

TOKYO METROPOLITAN ORDINANCE ON WATER SAFETY

Effective July 1, 2018

For Safety and Amenity on Waters

Navigation Rules

Boat Operators

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Marina Operators

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This is a digest of the Tokyo Metropolitan Ordinance on Water Safety



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FOR MORE COMMUNICATION

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Community Police Affairs Administration Division
Community Police Affairs Bureau
Metropolitan Police Department

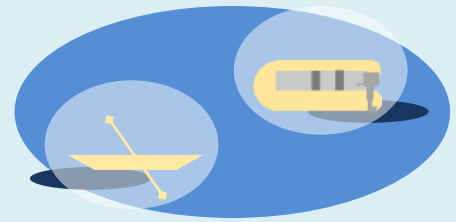
Navigation Rules

- Navigating on the right
A vessel navigating on a waterway shall keep to the outer limit of the waterway which lies on her right side (except in unavoidable circumstances).

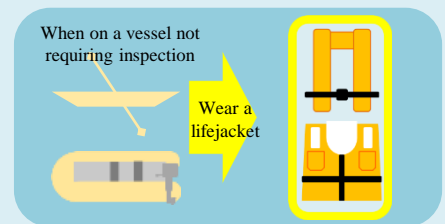
- Restriction of anchoring
A vessel on a waterway shall not anchor or moor so as to impede the passage of any other vessel without reason.

- Navigating near the tip of a structure or an anchored vessel
A vessel on a waterway shall, when having the tip of a structure or an anchored vessel on her starboard side, keep as near to them as practicable and, when having the tip of the structure or anchored vessel on her port side, keep as far from them as practicable.

- Lights
A vessel navigating on a waterway shall exhibit an electric torch or lighted lantern showing a white light where it can best be seen from sunset to sunrise or in restricted visibility (except when displaying statutory lights).



- Wearing lifejackets
Any person shall endeavor to wear a lifejacket when on a vessel on the water that does not require inspection.



Boat Operators

Rules to be observed

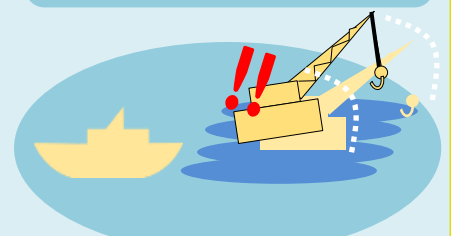
- A boat shall not be navigated so as to create wake or wash that could cause a nuisance to persons on other vessels without reason.



- A boat operator shall, when passing along the waterfront, make every effort not to disturb nearby residents, etc. and navigate a boat at a speed and in manner found necessary for maintaining quietness (except in unavoidable circumstances).



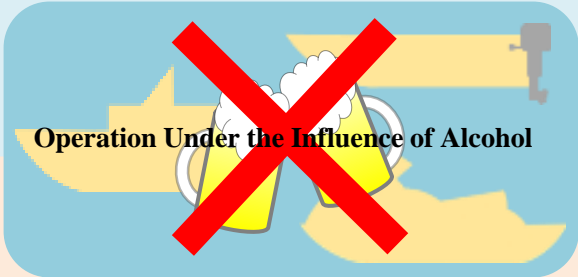
- A boat navigating in waters where construction, works, etc. are in progress or near moored vessels shall slow down and proceed in safe manner.



(The images are for illustrative purposes only.)

Prohibition of operation under the influence of alcohol or operation while intoxicated

Prohibition of operation under the influence of alcohol



No person on the water shall operate a boat under the influence of alcohol.

Offense of operation under the influence of alcohol



Fine not exceeding 300,000 yen

Prohibition of operation while intoxicated

Operation while intoxicated - This refers to when a person operates a boat while intoxicated to such an extent that the ability of the person to have proper control of the boat may be impaired.

Offense of operation while intoxicated



Imprisonment with work not exceeding 3 months or fine not exceeding 500,000 yen

Measures by police officers

If a police officer finds it likely that a person on board or about to get on board will operate a boat under the influence of alcohol, the police officer may test that person's breath alcohol content.

Refusal or obstruction of test



Fine not exceeding 200,000 yen

Prohibition of dangerous operation

Offense of dangerous operation

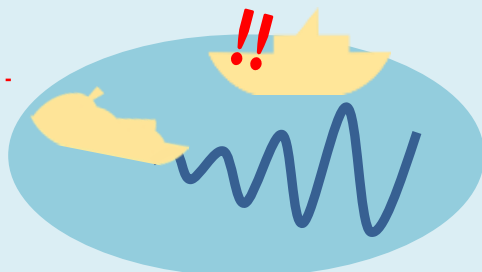


Imprisonment with work not exceeding 3 months or fine not exceeding 500,000 yen

No vessel shall cross the path of the other vessel without keeping a safe distance off that vessel.



No vessel shall navigate erratically or turn around unexpectedly without keeping a safe distance off other vessels.



No vessel shall approach the other vessel so as to involve risk of collision.

(The images are for illustrative purposes only.)

Navigation Restriction by the Public Safety Commission

- The Public Safety Commission may, when deemed it necessary for the purposes of the Ordinance, restrict or prohibit the navigation of a vessel on water by installing and maintaining navigation signs.

When restricting or prohibiting vessel navigation, the Public Safety Commission notifies of:

- Designated water areas
- Specified classes of vessel
- Details of the restriction or prohibition of navigation
- Period of the restriction or prohibition of navigation
- Reason of the restriction or prohibition of navigation

Violation of restriction or prohibition of navigation



Imprisonment with work not exceeding 3 months or fine not exceeding 300,000 yen

Navigation signs



No vessels



No motorized craft



No personal water craft



No proceeding abreast



No turning



No overtaking



No vessels (buoys)

- No person shall move navigation signs installed by the Public Safety Commission or perform conduct that impairs the utility thereof.

Offense of moving navigation signs



Imprisonment with work not exceeding 3 months or fine not exceeding 300,000 yen

Permission for Use of Waterways

- The following activities on waterways require permission from the chief of the police station having jurisdiction over the waterways where the activities take place:

- Construction or works
- Fireworks shows
- Activities as specified by the Rules of the Public Safety Commission

- Festivals, ceremonies, competitions, water parades and any other similar events
- Advertisement or promotion where a vessel makes way through the water while attracting significant attention with its decoration, etc., or playing sounds.
- Filming on location, photography and any other similar activities
- Exercises related to firefighting, flood prevention, evacuation, rescue and others

Unauthorized use of waterways



Imprisonment with work not exceeding 3 months or fine not exceeding 300,000 yen

Marina Operators

- Commencement, change or closure of marina operations shall be reported to the Public Safety Commission.
- Supervisory actions over marina operators are specified, including the Public Safety Commission's instructions and requests for report, and a police on-site inspection.

Unauthorized business, violation of instructions or refusal of inspection



Fine not exceeding 200,000 yen

Miscellaneous Provisions

- In the event of an accident on the water,
 - the operator and any other crew members of a vessel involved shall aid any injured person immediately and take the necessary measures including preventing dangers on the water.

Violation of obligation to aid



Imprisonment with work not exceeding 3 months or fine not exceeding 500,000 yen

In such a case,

- the operator of the vessel shall notify without delay a police officer of an outline of the accident and measures taken.

Violation of obligation to report



Fine not exceeding 200,000 yen