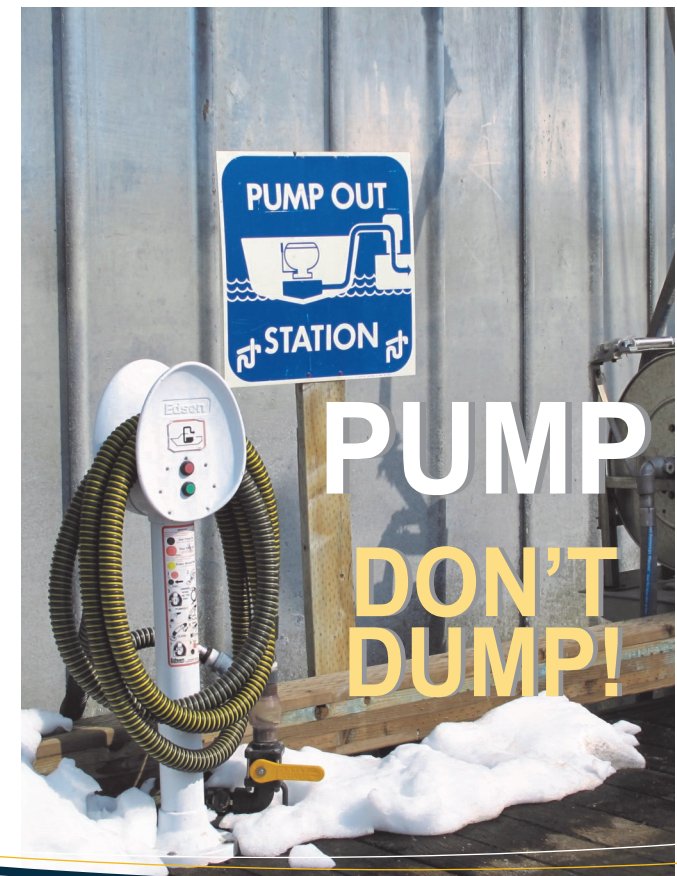




**KEEP OUR WATER
CLEAN** Use Pumpouts!



Additional Resources

Clean Vessel Act Funding Opportunities

Valerie Blajeski
Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game
Phone: 907.267.2164

Alaska Clean Boating and Clean Harbors

<http://inletkeeper.org/clean-water/clean-boating>
<http://www.alaskacleanharbors.org>

To Report Sewage Spills or other Pollution

Report spills to the USCG National Response Center: 800.424.8802

CONTACT US!

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Sewage Pollution Prevention Guide for Alaskan Boaters

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Keep our water clean—Use Pumpouts!

PROTECT ALASKA'S WATER AND FISH WHILE BOATING

BOATER BEST PRACTICES

- ⇒ Use on-shore restrooms whenever possible. Talk to your Harbormaster with any concerns about the restrooms.
- ⇒ Maintain your marine sanitation device (MSD).
- ⇒ Learn how to easily and effectively use pumpouts at your harbor (see www.inletkeeper.org)
- ⇒ Talk to your harbormaster if you have any problems or concerns with the pumpouts. Ask for them to be in good working order, with signs and instructions!

Human sewage is also referred to as 'blackwater' and can hurt water quality and aquatic life when discharged improperly—especially in areas of low water movement (think harbors and protected bays). **Untreated sewage from one 20-gallon holding tank can have the same amount of bacteria as 10,000 gallons of treated sewage!** Read more to find out how you can help protect our water while boating!

IMPACTS

Discharged sewage is not only extremely unattractive in our waters, but it can also be a health hazard! Sewage-contaminated water can spread fecal bacteria and diseases. It can decrease the oxygen available for fish and other life in the water as it decomposes. Sewage contamination is also a common cause of shellfish bed closures in the Lower 48. Protect Alaska's Clean Water —Use Pumpouts!

THE LAW

Federal law requires boats with on-board heads (toilet) to use a U.S. Coast Guard certified Marine Sanitation Device (MSD), preferably a Type III that is pumped out on-shore.

The Clean Water Act prohibits the discharge of untreated sewage from a vessel within 3 nautical miles of shore. Penalties can be up to \$25,000!

Marine Sanitation Devices

Type I

Chops or macerates sewage before discharging. May have chemical treatment. Only allowed on vessels less than 65 feet.

Type II

Treats sewage with biological organisms before discharging. Separates solids. Generally has more chemical treatment than Type I.

Type III

Includes holding tanks, incinerators, and recirculating tanks that don't discharge. Waste is all stored untreated until it can be pumped out. Y-Valves are required to be locked within 3 nautical miles to prevent illegal discharge.



Look for this symbol to locate sewage pumpouts at your harbor. Ask your harbormaster for more information.
REMEMBER: It is illegal to discharge untreated sewage within 3 nautical miles of shore!