



## FUELING

- Fuel on land whenever possible.
- Use a “Flow and Go” to prevent spills.
- Take your time when fueling your boat.
- Wrap an absorbent pad or cloth around the nozzle before moving it.
- Transport and store gasoline out of direct sunlight in a cool, dry place.
- Remove fuel cans away from shore or on the dock after fueling.



## THE GREEN BOATING CHECKLIST

- ✓ Maintained my boat before boating season began.
- ✓ Kept up with regular engine maintenance.
- ✓ Chose non-toxic cleaners.
- ✓ Drove at a “no wake” speed near shore.
- ✓ Cleaned my boat well (on shore) when leaving the water.
- ✓ Kept my boat weed-free, I removed any plants or animals clinging to the hull, trailer and motor or hiding in the bilge.
- ✓ Respected shoreline wildlife habitat and wildlife on water.



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# BOATING ON COLUMBIA LAKE

Columbia Lake’s ecosystem is vulnerable because the water is shallow, it is very warm in the summer, and the lake bed is made of soft, easily-disturbed sediment. But as a boater, there is a great deal you can do to ensure the health of Columbia Lake.

## WHAT IS GREEN BOATING?

Being a “green boater” means learning how to do what you love without damaging the ecosystem in which you do it. By following the tips in this brochure, you can protect your fishing grounds and your source of recreational enjoyment. You may even save money!



## WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Observe posted 10 km/h speed limit within the Wildlife Management Areas on the East, South and North shorelines.
- Operate at a slow “no-wake” speed within 100 metres of shore to prevent shoreline erosion. You can watch to see if your wake hits the shore and reduce or increase your speed accordingly.
- Avoid producing a wake in shallow water or swim areas. Did you know most of Columbia Lake is less than 5 meters deep?
- Be aware of swimmers, non-motorized watercraft and wildlife.
- Be considerate of other lake users. Keep your music to a level that can only be heard in your boat.
- Do not dock or beach your vessel in reeds and grasses. This could damage fragile environments and encourage the spread of aquatic invasive species.
- Give all wildlife space; stay clear of nesting birds or other wildlife close to shore.
- **Please make sure all boat operators have their boating licence as it is required by law.**
- Operate in water at least 30 inches (76 cm) deep. Boating in shallow water can disturb bottom sediments and aquatic vegetation.
- Keep a sealed trash receptacle on board to prevent waste blowing into the water.
- Wash your boat frequently to reduce the build-up of dirt and algae.
- Help prevent plant and algae growth on your hull by waxing it at the beginning of the season.



## TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF INVASIVE SPECIES

Before leaving the area:

**CLEAN:** Remove all plants, animals and mud. Thoroughly wash everything, including crevices and other hidden areas.

**DRAIN:** Thoroughly drain your boat including wells, ballast tanks, and engine cooling water.

**DRY:** Allow time for your boat to completely dry before launching in other waters.



## LAKE-FRIENDLY CLEANING OPTIONS

Read labels and look for non-toxic, chlorine-free, phosphate-free products. Some do it yourself options are:

**VINEGAR:** cleans, kills mold, disinfects, deodorizes, bleaches, disperses diesel odours

**BAKING SODA:** scours, deodorizes, cleans fiberglass

**TEA TREE OIL:** lifts tape adhesives, disinfects, counteracts foul smells in sumps and bilges

**FIBERGLASS:** baking soda and salt (in wet paste)

**DECKS:** 1 part vinegar to 8 parts water

**ALUMINUM:** 1 tbsp cream of tartar in ½ litre hot water

**BRASS:** worcestershire sauce, vinegar and salt solution

**CLEAR PLASTIC/GLASS:** 1 part vinegar to 2 parts water

**WOOD:** polish with olive oil

**MILDEW:** vinegar and salt solution or tea tree oil

**BLEACHING:** hydrogen peroxide bleach, not chlorine bleach