact either the provincial Attorney General or Provincial Secretary to determine whether the province intends to initiate a boating restriction programme.

4. How is a restriction imposed?

A local group, association or municipality desiring a restriction should seek information about application procedures from the designated provincial authority (a list of the offices is attached). In many cases, applications must be endorsed by the municipality. The request for a restriction will then be investigated as thoroughly as possible. This procedure was established so that local interests and differences of opinion could be reviewed before regulatory action is taken. If a restriction is considered appropriate, and after provincial interests have been assessed, the province may make formal application to the federal government to have the restriction imposed. Federal authorities then process the proposal for enactment by an Order-in-Council as an amendment to the Regulations.

5. How do boaters know if a restriction applies?

Most restrictions are identified by signs placed in the vicinity of the restricted area. (Note that this does not apply in the case of regatta or commercial river rafting restrictions. Persons contemplating such operations should contact the designated provincial authority to determine if permits are required.)

<p>Prohibition of all vessels</p> 	<p>Prohibition of power driven vessels</p> 
<p>Prohibition of power driven vessels, except for vessels with battery operated electric motors.</p> 	<p>Limitation of engine power.</p> 
<p>Limitation of speed. (Indicates 8km/h is the maximum permissible speed, as the figure states)</p> 	<p>Prohibition of water-skiing, towing.</p> 
<p>Limitation of wake height.</p> 	<p>Outer directional rings may be used with any of the above symbols to show the boundary of a restriction by pointing in the direction in which the application applies.</p> 

- (Notes: 1. Engine power restrictions are shown in kilowatts, kW, rather than horsepower. To convert metric kW to horsepower, just add one third of the figure stated, ie. 3 kW is 4 horsepower.
 2. Speed restrictions are shown in kilometres per hour, km/h. Metric km/h is slightly more than 1/2 knot, ie. 5 km/h is 2.7 knots.)

6. How are boating restrictions enforced?

The restrictions may be enforced by any peace officer federal, provincial, municipal, by any harbour or river police force, or by any peace officer specially appointed by the Minister of Transport. At this time, all Parks Officers, Forest Officers and Wildlife Officers in the Province of Alberta are appointed peace officers, as well as the Foreman of the Peche Island Provincial Park in Ontario.

In Manitoba, all Conservation Officers, Park Rangers and Park Patrol Officers are designated as peace officers under the provincial Police Act.

Provision is made for a peace officer to direct or prohibit the movement of vessels in order to promote safety. A signal for a vessel to stop is a series of short blasts on a horn, siren, whistle, or other sounding device, or by any readily understandable visual signal. The Regulations also establish the penalties that may be imposed for contravention of the Regulations.