

# Article 1.17 - Grounded or sunken vessels

[Français](#) |

1. The boatmaster of a grounded or sunken [vessel](#) or of a grounded or broken [assembly of floating material](#) shall arrange for the nearest competent authority to be informed as soon as possible. In the case of a grounded or sunken vessel, the boatmaster or a member of the crew shall remain on board or near the site of the accident until the competent authority has authorized him to leave.
2. When a vessel is grounded or sunk, or an assembly of floating material is grounded, in or near the [fairway](#), its boatmaster shall, unless it is obviously unnecessary, as soon as possible and without prejudice to the obligation to display the marking referred to in article 3.25, give warning to approaching vessels and [assemblies of floating material](#) at suitable points far enough from the site of the accident to enable them to take the necessary action in good time.
3. Should an accident occur while a vessel is passing through a lock, the boatmaster shall immediately inform the service in charge of the lock in question.