



Clean Boater Tip Sheet



Waste Containment and Disposal

Trash is ugly and may be dangerous - dangerous to humans and to wildlife. For example, plastic may snare propellers and entangle birds or fish. Congress passed a law in 1987 to protect our water ways from garbage. The Marine Plastic Pollution Research and Control Act (Title II of Public Law 100-220) regulates the disposal of garbage at sea according to how far a vessel is from shore. In Ohio, it is illegal to dump plastic, paper, rags, glass, metal, crockery, dunnage (lining and packing material, nets, lines, etc.), and food.

Contain Trash

- Don't let trash get thrown or blown overboard.
- If trash blows overboard, retrieve it. Consider it "crew-overboard" practice.
- Pack food in reusable containers.
- Buy products without plastic or excessive packaging.
- Don't toss cigarette butts overboard. They are made of plastic (cellulose acetate).
- Don't toss fishing line overboard.
- Purchase refreshments in recyclable containers and recycle them.
- Properly dispose of all trash on-shore, e.g., take it home or leave it in a dumpster at the marina.

Recycle

- Recycle cans, glass, newspaper, antifreeze, oil, oil filters, and lead batteries.
- Bring used monofilament fishing line to recycling bins at your tackle shop or marina.

Fish Scraps

It is unlawful to place or dispose of a dead fish (or part thereof) in a stream, river, pond, lake or any other body of water or upon the banks thereof, excepting dead fish or parts of fish may be used as bait or a lure (Ohio Administrative Code 1501:31-13-01-Section F).

- Find out what your marina's fish cleaning and disposal policy is.
- Bag waste and dispose at home or in a dumpster designated for fish waste.

Transferring your Boat to another Body of Water

Prevent the Spread of zebra and quaga mussels, aquatic plants and other aquatic nuisance species when moving your boat from one body of water to another.

Follow the practices:

- Drain, wash and inspect boats, trailers, personal watercraft and gear.



- Remove all aquatic plants and animals from boats, trailers, personal watercraft, and gear.
- Do not release live bait or fish into any water area.
- For more information contact www.protectyourwaters.net .

Be a Conscientious Consumer

- Read product labels. Labels convey information about the degree of hazard associated with a particular product. For example, DANGER equates to extremely flammable, corrosive or toxic; WARNING indicates that the material is moderately hazardous; and CAUTION signals a less hazardous product. Select products that contain no warnings or which merely CAUTION consumers.
- Be wary of unqualified general claims of environmental benefit, e.g., “ozone friendly.” A better, more meaningful label would read, “This product is 95 percent less damaging to the ozone layer than past formulations that contained chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs).”