



Before you go afloat

You will no doubt have heard people expressing the do's and don'ts of getting afloat. Regardless of whose advice you listen too the truth is that you should take a little time before you get out on the waterway to make sure you are as safe as possible.

The governing bodies for most sports and activities produce specific guidance for anyone participating in their particular disciplines. With such a range of activities happening on the waterway we cannot cover every possible sport. We recommend that you follow the RNLi Six Tips for a safe Trip and any activity specific guidance from governing bodies as a bare minimum. We also recommend that you register your craft with the local Coastguards Voluntary Safety identification Scheme CG66. All craft whether a kayak or motor yacht can be registered with the scheme.

The RNLi Six Tips for a safe trip : Remember **ITS WET**



Inform: tell others where you are going and when you intend to return



Training: knowledge of your activity is essential



SOS Device: carry a means of calling for help



Wear a Lifejacket: a life statement – useless unless worn



Engine, Fuel and Craft checks: have sufficient fuel and spares and check the condition of the craft and equipment



Tides and Weather: check the conditions before heading out