

PADDLING QUIZ



Where should you travel on the river?

- A) In the middle of the river, where the powerboats travel.
- B) On the right hand side of the river close to shore.

What should you do in extreme weather like lightning or high winds?

- A) Go to shore, secure your boat, find shelter until conditions improve, and contact the rental center if possible.
- B) Hurry back to the rental center so you don't get wet.

What should you do if you're about to collide with another boat?

- A) Stop your boat by putting your paddle in the water, or steer away. Communicate with the other boat (you can use the whistle on your life jacket) and let them know which direction you plan to head.
- B) Pull your paddle out of the water and watch as your boat rams into the other boat.

Which is a true statement about rowing shells?

- A) Rowing shells move fast and can't see other boats well because they face backwards.
- B) Rowing shells are hard to steer.
- C) Both A and B.

When paddling on a windy day, you should:

- A) Begin by paddling into the wind so it's easy to return.
- B) Head downwind and enjoy the ride — until you have to struggle against the wind to return to the rental center.

When encountering waves, you should:

- A) Steer straight into them, stay low, and keep paddling!
- B) Stand up in the boat and wave your paddle in the air.

How should you cross from one shore to the other?

- A) Look both ways, wait until it is clear, then paddle directly across the river as quickly as possible.
- B) Cross gradually, spending as much time in the middle of the river as possible.

True or False: Paddlers should yield to powerboats, rowing shells, and sailboats?

- A) True
- B) False

How should you pass under bridges and narrow channels?

- A) Wait until both directions are clear and cross quickly and in a single line to the other side. Pass under the furthest right arch of the bridge. Do not linger.
- B) Paddle down the middle as a group so you block passage of other boats.

Which is a true statement about sailboats?

- A) Boats under sail always have the right of way over other boats, including canoes, kayaks, and stand-up paddleboards.
- B) Sailboats can't see other boats well.
- C) Both A and B.

What should you do if you fall out of your boat?

- A) Stay with your boat. **Be sure your lifejacket is properly secured.** If possible, swim the boat to shore.
- B) Call for assistance if needed.
- C) Both A and B.

Which is a true statement about dams?

- A) There are dams at each end of this section of river (ask to see the Mystic River Map for locations).
- B) You may not take rented boats through the Amelia Earhart locks.
- C) Both A and B.

Which of these are major contributors to boating fatalities?

- A) Not wearing a life jacket.
- B) Alcohol consumption.
- C) Both A and B.

**Life Jackets Float — You Don't!
You must wear your Life Jacket at all times.**