

Safety tip of the week: wear your lifejacket

July 6th to 14th, 2013 is National Fishing Week in Canada. Fishing is a popular pastime, where anglers gather year round to enjoy our rivers, lakes, and streams.

Studies have shown that in 50 % of all boat sales, fishing is identified as the main reason for the purchase.

Boating related fatalities among recreational anglers constitute a large portion of the 130 drowning deaths recorded nationally each year.

The South Simcoe Police Service Marine Unit, along with the Canadian Safe Boating Council, encourages all anglers to wear a life jacket while enjoying their favourite sport. Wearing a lifejacket is the most basic of safe boating behaviours, and has the greatest potential to save lives.

As you pass on your love of fishing to your children, impress upon them the importance of wearing a life jacket or personal flotation device.

Remember, you may be on the water to fish, but if you're in a boat, you are required to comply with all safe boating regulations, including having sufficient life jackets aboard.

More information on the Canadian Safe Boating Council's initiatives can be found at <http://www.csbc.ca/index.php/en/safety-campaigns/hooked-on-lifejackets>

The South Simcoe Police encourage the public to enjoy the water, but please do it in a safe, responsible manner.