

# **BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR RECREATIONAL VESSELS**

## **Bell Harbor Marina**

The Port of Seattle Bell Harbor Marina is committed to preserving and enhancing the environment through proper management of activities that occur at this marina. In accordance with the Washington Department of Ecology and the Federal Clean Water Act, we have established these Best Management Practices to help ensure the safekeeping of our harbor and marine environment. If you need assistance or have questions please contact the Marina Office at (206) 615-3952 Or VHF 66 A.

### **Bilge Water Management, Used Oil and Fueling Practices**

- The discharge of contaminated bilge water is illegal. Do not discharge bilge water that is contaminated with oil, detergents or bilge cleaners. The fine for discharging bilge water can be as high as \$20,000 per day/per violation. Use oil absorbent bilge pads or pillows in the vessel's bilge to soak up oil and fuel.
- Prevent oil contamination of bilge water. Do not drain oil into the bilge. Fit a tray underneath the engine to collect drips. Use pads in the pan to make clean up easier. Keep the bilge area as dry as possible. Fix all fuel and oil leaks in a timely fashion. Inspect fuel lines and hoses for chaffing, wear and general deterioration and secure hoses to prevent chaffing. Clean bilge areas after engine maintenance work. When changing engine oil, wipe up any spills.
- Keep engines tuned and operating at peak efficiency. Keep the use of engine cleaners to a minimum.
- It is the responsibility of the vessel owner to contact a service provider to dispose of bilge water and to properly dispose of used oil. Contact the Marina Office for information.
- Dispose of oil soaked absorbents when all liquids are fully absorbed. A list of disposal contractors is available in the Marina Office.
- Recreational vessels are not allowed to fuel at Central Waterfront facilities.

### **Hazardous Chemicals, Cleaners, and Wastes**

- Hazardous or flammable chemicals shall not be stored at Central Waterfront facilities. Provide these materials with cover and containment when stored on the vessel.
- The disposal of used oil, antifreeze, paints, solvents, varnishes, gas cylinders, preservatives batteries in the garbage is prohibited. These materials are not to be discharged to the sanitary sewer or to marine waters. Do not dispose of this waste in the Marina dumpsters and do not leave this waste on the dock. Contact the Marina Office for a list of disposal service providers.
- Vessels must never leave drums of hazardous materials, empty drums or gas cylinders on the dock. If materials are left behind, the Marina Coordinator will contact the responsible party and assess a monetary fine to compensate for the clean-up charges incurred.

### **Spill Prevention and Response**

- Have a supply of absorbent materials on board the vessel. Needed sorbent material may be provided by the marina staff.
- Should a spill occur, stop the spill or leakage source and contain the spill. For emergency spills in the water contact the Marina Office (VHF 66A) and report the spill immediately to the U.S. Coast Guard National Response Center at 1-800-424-8802 and the Department of Ecology at 1-800-OILS-911 or 1-800-258-5990.

### **Spill Prevention and Response (Continued)**

- Do not use detergents or soaps to clean up spills. Oil and detergents are toxic to fish and other marine life.
- Information for reporting spills is posted at the Marina Office.

### **Solid Waste**

- Throwing garbage into the water or on land is prohibited. Use trash dumpsters located at the marina for your use. Recycling dispensers for aluminum, glass, newspaper, tin, and plastic are available.

### **Sewage and Gray Water Management**

- The discharge of sewage or black water is illegal and is prohibited. Use the pump-out located at Dock A.
- Shore-side restrooms and shower facilities are available for use 24-hours a day. We encourage you to use them.
- All pet waste must be removed and properly disposed of. Pet 'Pooper Scooper' dispensers are available throughout the facility.
- Gray water discharge from sinks, laundry and showers may be harmful to aquatic life within the marina and contains bacteria in sufficient quantities to be a public health concern. Gray water should be contained and pump-out stations utilized. A list of pump-out stations is available in the Marina Office.
- The discharge of laundry water from a vessel is prohibited.
- Reduce gray water generation by reducing the use of sinks, soaps and detergents and by rinsing your vessel with clean water. If you must use soap, use more environmental friendly soaps (no chlorine or petroleum distillates). If a gray water discharge displays turbidity, oil sheen or discoloration to the receiving water, then Washington Department of Ecology's water quality standard in RCW 90.48 has not been met. Vessel owners are subject to fines and penalties when this standard is violated.
- Use sink screens or strainers and dispose of strained waste in the garbage.

### **Boat Repair and Maintenance Activity**

- Painting, scraping and refinishing of vessels, when in the water is limited to minor touch ups. Minor repairs, as defined by the Washington Department of Ecology is limited to the vessel's superstructure, deck and hull above the waterline and is 25% or less of the vessel's hull surface above the waterline. Extensive repair work and bottom cleaning must occur in a commercial, permitted, boatyard or shipyard. No vessel work from portable floats is permitted.
- Any minor painting, scraping and refinishing must be contained and all debris collected. All paint mixing must be done with the can placed inside containment that will catch spillage. Paint cans to be used shall be no larger than one-gallon size. Minor painting and sanding is allowed on the interior and superstructure of the vessel. Tarping the work area is needed to prevent any release of sanding debris or paint to the marine environment. The tarp should prevent releases as well as run off from rain. Assistance with containment provisions is available at the Marina Office.
- Marina docks are not areas where boat repair or storage of equipment, supplies, etc. is allowed.
- Clean water under pressure may be used to remove salt from the outside of the vessel; however, any turbidity, oil sheen or discoloration to the receiving water is a violation of RCW 90.48 and is prohibited.