

# Around the Bend

As a boater, be aware of what's around you. Look ahead. This is called reading the water. Reading the water helps boaters avoid obstacles.

Paddling around a bend in a **waterway** seems easy, and it can be if you know the right way to do it. Steer your boat, staying to the inside of the bend. The **current** along the outside of the bend is strong and can push you ashore.

The calm area of water just downstream of an obstruction is called an **eddy**. If your boat gets caught in an eddy, it can be difficult to paddle out.

When passing in-between **obstructions** on the water such as large rocks, look ahead for the V. The current of the water creates a V, allowing you to pass obstructions safely.

