



SHARING THE WATERWAYS

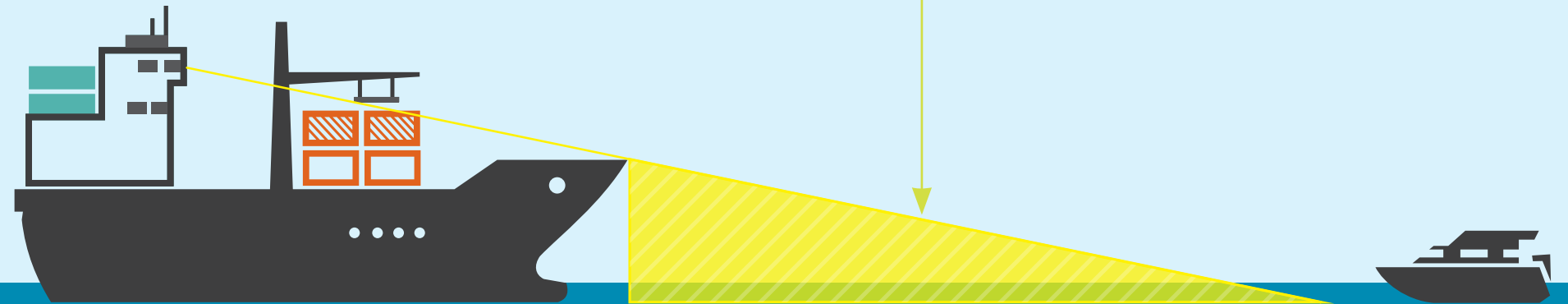


BOATING SAFETY REMINDER FOR SMALL COMMERCIAL VESSEL OPERATORS

The captain of this large vessel can't see objects within this **large yellow area**. It is their blind spot.

Keep a safe distance.

Be safe... and be seen!



DID YOU KNOW...

Large commercial vessels:

- Have blind spots. The view is limited from the bridge (wheelhouse). Captains and crew can't see you if you're too close to their vessel.
- Travel faster than they appear.
- Need long distances to stop.
- Are difficult to turn and can't alter their course quickly; and
- Can cause dangerous undercurrents and wake for smaller vessels.

Tug and tow vessels:

- Are difficult to turn and can't alter their course quickly.
- Require plenty of space in every direction; and
- Have towlines that may trail far behind the tug, which can pose hidden dangers under the water. A smaller vessel can capsize or get run over if it gets tangled in the lines.

Boating safety tips around large vessels and tugs:

- Keep watch and steer clear of shipping lanes.
- Be alert! Maintain a proper lookout and be ready to stop, slow down and yield to large vessels.
- Know and follow the *Collision Regulations*.
- Stay a safe distance away from large vessels at all times.
- Install a radar reflector, when possible, at least four metres above the water.
- Never block the way or cross in front of larger vessels, or go between a tug and its tow.
- Be predictable. Operate your vessel in a safe manner and signal your intentions to other vessel operators.
- Always know what's going on around you and be prepared to change course to avoid dangers.

Know the warning signals:

Large vessel operators will use the horn, whistle or lights to warn others if there is a danger of collision. The warning signals to know are:

HORN OR WHISTLE	LIGHTS	WHAT IT MEANS
Five short, rapid blasts	Five short, rapid flashes	Get out of the way now.
One short blast	One short flash	I am altering my course to starboard.
Two short blasts	Two short flashes	I am altering my course to port.
Three short blasts	Three short flashes	I am operating in reverse.

Know who has the right-of-way:

Just like driving a vehicle, vessel operators need to know the “rules-of-the-road.” The *Collision Regulations* set out basic rules to help operators avoid hitting or being hit by another vessel. These regulations apply to all vessels, from canoes to supertankers. Here are some key rules to know:

Note: The information below is a summary of Rules 9, 10 and 18 found in the *Collision Regulations*. For the full text, please refer to the regulations at:

https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/C.R.C.,_c._1416

Rule 9 – Summary

- Vessels less than 20 m in length, including sail boats and those engaged in fishing, shall not block or delay a vessel that can only safely navigate within the narrow channel.
- All vessels shall avoid crossing a narrow channel if it will block or delay a vessel that can only safely navigate within the narrow channel.

Rule 10 – Summary

- Vessels engaged in fishing shall not block or delay any vessel within a traffic lane; and
- Vessels less than 20 m in length and sail boats shall not block or delay any power-driven vessels following a traffic lane.

Rule 18 – Summary – Unless mentioned in a previous rule...

All power-driven vessels underway must stay clear of other vessels that are:

- not under command,
- limited in their ability to move or change course,
- ones engaged in fishing, and
- sail boats

Sail boats must stay clear of vessels that are:

- not under command,
- with limited ability to move or change course,
- engaged in fishing

Vessels engaged in fishing shall stay clear of other vessels that are:

- not under command, and
- with limited ability to move or change course



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