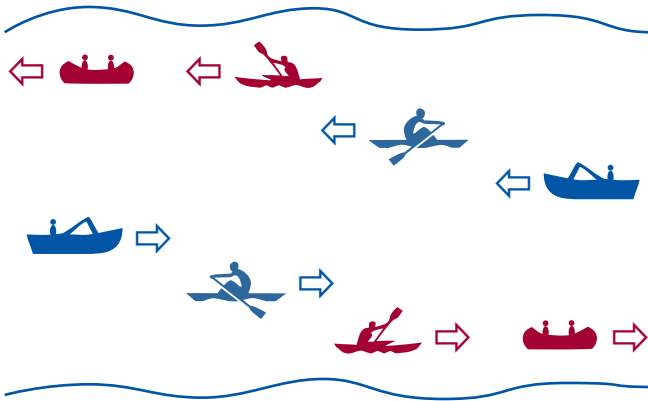


Charles River Safety information

Boats

- Always keep a lookout for other boats.
- Look behind you for faster boats.
- Paddlers should stay closer to the right hand shore and avoid the center of the river.
- Boats follow this traffic pattern:



Sailboats

- Boats under sail have the right of way.
- Sailboats may not see you (many are learning to sail or are racing).
- Sailboats can move quickly and it's hard to predict their course.

**Make sure you can see others,
and that others can see you!**

Crossing the River

- Choose a crossing area that has a clear view in both directions.
- Wait until both directions are clear.
- Cross straight to the other side.
- Do not cross near bridges.

Limited Shoreline Access

- In many places, walls make it impossible to get onto the shore from the river.
- Waves bounce off these walls and get bigger.
- Review our map to avoid these areas.

Life Jackets Float — You Don't!

You must wear your Life Jacket at all times.

Instruction ♦ Sales ♦ Kids' Programs ♦ Corporate Outings ♦ Birthday Parties

PaddleBoston.com



Charles River Safety information

Waves

- Don't paddle right along shore — the waves there are bigger.
- Stay low in the boat. Sit or kneel.
- Turn into the waves.
- Keep paddling!

Wind

- Try paddling into the wind first — it may be harder than it looks!
- On windy days, the river can be rough. Winds can get stronger in the afternoon.
- Return to the rental center before it gets too rough!

About to Collide?

- Put your paddle in the water to stop.
- Change your direction, generally to the right, to avoid the other boat.
- Use your whistle and voice to attract attention of the other boater.

Bridges

- Don't stop or linger near bridges.
- When passing under bridges, paddle in a single line until past the bridge.
- Paddle under the arch closest to the right hand shore. Never enter the center arch.

Narrow Channels

- When passing through a narrow channel, stay in a single line and as far right as possible.
- Don't stop or linger in the channel.

Lightning and Thunder

- Check the weather before you paddle.
- Go to shore and secure your boat.
- Find shelter.
- Wait for conditions to improve (we won't charge for waiting).
- Call us if you will be delayed, if possible.

If You Capsize

- Stay with your boat.
- Your lifejacket will keep you afloat — *but only if you are wearing it.*
- Swim the boat to shore. Call for assistance if needed.

The River is Wide!

- Paddlers who capsize in the middle of the river may be unable to swim to shore.
- Stay close to shore and avoid areas where you cannot access the shore.

**Make sure you can see others,
and that others can see you!**

Charles River Dam & Locks

- The New Charles River Dam & Locks are located east of the Zakim Bridge and separates the river from Boston Harbor.
- Unless you have made a Harbor Rental reservation you **may not take rented boats through the locks** and into Boston Harbor.
- Stay at least 100 meters from the dam and locks. Strong currents from the Dam operations can occur without notice in this area.

Put these numbers in your phone in case you need assistance:

Allston/Brighton: 617-817-5167

Kendall Square: 617-922-5789

