

Protecting the marine environment is a shared responsibility.



Education - Preparation - Action What can you do?



Every boat has an environmental impact.

It is up to skippers and crews, all of us who boat, to make certain that our marine environment stays clean. The environmental impact of boating can be large or small, depending on our actions. We need to make sure we have a minimal impact on the environment so our waters will remain pure and safe for the enjoyment of all who use them. We boaters have as much to lose as anyone if our waters become polluted.

Environmental issues related to boating activity fall into five main categories:

- ◆ Handling of fuels, lubricants, and coolants
- ◆ Discharge of sewage or noxious grey water
- ◆ Boat maintenance
- ◆ Protection of in-shore habitats
- ◆ Applicable marine laws

Read: The Marine Environment - A Shared Responsibility a document that has been prepared by the Squadron Environment Officers of Pacific Mainland District, Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons, to be used as a tool to educate students, members and others in their responsibilities to the environment in which their boats are operated.

The document can be found at:

<http://powersquadron.ca/Environment.htm>

It has been developed from resources within CPS with relevant information added for boaters in British Columbia and contains detailed information on how to preserve both the safety and the beauty of the waterways from the environmental issues listed here.



One of the best and most comprehensive references for information on the subject of marine environmental stewardship is "Guide to Greenboating" published by the Georgia Strait Alliance. The publication and a number of other resources can be found on their website at www.GeorgiaStrait.org.

The National Office of CPS publishes "Enviro Boater Guide" for an overview of environmental boating.

Guidelines for watching marine wildlife, such as whales, can be obtained at several sources:

Fisheries and Oceans Canada at www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Marine Mammal Monitoring Project at www.salishsea.ca

Straitwatch at www.straitwatch.org.

LifeforceFoundation at, <http://www.lifeforcefoundation.org>

Publications such as: "BOAT GREEN" by Clyde W. Ford, which is a comprehensive eco-boating guide, and others, available at www.newsociety.com.



Protecting the Marine Environment is a Shared Responsibility

What can you do to minimize the environmental impact of your vessel?

Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons were founded with a Mission Statement to teach "Safe Boating" and to also recognize that a boat must be operated in both a "Safe and Environmentally friendly manner".

Every recreational boater has a vested interest in preserving both the safety and the beauty of the waterways that are our playgrounds, not to mention a responsibility to do so for the inhabitants and other users of those waters, both present and future.



www.cps-ecp.ca/PublicUploads/Enviro/EnviroBoater.pdf

- Avoid using harsh cleaners, soaps or detergents
- Be careful not to spill fuel when refueling
- Keep your bilge clean so oil is not discharged
- Nothing over the side - no garbage overboard
- Do not discard food waste overboard
- Keep the volume down on your stereo
- Watch your wake - protect the shoreline habitat
- Don't transport marine life from between lakes
- Re-use, Reduce, Recycle



Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons

