

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR COMMERCIAL VESSELS

Fishermen's Terminal and Maritime Industrial Center

The Port of Seattle is committed to preserving and enhancing the environment through proper management of activities which occur on the pier facilities. In accordance with Washington Department of Ecology and the provisions of the Federal Clean Water Act, we have established these Best Management Practices to help ensure the safekeeping of the Ship Canal and the marine environment. If you need assistance or have questions please contact the Manager, Marine Operations at (206) 728-3395.

Vessel Repair and Pier 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 per year. Extensive repair work and bottom cleaning must occur in a commercial, permitted, boatyard or shipyard. No vessel work from portable floats or on the uplands 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 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.
- Engines and equipment may be removed from the vessel and sent for repairs. Leaking equipment must be removed within a containment tray. Engine repair and maintenance within engineering spaces is permitted.
- 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.
- Northwest Dock and West Wall at Fishermen's Terminal have Level II hot work, Maritime Industrial Center is permitted for both Level I and II hot work. In order to conduct Level I and II hot work activity (welding, cutting, grinding, etc) you must have a Seattle Fire Department permit. No hotwork is to be conducted at any Piers not permitted by Seattle Fire Department.
- Welding sparks, slag or residue must be captured and must not enter water.. Dispose of cooled residue in a solid waste dumpster.
- Piers are not areas where boat repair or vehicle repair or maintenance, vehicle or equipment washing, storage of equipment, supplies, etc. is allowed.

Management of Bilge Water Discharges

- It is illegal to discharge contaminated bilge water into the waters of the State. The fine for such discharges can be as high as \$20,000 per day per violation.
- Prevent oil contamination of bilge water. Do not drain oil into the bilge. Use containment troughs underneath the engine to capture any drips or spills and oil absorbent pads, socks or pillows to soak up oil and fuel. Keep the bilge area as clean and dry as possible fixing all fuel and oil leaks as they occur. Inspect fuel lines and hoses for chaffing, wear, and general deterioration and secure and prevent hoses from chaffing. Clean bilge areas after engine maintenance.
- Keep engines tuned and operating at peak efficiency. Keep the use of engine cleaners and detergents to a minimum.
- It is the responsibility of the vessel owner to contact a service provider to dispose of contaminated bilge water in an appropriate manner.
- Dispose of oil soaked absorbents when all liquids are fully absorbed.

Used Oil

- Used oil is to be removed from the site by a used oil service provider.

Sewage Management and Gray Water

- The discharge of sewage is illegal and is prohibited.
- Gray water discharge from sinks, laundry and showers may be harmful to aquatic life within Puget Sound and contains bacteria in sufficient quantities to be a public health concern.
- 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 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 screen or strainers and dispose of strained waste in the garbage.

Bunkering Procedures

- Vessels allowed to receive bunkers must be in compliance with all Seattle Fire Department, U.S. Coastguard and Washington bunkering (WAC Chapter 317-40) requirements.

Management of Hazardous Chemicals, Cleaners and Wastes

- Hazardous or flammable chemical materials, gas cylinders, and batteries shall not be stored at Fishermen's Terminal or Maritime Industrial Center 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 and batteries in the garbage is prohibited. These materials are not to be discharged to the sanitary sewer or to the marine waters.
- Clear and contain any debris, trash, sanding dust, paint chips, slag, etc., from work areas immediately after any maintenance or repair activity.
- Do not leave drums or containers of hazardous materials, empty drums or gas cylinders on the dock. If materials are left behind, the responsible party will be contacted and a fee assessed based on the cost of cleanup charges incurred by the Port of Seattle.

Spill Prevention and Response

- Sufficient absorbent materials and spill containment instruments to confine a spill should be carried aboard the vessel.
- When a spill occurs, stop the spill or leakage source and contain the spill. For emergency spills in the water, contact the Marine Operations office 728-3760 (24 hours) report the spill immediately to the US 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. Further information for reporting spills is posted in the Harbormaster's Office.