

Waggoner Guide – Covid 19 Safe Boating Guidelines

As government agencies loosen restrictions on recreational activities, boaters should check the closed/open status of marine facilities and border crossings before heading out. Waggoner Guide maintains an up-to-date list of boater facilities at www.WaggonerGuide.com/covid-19. Also check individual marina websites for details. Be sure to check with city and county authorities to confirm that local communities are accepting and welcoming non-resident guests.

As conscientious citizens and boaters, we want to adhere to all government Covid-19 directives and guidelines for safe boating activities. Waggoner Guide shares the following tips, which serve as recommended guidelines for safe boating.

1. Be Prepared and Be Self-Reliant
 - Avoid the need to call upon first-responders
 - Don't take chances that might require assistance
 - If you need assistance, minimize your impact on first-responders
 - Let first responders know if you have any flu-like symptoms when calling for assistance
2. Marinas and Launch Ramps
 - Marina offices may be closed to public access but staffed - phone to register and pay
 - Wear a mask/face covering
 - Maintain 6 feet/2 meter social distancing at all times
 - On narrow docks, use finger floats, ramps, and wait your turn in order to maintain social distancing
 - Use sanitizer after using pay stations and self-registration stations
3. Guests Onboard
 - Keep the onboard group to household family members
 - Self-isolate if anyone has symptoms or may have been exposed
4. Handcarts
 - Minimize use of dock-carts
 - Wipe down the cart handle and other surfaces
 - Use sanitizer dispensers
5. Park and Public Docks (State, Provincial, County, City, and Natural Resources)
 - Check the open/closed status before approaching
 - Don't use when Closed – even if other boats are using them
 - No dinghy landing when Closed
 - No Rafting
 - Minimize activities on the docks/floats
 - Avoid crowds, have alternate plans and be prepared to go somewhere else

6. Anchor-out or tie to a mooring buoy when/where possible.
 - No rafting
7. Fuel Docks
 - Yield priority access to commercial and essential service vessels
 - Minimize use of offices
 - Use gloves when handling hoses and nozzles
 - Maintain Social Distancing
8. Marina Restrooms and Showers
 - Use onboard facilities whenever possible
 - Check with marina for protocols and open/closed status
 - Toilet paper may not be available
9. Marina Laundry
 - Check with marina for protocols and open/closed status
10. Pumpout Facilities
 - Wear gloves and protective equipment
 - Wash thoroughly afterwards
11. Potable Water
 - Check with the marina for availability and protocols
12. If you must leave your boat
 - Check to be sure that local communities are accepting and welcoming non-resident guests
 - Wear a mask/face covering
 - Clean handles, door knobs, light switches and control panels on your boat
 - Use local grocery delivery services where available
13. Yacht Clubs
 - Most reciprocal moorage and outstations are closed – check with the yacht club
14. Quarantine / Self-Isolate Protocol
 - Contact the marina to confirm moorage quarantine protocol
 - State your intention to quarantine so that the marina is prepared
 - Stay on board your vessel
 - Fly a yellow/black “L” or Lima quarantine flag
 - Some BC Marinas are requiring a 14-day self-isolate before accepting guest moorage
15. Good Practices On and Off the Boat
 - Don't touch your face, mouth, eyes, or nose
 - Carry sanitizer wipes, disposable gloves, and mask/face covering
 - Regular hand-washing with hot water and soap for at least 20 seconds