The Tidal Delaware River presents a host of SAFETY challenges for motor, sail and paddlecraft:

- Be alert for big, fast ships, especially in the shipping lane and anchorage areas.
- Ships and the large boats accompanying them generate large wakes.
- Be aware of the changing tide. The river reverses its flow direction four times daily.
- Kayakers on the tidal Delaware should experience the river. Open canoes without flotation are not recommended.
- Do not boat alone. Be sure to be visible to other boaters, and be aware of what is around you (including behind you).
- Look out for floating debris, especially after heavy rain.
- A much of the river is urbanized with ports and industry. River walls and piers may present obstacles.
- Be prepared for adverse weather such as wind, rain, and cold.
- Homestead security is an issue across bridges, ports, piers, and other facilities. Keep clear of security risk areas, and be prepared to communicate with Coast Guard, marine police and other security personnel.

Marinas, Docks To Public:

- Trenton Waterfront Park, NJ (Lat 40 12 20 Lon 74 45 48), public docks, Mercer Co Parks, no staff, access from water only (but not for kayakers), hours: sunrise to sunset, Trenton Thunder home games, April-Oct., 609-989-6530.

A map and detailed information for various marinas and docks along the Delaware River, including their amenities, hours, directions, and contact information. The map includes a picture of the Delaware River and its surroundings.
Water trails are recreational waterways on a lake, river or ocean between specific points, containing access points and day-use and/or camping sites for the boating public. Water trails emphasize low-impact use and promote resource stewardship. Explore this unique Pennsylvania water trail. This three-map set of maps on the river from Trenton to Marcus Hook.

**For your safety and enjoyment:**
- **Always wear a life jacket.**
- **Proper instruction in boating skills.**
- Know fishing and boating regulations.
- Be prepared for river hazards.
- Carry proper equipment.

**WILDLIFE ALONG THE RIVER**
Apatic, wetland and upland areas in and along the Delaware River provide habitat for a variety of waterfowl, such as ducks, mallards, reeds and amphibians. Freshwater tidal wetlands and estuaries provide important feeding areas for migratory birds, especially red-winged blackbirds, waterfowl, and other shorebirds. Taken together, they form a resource that supports an extensive waterfowl community.

**PRIVATE LAND**
Much of the shoreline along the tidal Delaware is urbanized or part of a waterfront. The Delaware River is famous for its variety of maritime heritage sites. Many are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. There are many places to access the river for shoreline fishing. They include the Delaware River Bridge, the Delaware River Boardwalk, and the Delaware River & Bay Authority. The Delaware River 

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The Tidal Delaware River Water Trail project was created as a partnership among the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission, the Pennsylvania Environmental Council, the Delaware River basin Commission, and the Delaware River basin Commission's Delaware Watershed Management Program.

**IN CASE OF EMERGENCY**
For distress calls, contact the captain of the Port of Delaware. Delaware Marina in the region or the 21st century bank featuring Greek Revival architecture.

**BOATING AND PADDLING SAFETY TIPS**
- Wear a life jacket. 80 percent of all recreational boating fatalities occur to people who are not wearing a life jacket.
- Expect to get wet. Even the best paddlers sometimes capsize or swamp their boat's floating device or flotter. Many canoes can use the water to their advantage. Even in the worst of conditions, you can still get wet or even drown. If you capsize, hold on to your boat, unless it presents a life-threatening situation. If it's floating in position, position yourself on the upstream side of the capsized boat.
- Avoid using the water to escape from your boat. Avoid getting out of the way of the current.
- Wear the life jacket. 80 percent of all recreational boating fatalities occur to people who are not wearing a life jacket.
- Expect to get wet. Even the best paddlers sometimes capsize or swamp their boat's floating device or flotter. Many canoes and kayaks can use the water to their advantage. Even in the worst of conditions, you can still get wet or even drown. If you capsize, hold on to your boat, unless it presents a life-threatening situation. If it's floating in position, position yourself on the upstream side of the capsized boat.
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