

# Litter and Recycling

## Potential Environmental Impacts:

Routine marina and boating activities produce a variety of non-hazardous solid wastes. These include bottles, plastic bags, aluminum cans, coffee cups, six-pack rings, disposable diapers, wrapping paper, cigarette filters, and fishing line. This type of debris harms living organisms and their habitats after it enters the water. A litter free facility is more attractive to present and potential customers. Diverting reusable materials out of the waste stream through recycling conserves natural resources, and reduces the amount of waste that must be disposed.

## Legal Requirements:

- Marina operators must provide areas to collect solid waste from their customers [33 USC 1905(a)(2), 33 CFR 151.05]. For more specific information, see Appendix D.
- Marina facilities must provide for the separation from other solid waste of items designated for recycling [CGS §22a-241b(c)]. The following items are required to be recycled [RCSA §22a-241b-2]:
  - corrugated cardboard
  - glass and metal food and beverage containers
  - leaves
  - newspaper
  - white office paper
  - scrap metal
  - waste oil
  - spent lead acid storage batteries
  - nickel-cadmium rechargeable batteries [CGS §22a-256a]

For more specific information, see Appendix D.

- Grass clippings may not be disposed of with regular trash [CGS §22a-208v(c)]. Leave the clippings to decompose on the ground or compost them.

## Best Management Practices:

- ✦ Place covered trash receptacles in convenient locations away from the water for use by marina patrons.
- ✦ Do not put trash or recycling containers on docks, as waste can easily blow into the water.
- ✦ If practical, lock trash receptacles at night to prevent “midnight dumping” since marina operators are responsible for the content of dumpsters.
- ✦ Train employees to pick up stray trash as a daily practice.



**S**tate statute prohibits individuals from littering on public property, on private property they don't own, or in the waters of the state [CGS §22a-250(a)]. Do your part to prevent your customers from littering by providing easily accessible, clearly marked, and frequently emptied litter and recycling receptacles.

- ✦ Provide clearly marked, conveniently located recycling containers for customers and staff to use, particularly for plastic, glass and metal food/beverage containers, and other recyclables generated at your facility.
- ✦ Purchase products made with recycled contents to close the recycling loop (i.e., create a market for the materials you recycle). Buy recycled printing and writing paper, towels, tissue, re-refined motor oil and antifreeze.
- ✦ Educate employees about separation requirements and your recycling program.
- ✦ Encourage boaters to exchange excess paints, thinners, and varnishes rather than dispose. Provide a bulletin board where boaters can post notices if they have or need a particular substance, or establish a paint and maintenance chemical swap area for customers.
- ✦ Consider cooperating with other nearby businesses to simplify recycling and reduce costs. Your municipal recycling coordinator may be able to help you find or establish a cooperative business-recycling program.
- ✦ Use reusable or recyclable boat covers for boat storage. Recycle used plastic boat covers. See “Shrink Wrap” fact sheet.
- ✦ Require patrons to clean up after their pets. See “Pet Waste” fact sheet.
- ✦ For information on recycling antifreeze, see “Antifreeze” fact sheet.
- ✦ For information on recycling batteries, see “Battery Replacement” fact sheet.

### Checklist for Clean Marina Certification:

- ✓ Do you keep trash containers, bins or dumpsters covered and in convenient locations away from the water?

YES      NO      N/A

- ✓ Do you provide clearly marked recycling containers for customers and staff to use, particularly for plastic, glass and metal food/beverage containers?

YES      NO      N/A