#### 3 SIMPLE STEPS FOR

# PADDLECRAFT SAFETY AT SHORT-TERM RENTALS

Every year, many people drown using kayaks, SUPs, canoes and other watercraft supplied with rental properties. You can prevent that with these simple tips.



#### KNOW YOUR LIMITS

- What is the water temperature?
- What is the weather forecast?
- Do you know the tide and currents?
- Can you climb back into/on top of a watercraft if it has tipped over or you have fallen out? (If you say, "no" don't go!)



#### **INSPECT**

- Check the watercraft all over, especially where it would drag on the ground. Look for thin spots in the hull or cracks. Don't use the watercraft if you see any.
- Check the paddles thoroughly to see if any issues are developing that would cause them to break while you are out on the water.
- Make sure lifejackets fit properly.



If you don't feel comfortable or don't know about watercraft operation very well, don't go. Don't go by yourself. Make a plan and tell others where you are going. Take a cellphone in a waterproof case. Watch a safety video on about the safe operation of the kayak, SUP, canoe or whatever watercraft you are using.

### ALWAYS WEAR A LIFE JACKET



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR BOATING FROM THIS PROPERTY

- WATER TEMPERATURE (F):
  JUNE 56, JULY 61, AUGUST 62, SEPTEMBER 59
  HYPOTHERMIA SETS IN AFTER 1 HOUR IN 60 DEGREE TEMPS
- TIDES:
  RISE AND FALL APPROXIMATELY 8-11 FEET APPROX EVERY 6 HOURS TWO HIGH AND TWO LOW TIDES OF APPROXIMATELY EQUAL SIZE EVERY LUNAR DAY.

  maineharbors.com has listings for the tide schedule. (Click "Maine" in upper left, then "Go Directly To..." "Robinhood, ME" which is the closest tide station.

  When tides are rising or coming in, the current will take you to the left from the dock. When tides are going out, the current will take you to the right from the dock. If you plan a 1 hour paddle, and it's one hour before high tide, it would make sense to paddle left from the dock. If it is 3 hours before low tide, and you plan a one hour paddle, it would make sense to paddle right from the dock.
- WEATHER:
  DO NOT GO OUT IN FOG OR IF FOG IS FORECASTED

maineharbors.com has the marine forecast. (Click "Marine Forecasts" in upper left, then "Marine (GYX) - Stonington, ME to the Merrimack River, MA out to 25 miles including Casco Bay and Penobscot Bay" - Scrolls to the specific forecast for "COASTAL WATERS FROM PORT CLYDE, ME TO CAPE ELIZABETH, ME OUT 25 NM"). This is the forecast for this property and the coastal waters around it. SW (SouthWest) winds are more favorable for boating as this property is protected from the southwest winds. Any winds forecasted for N, E, or NE, over 5 kts would not be favorable for paddling. Winds over 10 kts SW may present challenges for paddling.

- MAINE LAWS:
  LIFE JACKET ON ANYONE 16 YEARS OR YOUNGER WHEN
  BOATING. LIFE JACKETS MUST ALWAYS BE IN THE
  WATERCRAFT FOR ADULTS. THIS PROPERTY OWNER
  REQUESTS THAT ALL RENTERS WEAR A LIFE JACKET IN OUR
  WATERCRAFT AT ALL TIMES, REGARDLESS OF AGE.
- O5 WATERCRAFT USAGE RULES:
   CHILDREN AGE 17 AND YOUNGER CANNOT USE THE WATERCRAFT.
  - RETURN WATERCRAFT TO WHERE YOU FOUND THEM WHEN NOT IN USE. THEY CAN BLOW OFF OR BE KNOCKED OFF THE DOCK BY WAVES.
  - FOLLOW ALL THE ABOVE SAFETY GUIDELINES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CHECKING TIDES & WEATHER