

## Two-Vessel Rule

Canal Dock members follow a “two-vessel” boating rule. The rule ensures that at least two vessels are on the water at all times. In addition, the operators of the two vessels must remain within earshot and eyesight of each other at all times, launching and landing with the same float plan. Thus, if one vessel or operator encounters any trouble, the operator of the other vessel can respond appropriately.

- Each vessel must have at least one partner vessel in order to create an outing
- Prior to any outing, the operators of two (or more) vessels should agree that the conditions are safe for an outing

## Life Vest Rules

Canal Dock members agree to wear appropriate PFDs (Personal Floation Device) when venturing out onto the water. In most cases, all boaters must wear PFDs. In some situations, it is acceptable for PFDs to be stored in the shell, or carried by a chase/safety launch.

- All vessel operators must wear a PFD
  - Paddlers must wear Type III life vests (dragon boat, kayak, or paddle-board)
  - Rowers in 1-person or 2-person shells can wear Type II - Inflatable life vests
  - Rowers in 4-person and 8-person shells must either have Type II – Inherently Buoyant Vests in each seat, or a chase/safety boat must carry a Type II vest for each oarsperson
  - Coxswains in 4-person or 8-person rowing shells must wear a Type II inflatable life vest or Type III life vest

## Other Safety Protocols

- All vessels must carry a mobile phone or equivalent communication device
- In case of emergency immediately dial “911” – the director of emergency operations for the City of New Haven is aware of Canal Dock boating activities; the Police/Fire boat docked at Long Wharf Pier, adjacent to the Canal Dock Boathouse, will respond rapidly