

WASTEWATER

Bilge Water

Bilge water can contain combinations of oil, fuel, solvents and other products. Pumping untreated bilge water into the harbour should be avoided and could constitute a violation of the Fisheries Act. Take care with fueling and engine maintenance so that pollutants don't make their way down into the bilge.

DO:

- ✓ Use absorbent pads or booms to soak up oil and fuel.
- ✓ Pump severely contaminated bilge water into a holding tank for appropriate disposal
- ✓ Fit the bilge pump with an "oil-absorbent" filter
- ✓ Properly dispose of oily contaminated materials

DON'T

- ✗ Pump contaminated bilge water into the harbour

BOAT MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

Hull maintenance usually involves the removal and reapplication of materials to protect and seal a boat's hull. Many of these materials are toxic to living things and careless removal can constitute a violation of the *Fisheries Act*. It is important that these operations be carried out in a carefully controlled environment.

DO:

- ✓ Do shore-based maintenance work only in designated maintenance areas away from the water
- ✓ Use drop clothes and dustless sanders to contain paint chips and residue
- ✓ Dispose of drop sheets in a proper waste receptacle
- ✓ Dry cans of paint and solvents before disposal
- ✓ Use small quantities of product to avoid major spills
- ✓ Use environmentally safe products when available

DON'T

- ✗ Use the tidal grid as work space for hull maintenance
- ✗ Perform in-water hull cleaning
- ✗ Perform operations where there is a possibility that scrapings may enter storm sewers or water body
- ✗ Sandblast or spray paint in the harbour
- ✗ Use an abrasive to remove old finishes

Hull Washing

Cleanliness is an important aspect of operations for fishing vessels, however abrasive or caustic cleansers can be toxic in the marine environment.

DO:

- ✓ Cover catch basins during big jobs to prevent waste from entering the harbour through storm drains
- ✓ Use environmentally safe cleaners or degreasers
- ✓ Plug scuppers and self-bailers to prevent pollution of the harbour

DON'T

- ✗ Power wash or steam blast wastewater into harbour
- ✗ Use cleaners with bleach, phosphate, sodium hydroxide, butoxyethanol and butylcellulose

SOLID WASTE

The Harbour Authority pays for garbage service with funds collected through moorage fees. To reduce waste and keep costs down reduce packaging when bringing materials and supplies into the harbour and use available recycling programs.

DO:

- ✓ Separate waste and use the recycling containers
- ✓ Use garbage bins provided or take garbage home
- ✓ Properly package hazardous waste such as paints, varnish, batteries, etc. and take them home

DON'T

- ✗ Throw any type of waste into the water! It is illegal
- ✗ Throw cigarette butts, old nets, or line into harbour
- ✗ Bring unnecessary packaging on board
- ✗ Bring household waste to the harbour for disposal
- ✗ Overfill waste containers.

Emergency Contact List

- **Land-based Spills (EMBC) 1-800-663-3456**
- **Coast Guard Marine Spills 1-800-889-8852**
- **Fire Department 911**
- **RCMP 911**
- **Ambulance 911**

ENVIRONMENTAL BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR HARBOUR USERS

This brochure summarizes the **Environmental Best Management Practices** that apply to Harbour Authorities and all users of the property under lease to the HA's. Included are some of the most common impacts that harbour activities can have on the environment and marine ecosystem. A number of "DO's & DON'T's" are provided to assist you in becoming more environmentally aware.

This Brochure was provided by the Regional Office of Environmental Coordination (ROEC). For more information please contact:

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Hazardous Materials Liquid Waste

Generally, you should treat any liquid as a possible contaminant to the environment and follow suggested guidelines for that liquid. Please label and dispose of all bottles appropriately. If a bottle is found and its origin is unknown or the contents is unknown then treat it as a hazardous material. Antifreeze is especially harmful and should be recycled if possible.

