



Best Practice References

Pollution Prevention for Alaskan Harbors

Through the Alaska Clean Harbors program, we have developed many resources for harbormasters that detail how to manage wastes and prevent pollution. This booklet is intended to be a 'quick guide' to some of your most common waste accumulation areas, and what kind of infrastructure, maintenance and operations are ideal for preventing pollution. They may look familiar to you, or there may be many goals you will want to work towards. Contact Alaska Clean Harbors for assistance and feedback on how you can best manage your waste streams to reduce costs and prevent pollution at your facility!



For more information: www.alaskacleanharbors.org

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Used Oil Collection Sites

Best Practices Reference

- ☐ Contained: Covered to prevent runoff during rain
- ☐ Contained: Labeled USED OIL
- ☐ Contained: at least 110% of volume
- ☐ Contained: Impervious surface
- ☐ Conveniently located & accessible for customers
- ☐ In the uplands, away from the water
- ☐ Separate bins labeled for rags and filters
- ☐ Regularly inspected, emptied and maintained
- ☐ Keep disposal records





Tidal Grid

Best Practices Reference

- ☐ Signed agreement prior to use
- ☐ Clearly posted rules on-site
- ☐ Zinc collection nearby
- ☐ Regularly monitored by staff
- ☐ Rules enforced consistently for all users
- ☐ Users educated on pollution prevention BMPs as needed
- ☐ Regularly inspected and maintained

PORT & HARBOR OF HOMER, ALASKA
STEEL GRID UTILIZATION AGREEMENT
200 Displacement Ton Limit
Displacement Tonnage is the actual weight of the vessel and its contents

Vessel Name: _____ State: _____ ☐ Power ☐ Sail
 Number: DOD-GR-141 _____ ADMS: _____
 Length Overall: _____ Beam: _____ Draft: _____ Feet Length: _____ Feet Width: _____
 Type of Trawl: _____ Net Weight: _____ Gross Weight: _____
 Displacement with: Fuel on Board _____ Salt Water on Board _____ Fresh Water on Board _____
 Gear/Winches/Access Equipment on Board _____
 Owner: _____ Phone: _____
 Address: _____ Street or P.O. Box No. _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Agent or Operator: _____ Phone: _____
 Address: _____ Street or P.O. Box No. _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

I, _____, owner/agent/operator, have personally inspected the grid and being fully aware of its present condition, do hereby agree to accept full responsibility for any and all damages occurring as a result of the vessel _____ using the grid facilities at the Homer Small Boat Harbor in Homer, Alaska, and do hereby agree to pay for all damages immediately upon receiving a full and accurate accounting of the charges against said vessel. I must remove all debris. Failure to remove debris will result in cleanup by harbor staff. The costs incurred by harbor staff will be fully charged to me. Labor rate for harbor staff will be as per the tariff, plus appropriate equipment rental and material costs.

I am fully aware of and hereby agree to comply with the grid regulations, limitations and restrictions and am aware of and agree to:





Trash & Recycling

Best Practices Reference

- ☐ Dumpsters clearly labeled
- ☐ Recycling available to customers
- ☐ Recycling available to staff
- ☐ Dumpsters covered
- ☐ Customers encouraged to recycle
- ☐ Customers encouraged to store items properly on-board
- ☐ Staff trained to pick up litter





Hazardous Waste: Facility

Best Practices Reference

- ☐ Hazardous waste determinations conducted on ALL potentially hazardous wastes
- ☐ Contained: at least 110% of volume
- ☐ Contained: Impervious surface
- ☐ Contained: Covered
- ☐ Contained: Properly labeled
- ☐ Response officials are aware of amounts and locations
- ☐ Safety Data Sheets (SDS) on-site and up-to-date
- ☐ Employees trained in management and safety
- ☐ Regularly inspected, emptied and maintained
- ☐ Toxic cleaning products avoided





Hazardous Waste: Used Batteries

Best Practices Reference

- ☐ Labeled USED BATTERIES*
- ☐ Contained: Covered
- ☐ Contained: On impervious surface
- ☐ Layer with wood—don't stack batteries directly
- ☐ Location advertised to customers
- ☐ Regularly inspected and maintained by staff
- ☐ Keep disposal records



★ In order to be considered 'Universal Waste' and not hazardous waste, your battery collection area MUST be labeled correctly as either USED BATTERIES, UNIVERSAL WASTE—BATTERIES, or WASTE BATTERIES. The top picture should be re-labeled correctly.



Hazardous Waste: Used Antifreeze

Best Practices Reference

- ☐ Labeled USED ANTIFREEZE
- ☐ Managed on-site as hazardous waste
- ☐ Contained: Covered
- ☐ Contained: On impervious surface
- ☐ Easy to use for customers
- ☐ Location advertised to customers
- ☐ Regularly inspected and maintained by staff





Spill Response & Prevention

Best Practices Reference

- ☐ Clear signage posted
- ☐ Staff trained on spill response procedures
- ☐ Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) plan in place
- ☐ HAZWOPER training for relevant staff
- ☐ Educational materials to reduce spills available for customers
- ☐ All spills are reported to AK Dept. of Environmental Conservation (800-478-9300) and the USCG National Response Center (NRC) (800-424-8802)
- ☐ Spill response equipment is ready for staff and/or customer use





