

scramble for a hand-hold or if it is crashing against the shoreline, you are creating too much wash.

- Watch out for and be considerate of small vessels such as canoes and kayaks.
- Slow down well before meeting and overtaking other boats and well before posted speed zones and narrow channels. Leave as much room as possible between you and boats you meet or overtake.
- Give special consideration while passing harvesting machines which manage vegetation growth in the navigation channel, scows maintaining aids to navigation and other vessels working in or along the canal.
- Maintain a proper look-out at all times to avoid emergency manoeuvres.
- Remember that your hull shape determines the damage you cause on the surface and below the surface. All hulls can cause damage. It is your responsibility to be aware of your boat's characteristics so we can all enjoy the Rideau.

Did You Know?

What is immediately on the surface after your boat passes is easy to see, although its true force and depth may not be easy to judge. There is also danger underneath your boat.

Drawdown caused by all boats, especially in narrow channels, can be more damaging than surface wash. Combined with propeller disturbances,



your boat can easily damage the bottom of the river bed, disturbing habitat as well as washing away shoreline without your knowledge.

How your boat reacts with the water depends on its hull shape. All hulls, from deep vee planing hulls to displacement hulls can cause damage, depending on speed and other circumstances.

Myth - Planing hulls on plane create less wash and less damage.

Fact - On the surface, wash may have less height when the boat is on plane but the wave created is longer, faster, deeper and contains more energy. It is potentially more damaging, especially as it enters shallower water and rises above the surface.

Myth - Displacement hulls do not create wash that is damaging.

Fact - A displacement hull moving at a minimum speed causes less wash and usually of a lower height than that produced by a planing hull. However, a displacement hull may push a wave in front of it which, in narrow, shallow channels, can produce a return flow between the boat and the shore. This flow, combined with propeller-induced flow can scour the bottom and reverberate off the shoreline, causing significant damage.

WORLD CLASS

The Rideau Canal, Ontario's only UNESCO World Heritage Site is one of the world's premiere waterways and an angler's paradise. It invites and attracts a wide variety of recreational users, from power boaters to sailors, canoeists, kayakers, swimmers and varied shoreline users.

We all wish to enjoy the Rideau in our own way and we all have a responsibility to ensure that others enjoy the waterway to its fullest. To accomplish this, we need your support.

Every person in charge of a vessel should operate the vessel and control its wake in a manner that does not endanger the safety of themselves or other boaters. Special consideration should be given to small vessels such as canoes and kayaks.

Our waterway is fragile, with wildlife and shoreline habitat exposed to the elements and man-made

hazards. It is at risk without proper use and management by everyone, including property owners and boaters.

This brochure provides some information and tips to help us all gain the maximum enjoyment possible from the Rideau Canal.

Note: This list is not all inclusive. You should also be familiar with publications such as *Boating Safely and Historic Canal Regulations*.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Police Emergency: 911

OPP: Toll Free - 1-888-310-1122

Ottawa Police: 1-613-236-1222

Coast Guard: Radio - VHF Channel 16
Cell Phone - *16

Weather: VHF Channel 21B & 83B

Search and Rescue: 1-800-267-7270

Charts, Publications and Information:

Available at many marinas and from:

Friends of the Rideau
1 Jasper Ave.
Smiths Falls ON K7A 4B5
1-613-283-5810
www.rideaufriends.com

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