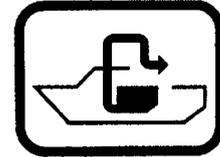


DOCKWALKER TRAINING

DOCKWALKER



KEEP OUR WATER CLEAN—
USE PUMPOUTS

What is the Dockwalker program?

A Pumpout Awareness and Clean Boating outreach program designed to encourage improved knowledge and participation in environmental protection among boaters. The program relies on one-on-one interactions between boaters to convey information.

Purpose the Dockwalker program:

To have fun and educate our fellow boaters on pumpout usage and environmental issues and to improve the “dock talk” dialog between boaters to include these topics among other chief boating concerns (safety, performance, protecting investments, and of course having fun).

Program goals:

To improve the overall ethic of environmental stewardship among the boating population.

Methods:

Dockwalkers will engage boaters with a friendly informational approach and distribute clean boating information and supplies contained in the Clean Boating Kit. Recipients of the kit are asked to fill out the Clean Boating Awareness Survey. Outreach can take place in marinas, at boat shows or other events, and any place where boaters congregate and can be effectively engaged.

Tools:

Clean Boating Kit:

Contains: Boaters Guide, Pump Don't Dump, oil absorb pad, Tips for a Clean Bilge, nitrile gloves, spill reporting info, Preventing Boat Fires, and a zip-loc bag for disposal of soiled pads.

BMP posters

Bilge pads and Fuel Collars

Clean Boating Survey

Clean Boating Overview:

Common boating pollution sources:

- Sewage
- Gray water
- Oil and fuel
- Cleaning chemicals
- Maintenance debris/ spills
- Bottom paint (sanding, painting, cleaning, ablation)
- Solid waste (trash and marine debris)
- Improper hazardous waste storage and disposal
- Aquatic nuisance species
- Pet Waste

Relevant Clean Boating Regulations:

Clean Water Act (CWA) – federal law that regulates pollution discharges.

Oil Pollution Control Act (OPA)- federal law regulating marine discharges of oil and petroleum

Water Pollution Control Act (WPCA) – Washington State pollution control act: RCW.90.48.

Dept of Ecology interprets this law to prohibit all underwater cleaning of anti-fouling bottom paint.

Marine Pollution Act (MARPOL) -International treaty, governs solid waste and debris, also bans plastics throughout the world's oceans. US vessels are required to display the MARPOL placard.

The Dockwalker process:

Option A: With permission from the marina, walk the docks and common areas of the marina and ask boaters if they would like to receive a free clean boating kit. Have them fill out the Clean Boating Pledge and answer any questions they may have. Try not to approach people on their boats unless they initiate contact with you as they may be distracted with other tasks. It is often best to catch people when they travel to and from their boats.

Option B: Some Marinas prefer us not to talk to boaters on their boats or on the docks where boats are tied up. In these cases it may be best to set up 1 or 2 tables at central locations within the marina that boaters traffic and talk to boaters as they transit the area.

Please check with the Harbormaster or marina manager at the hosting marina first for any other guidelines!

1. Politely greet boaters –remember they are there for their leisure.
2. Introduce yourself. Feel free to tell them about the Dockwalkers program. Ask them if they have a minute to learn about clean boating and receive a free Clean Boating kit. Remember: we aren't selling anything (they may assume you are), and we aren't there to find or report pollution problems.
3. Ask folks to fill out survey or pledge and hand them the kit. Ask if they have any questions about pumpouts, clean boating or other environmental topics -many will. Ask them about their boat or their travel plans if you get a chance. People love to talk about this!
4. If they would like to be contacted for a follow up survey, it will help us a lot ask them to fill in the reverse side. Otherwise they can stay anonymous.
5. Thank them for their time!

Glossary:

ANS, Aquatic Nuisance Species: Invasive non-native species that pose a threat to marine life.
Anti –Fouling Paint: paint for the bottom of a boat to prevent aquatic growth. Usually contains heavy metals and other toxics.

Bilge: The lowest part of the interior of a boat, below the waterline. May collect some water (bilgewater).

Bilge pump: A safety device that pumps bilge water overboard.

Biodegradable: A somewhat misused term to describe a product that breaks down over time in the environment. (How much time? Into what?)

BMP's Best Management Practices. Recommended or enforceable practices for preventing pollution.

Clean Vessel Act (CVA)- Provides and regulates federal funding to build and maintain boat sewage facilities and to fund education and awareness on the topic of boat sewage. This is our project funding source.

Dispersant: Any chemical or product including soaps added to hide an oil sheen on the water or in the bilge. Applying dispersants is illegal according to Coast Guard regulations.

Gray water: water from on-board sinks, showers, laundry. Exempted from Clean Water Act for vessels.

Hazardous: Indicates a dangerous product that may contain one or more of the following properties: Flammable, toxic, corrosive, reactive.

Hull: Described as the portion of a boat that moves through the water includes the area up to the gunwale.

MSD, Marine Sanitation Device Type I, II, III. Coast Guard –approved Types I and II offer minimal treatment for legal discharge, but should not be discharged in a marina or shallow bay. Type III is storage system for discharge to land based treatment (holding tank or porta-pottie)- Best method.

National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit: NPDES permits make pollution discharges legal within the restrictions of a permit. Generally these are issued to industrial facilities, sewage plants as well as municipalities for their stormwater discharges. NOTE: A recent court battle and an EPA decision to issue NPDES permits for boaters appears to be superceded by newly-passed congressional legislation EXEMPTING certain incidental boat discharges from the CWA. Boaters now do not need to get a permit. -A mixed blessing?

Oil Absorb: A device, often a pad or sock, that is designed to absorb oil and not water. Very useful for cleaning and preventing spills.

Sheen: A rainbow colored film on the water indicating the presence of a thin film of oil.

Superstructure: A significant structure of the boat above the deck (Cabins, wheelhouse, etc)

Topsides: Areas of a boat above the waterline.

Waterline: The portion of a hull that approximates the surface of the water

Y-Valve: A connection that determines the routing for a discharge (i.e. overboard, or into a holding tank)

Questions?

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