SAFETY PRECAUTIONS!

• Wear life jacket.
• Know your ability, your limitations, and your equipment’s limitations.
• Sail or paddle with a buddy, preferably, or notify others before launching.
• Be able to self-rescue.
• Stay well clear of all other vessels (including sailboat races), and especially ferries.
• In shallow areas—especially ponds—wear water shoes to protect against sharp shells, etc.

The following are especially important in open water:

• Check weather and tide reports, watch for strong currents and changing winds.
• Note visibility; watch for occasional fog.
• Use leash.
• Carry safety equipment: spare parts, line, knife, whistle, flares, paddle float, flotation, etc.
• Be aware of ferry lanes noted on map. Keep well clear of ferries and ferry lanes.
• Wear wetsuits when appropriate: note daily conditions.

In an emergency:

• STAY WITH YOUR BOARD OR BOAT!
• Don’t panic.
• Signal for help quickly. (Don’t be embarrassed, almost everyone’s been there!)
• Cooperate fully with rescuers.

Help others in trouble:
FOR ALL EMERGENCIES, CALL 911

Surf boards and Body boards:

There are waves all along the south shore of the island; best access is at Katama; watch out for shore break. Sand bars build during storms making great offshore waves. Good surf Up Island at Squibnocket, Long Point, Aquinnah, etc.; access is restricted.