



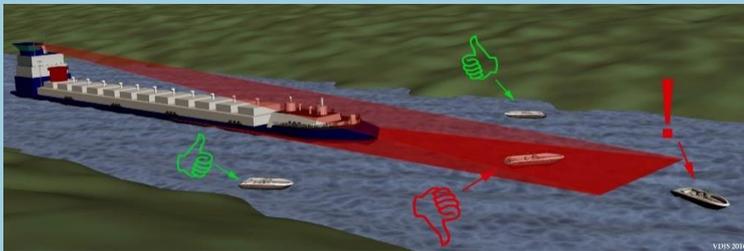
SAFETY ALERT: SAIL TOGETHER

The recreation season is about to commence! During spring and summertime, everything that floats is found on the waters. This will require extra and even more consistent alertness from the professionals. In order to help you, a number of proactive measures are given.



PROACTIVE MEASURES

- Like most barges, you probably have a **blind area**. However, your blind area cannot be bigger than 350 meters. Make sure that you have clear sight using cameras.



- If one sunny day you are, for example, on the Fries-Groningse canals, it is guaranteed that you will be surrounded with recreational neighbors. Please keep in mind that they are not on the waters as often as you, they are less experienced and have no idea of your speed. Therefore, **place a lookout** when you are at cluttered routes (see '[Varen doe je Samen! knooppunten](#)' only Dutch). It can save you a lot of misery.
 - If necessary, give a **signal of attention** with your horn. In dangerous situations, it can alert the person on the vessel. Keep in mind that a sound like that can cause for a shock effect.
 - **Grant each other some space**. When passing, both small and large vessels need space. Be courteous and provide small vessel with space as well.
- Many recreationists have **VHF** on board. Do not hesitate to use it. You might not get a response, but the person involved might have heard it. Use every possibility to reach each other.
 - In some cases, it can be sensible to **slow down** a bit.
 - Keep in mind that recreationists are not familiar with your signal in using the **blue sign**. Usually, recreationist should keep starboard (exceptions excluded). Try to point this out.
 - Of course, it is very handy to use your propeller when you are in a lock, but for the recreationist this is very annoying. The small vessel will go from side to side. This can cause for unnecessary damages and anxiety. So please turn it off, **moore** and show how it is done.
 - **Finally:** Act professional towards your fellow waterway users. Do not think “they will move aside” or “they must see me”! Show that you are the professional on the waterways and **set a good example**. Show your expertise and help the recreationist

References/Sources:
[Varen doe je samen - English](#)