DO:

- ✓ Avoid spills; if spills occur clean them up immediately
- ✓ Return wastes liquids to local shops for recycling
- ✓ Fix any leaks immediately
- ✓ Store waste liquids in properly labeled containers

DON'T

- ✗ Mix liquid wastes
- ✗ Empty liquid wastes into any storm drains, on-board drains, or the environment
- ✗ Release antifreeze into the environment- it is illegal!
- ✗ Empty antifreeze into waste oil tank

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Batteries

Batteries contain lead and sulphuric acid, which are harmful to the environment. Lead is particularly toxic to humans, especially children.

DO:

- ✓ Clean-up leaks with lime, baking soda or washing soda
- ✓ Maintain batteries to ensure maximum life span
- ✓ Recycle batteries or battery compartments
- ✓ Properly package and remove leaky batteries from service

DON'T

- ✗ Discard spent batteries into the harbour or land



FUELING

Fuel and the marine environment do not mix as small releases of fuel can contaminate large volumes of water. A major spill can have a severe impact and will likely require a coordinated response. Small spills often go unattended but the accumulated effect of many thousand small spills can be similarly devastating to the marine environment.

DO:

- ✓ Have absorbents handy to wipe up even small spills
- ✓ Ensure fuel gauge works and is visible while fuelling
- ✓ Have an anti-surge valve in the filler line
- ✓ Fuel at commercial fuelling facilities where possible

DON'T

- ✗ Dump fouled fuel overboard, it is illegal and harmful
- ✗ Fuel from truck to vessel without the proper approvals
- ✗ Fuel portable tanks on-board
- ✗ Leave full or empty fuel containers on site unattended

PETROLEUM WASTE MANAGEMENT

Waste Oil, Lubricants and Filters

It is important to use waste collection facilities properly to avoid contaminating the environment. In many harbours, waste oil tanks have been installed and harbour users are encouraged to become familiar about their use.

DO:

- ✓ Use the approved waste oil storage tank (if there is one on site), or take used oil back to the seller
- ✓ Be careful when pouring oil into the waste oil tank
- ✓ Close lid on the waste oil tank when finished
- ✓ Use precautions when transporting waste oil
- ✓ Always place lids on empty pails and storage drums
- ✓ Drain used filters in the waste oil tank before disposal
- ✓ Deposit oil filters into an appropriate collection container
- ✓ Use drip trays while doing maintenance or repairs
- ✓ Keep wipe cloths or absorbent pads on hand
- ✓ Store lubricants in a secure location, away from heat sources

DON'T

- ✗ Permit any leaks into the harbour or onto harbour property
- ✗ Drain lubricants into the bilge
- ✗ Leave open containers of used oil anywhere
- ✗ Mix waste oil, fuel, antifreeze or solvents- this will drastically increase the cost of collection services
- ✗ Put used oil filters in the garbage
- ✗ Leave used oil filters, oily rags or empty containers in the waste oil tank spill box



WASTEWATER

Stormwater Run-Off

Stormwater is rainwater that falls onto upland properties and eventually runs into the harbour basin. As this water travels across the surface of buildings, roads, parking lots and soil, it can pick up oily residues and sediment that contaminates the harbour basin and harms the ocean environment.

The Federal Fisheries Act states that placing any substance into water, which is "deleterious to fish or fish habitat" is a criminal violation. Thus, it is important to be aware of surface water's potential effect on the basin and to manage it properly.

DO:

- ✓ Use drip pan and drop sheets for doing repairs
- ✓ Clean up any leaks from vehicles parked at the harbour
- ✓ Clean-up any leaked material immediately
- ✓ Report spills or discoloration to Harbour Manager
- ✓ Properly dispose of oily contaminated materials.

DON'T

- ✗ Leave paint, solvents or fuel containers unattended

Sewer

Federal regulations came into effect in 2012 that forbid sewage discharge in Canadian waters within three nautical miles of shore. Pleasure boats are to be fitted with a holding tank or an approved marine sanitation device which treats the sewage. Discharge of sewage in a Small Craft Harbour violates these regulations.

DO:

- ✓ Use available pump out stations and on shore facilities
- ✓ Minimize discharge of grey water in the harbour

DON'T

- ✗ Discharge sewage into the harbour