

# IMPAIRED BOATING **IS** IMPAIRED DRIVING

Operating a boat impaired can have deadly results. Alcohol is a factor in over 40% of recreational boating fatalities. With the legalization of cannabis, high boaters present a serious risk too.

Alcohol can diminish judgement, reduce motor skills, slow reaction times, reduce depth perception, and accelerate hypothermia. Cannabis can reduce alertness, concentration and attention span, slow reaction time and affect motor skills and perception of time and distance.

These effects are intensified on the water.



**EVERYONE HAS A ROLE TO PLAY IN  
KEEPING OUR WATERS SAFE.  
NEVER OPERATE A BOAT WHILE IMPAIRED.**

**madd**<sup>+</sup>  
No alcohol. No drugs. No victims.



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# IF YOU SUSPECT AN IMPAIRED BOATER



# OR YOUR MARINE UNIT

## GENERALLY, BOATERS WHO ARE IMPAIRED ARE MORE LIKELY TO:

- Go too fast for the waterway
- Operate vessels in a dangerous or careless manner (aggressive turning, high speeds)
- Forget to turn on running lights or other required night-time equipment
- Openly consume alcohol, cannabis or other drugs while underway

Talk to your local authorities about other behaviours to be on the look-out for. These may include operators drinking and/or doing drugs at their marina or dock and then taking the boat out or impairment at the fuel dock, pump out or on-the-water restaurants.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT [MADD.CA](https://madd.ca)**

## IF YOU SEE A BOATER YOU SUSPECT IS IMPAIRED ...

Contact your local police marine unit or call 911. Try to have as much information as possible, including:

- Licence number, name and description of vessel
- Direction of travel
- Description of the person operating the vessel
- Number of occupants/description
- Location and any specific landmarks

**DO NOT TRY TO FOLLOW OR INTERCEPT SOMEONE YOU SUSPECT IS IMPAIRED. REPORT IT TO POLICE AND LET THEM HANDLE IT.**



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