



# Vessel Safety Equipment

## Information for fishing lodge operators and outfitters in Manitoba

The [Small Vessel Regulations](#), which are enabled by the [Canada Shipping Act, 2001](#), provide information about the minimum safety equipment that must be carried on board small vessels. The following chart provides a summary of the required safety equipment and only applies to boats fitted with an outboard motor that do not have any enclosed spaces such as, for example, open aluminum fishing boats.

Equipment	< 6 m < 19'8"	< 9 m < 29'6"	Note
First aid kit - Marine	✓	✓	Not required for pleasure craft
Lifejacket for each person on board	✓	✓	
Reboarding device	✓	✓	Only if reboarding height is > 0.5 m
Buoyant heaving line > 15 m	✓	✓	
Watertight flashlight	✓	✓	
Flares (type A, B, or C)	3	6	Not required on pleasure craft operating no further than 1 NM from shore
Manual propelling device or anchor with 15m lead	✓	✓	
Bailer or manual bilge pump	✓	✓	
Sound-signalling device	✓	✓	
Navigation lights	✓	✓	Only if operating at night or in restricted visibility
Magnetic compass	✓	✓	Not required if boat is less than 8 m in length and operates in sight of land
Fire extinguisher	1A:5BC	2A:10BC	
Fire extinguisher – additional	1A:5BC	2A:10BC	Only if boat has a fuel burning appliance like, for example, a heater

More information on vessel safety equipment can be found in the [Safe Boating Guide](#) and the [Small Commercial Vessel Safety Guide](#), which are available on Transport Canada’s website; the [Small Vessel Regulations](#) are available on Justice Canada’s website.

### Pre-departure safety briefing

Small commercial vessel operators must provide a safety briefing to all passengers before departure. The safety briefing must include the location of all safety equipment and how to use it.

### Life rafts

While most boats used by fishing lodges and/or outfitters do not require a life raft on board, there are a few circumstances that may require one. For passenger vessels longer than 8.5 m, please refer to the [Small Commercial Vessel Safety Guide](#) or the [Small Vessel Regulations](#) to determine whether this applies to you.



### Please remember...

- All safety equipment must be kept in good working condition and be securely stowed.
- Equipment storage containers or lockers must be clearly labelled to reflect their contents and they must be easily accessible.
- On workboats less than 12 m in length and on passenger vessels less than 8.5 m in length, occupants may wear Personal Floatation Devices (PFDs) instead of carrying lifejackets.
- All fire extinguishers must be easily accessible and either be securely mounted to a quick release bracket or stored in a container or locker.
- If the boat has an inboard engine or an enclosed space, additional fire safety requirements apply. For more information about these requirements, please see the [Safe Boating Guide](#) or the [Small Commercial Vessel Safety Guide](#).