

See and Be Seen

Safely on Otty Lake



Boaters

Know the rules....

- Familiarize yourselves with boating safety.

https://tc.canada.ca/sites/default/files/migrated/tp_511e.pdf

- Various boat licensing opportunities are available on-line and there is no minimum age. Make it a family activity and get you're your kids licensed.



Check your speed....

- On a sunny day at Otty Lake you'll see swimmers, kayakers, paddle boarders, and boaters.
- Each of these users is looking for something different from the water, it's up to you to be the most aware of your speed.
- If travelling in areas that are being densely used, be sure to slow right down, even if there are no slow speed signs posted, so you can react quickly to slower and non-motorized vessels.

Mind your wake.....

- A boat with big wake can literally swamp a smaller vessel in a matter of seconds, not to mention the damage that kind of wake can do to boats that are moored.
- Make sure you adjust both your speed and trim to keep your wake at the appropriate level -- even a slow boat trimmed incorrectly can generate serious swells

Respect your fellow cottagers ...

- Personal watercrafts can be lots of fun but also cause a lot of concern related to safety and noise.
- Remember, operators must be at least 16 years of age and have a boating licence.
- Avoid repetitive circling or buzzing, especially as a courtesy to other boaters and nearby property owners. Avoid maneuvers close to other vessels, even if they're friends or relatives.

Turn on your lights...

- When you are fishing at dawn or dusk keep Your lights turned on for maximum visibility.



Swimmers

Check the temperature.....

- Be aware of water temperature, and depth when swimming in open water. Hypothermia can set in quickly when water temperatures are low.

Watch for changing weather...

- Wind and waves frequently come up suddenly, posing a major threat for swimmers if they are far from shore. Advance verification and ongoing observation of weather conditions is essential.

Know your limits.....

- Open water is very different than swimming in a pool - distance is deceiving, and you often have to contend with cold water, waves, underwater obstacles, as well as motorcrafts.



Make yourself visible...

- Swimming in open water can be lots of fun...swimming to that island or across your bay. Be alert and make sure you know your surroundings.
- Swimmers are hard to spot in the water, especially if the light is poor.
- Rowers, kayakers, jet ski riders and boat pilots often don't expect to come across swimmers and may not be looking out for them.
- Stay alert. Consider swimming where there's less traffic. Wear a bright coloured cap. Drag a tow float behind you. Swim with a kayaker or paddleboarder.
- Be careful.