Sewage Management

Best Practices Reference

- ☐ Clearly label pumpout stations
- ☐ Easy and convenient for all customers to use
- ☐ Location advertised to customers
- ☐ Instructions for use available for customers
- ☐ Educational material available for customers
- ☐ Regularly inspected and maintained by staff
- ☐ Explicit sewage & graywater rules for live aboards
- ☐ Clear local ordinances reducing the discharge of treated sewage





Communications

Best Practices Reference

- ☐ Changes at the harbor are communicated to customers
- ☐ Email is used to communicate with customers, as well as traditional postal mail.
- ☐ A newsletter, posters, or other print is published regularly
- ☐ Communications are part of annual planning at the harbor
- ☐ The harbor website is actively managed and updated
- ☐ Staff are trained on the importance of customer service and strong communications with customers and the public.





Additional Information

Sewage Management

Managing sewage in your harbor can be a difficult task. Untreated sewage discharged from boats can cause localized effects on water quality and public health, especially in semi-enclosed marinas and harbors where minimal water flushing occurs. It is important to consider how your harbor deals with sewage, whether you have functional pump-outs, and if not, what alternatives exist. Providing positive educational messages to your customers can be a great first step in dealing with sewage in your harbor. Here are some laws and regulations, best management practices, and other outreach materials to help you minimize sewage at your facility.

Legal

Here is a summary of some laws regarding sewage:

- ◇ Vessels are required to have an operable Coast Guard-certified Marine Sanitation Device (MSD), either Type I, II or III (**33 CFR 159.7**)
- ◇ The Clean Water Act (**Section 312(a)**) prohibits discharge of untreated sewage within 3 nautical miles of the coast. In Alaska, it is legal to discharge treated sewage from a Type I or II MSD within 3 miles of shore.
- ◇ In areas where discharge of treated sewage is permitted, the discharge may not have a fecal coliform count of greater than 200 per 100 milliliters, nor floating solids (**40CFR 140.3**)

Overview of Marine Sanitation Devices:

- ◇ Type I—Chops or macerates sewage before discharging and may add toxic chemicals. Only permitted on vessels less than 65 feet.
- ◇ Type II—Treats sewage by biological means and separates out solids. Cleaner but uses more chemicals than Type I.
- ◇ Type III— The preferred MSD. Includes holding tanks, incinerators, and recirculating tanks. Does not discharge sewage. Waste is stored until it can be pumped out.





Additional Information

Sewage Management

Best Management Practices

Establishing BMPs for sewage will help you and your staff keep your facility clean.

Sewage Pumpouts:

In addition to raising general awareness of the problems associated with sewage pollution, your harbor can work on two main fronts for improving sewage management - having working sewage pumpouts available for your customers, and having clean, functional upland restrooms.

- ◇ Pumpouts should be in accessible areas of the harbor and maintained regularly
- ◇ Clear instructions should be posted on each pumpout for proper use
- ◇ Update and repair ageing pumpouts to ensure they are available to customers. Clean Vessel Act funding can help harbors replace, add, maintain and upgrade pumpouts
- ◇ Three main types: diaphragm, peristaltic, and vacuum. Diaphragm are ideal for small harbors, peristaltic are used in pumpout boats, and vacuum types can handle large volumes of sewage
- ◇ Two ways to pumpout: using a mobile boat system that travels to the customer OR a stationary dock-side pump with designated mooring area

Communication and Education:

- ◇ Provide customers with up-to-date harbor policies so that everyone knows what to expect regarding mooring fees, liveaboard rules and regs, waste management and other information
- ◇ Share your positive stories about harbor successes, such as becoming an Alaska Clean Harbor
- ◇ Remind boaters with holding tanks that Y-valves must be locked within 3 nautical miles
- ◇ Talk to boaters about the importance of maintaining their MSD and using pumpouts
- ◇ Encourage boaters to use upland restrooms when possible to reduce sewage in the harbor



Additional Information

Sewage Management

Additional Resources

It is always good practice to have additional resources for your customers to access more information. These resources can provide you, your staff, and customers more ways to keep your facility clean.

Examples from other States:

- ◇ Clean Marina Washington BMPs— <http://www.cleanmarinawashington.org/CleanMarinaBMPs.pdf>
- ◇ Pumpout Washington- <http://pumpoutwashington.org/>
- ◇ California Clean Marina Program - <http://www.cleanmarina.org/manual/themansewage.html>

Other Resources:

- ◇ Clean Vessel Act Program - <http://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/GrantPrograms/CVA/CVA.htm>
- ◇ US EPA Clean Boating Act- <https://www.epa.gov/vessels-marinas-and-ports/clean-boating-act-cba-homepage>
- ◇ Alaska Clean Harbors - <http://alaskacleanharbors.org/resources/sewage-pumpout-facility-operation/sewage-management/>
- ◇ University of Alaska Anchorage Clean Harbors Course - http://www.uas.alaska.edu/sitka/courses/all/nc_tpm111.html
- ◇ Sewage Pumpout Brochure - <http://inletkeeper.org/resources/contents/sewage-pumpout-brochure/view>
- ◇ BoatUS Foundation Sewage BMPs - <http://www.boatus.org/clean-boating/sewage/>