

Working together...

Environmental Protection and Jersey Coastguard (Ports of Jersey) work closely together to respond to water pollution within the marine environment. This is achieved with the assistance of two Laws, both designed to protect the Island's territorial and coastal waters from pollution deriving from land and sea based sources.

There are distinct areas of overlap between these two Laws, therefore to stop duplication of effort and ensure the targeted use of resources the Department of the Environment and the Ports of Jersey have a formal agreement in place. This covers a wide range of topics – from day to day issues to responding to major pollution incidents in marine waters.



Major oil spill response exercise

Unserviceable or abandoned vessels or other obstructions that may be at risk of causing pollution or are a hazard to other vessels can be removed by the Ports of Jersey, under the Harbour (Jersey) Regulations 1962, Regulation 2(1), at the owner's expense. To prevent this from happening it is essential that all boat owners ensure their craft are insured, well maintained and fit for purpose. 

Pollution and the Law

The Water Pollution (Jersey) Law 2000

The Water Pollution (Jersey) Law, 2000 is administered by the Department of the Environment and provides for the control of pollution in Jersey waters. This includes the territorial sea up to the 12-mile limit and coastal waters, including harbour areas.

Causing or knowingly permitting pollution of controlled waters is an offence under the Water Pollution (Jersey) Law 2000. There are however strong defences that may be available to persons acting in a responsible manner.

The Shipping (MARPOL) (Jersey) Regulations 2012

The Shipping (MARPOL) (Jersey) Regulations 2012 is administered by the Maritime Administration at the Economic Development Department and enforced by the Ports of Jersey for the prevention and minimisation of pollution from craft, both accidental and that from routine operations. The objective of this regulation is to preserve the marine environment by the elimination of harmful substances and to minimise the accidental discharge of these substances. In particular the Regulations define prohibited discharges of oil, authorise ship inspections and in extreme cases vessels can be detained.



The Department of the Environment



For more information please contact Environmental Protection, The Department of the Environment, through the Water Pollution Hotline: **Tel: 709535**
Email: envprotection@gov.je or Jersey coastguard:
Tel: 447705 or **VHF Ch.82**

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To report
pollution call:
The Pollution Hotline
Tel: 709535
Jersey coastguard
Tel: 447705
VHF Ch.82

Pollution prevention guidance Ships and boats

What you can do.....

Protecting
our Island's
harbours and
coastal waters



Keeping Jersey's marine environment clean and safe will help maintain a healthy sea for marine wildlife, whilst protecting its commercial and recreational value and enjoyment for all users. Polluting substances take many forms including, oil, fuel, litter, anti-foul and contaminated bilge waters. By following the advice set out in this leaflet you can minimise the risk of causing pollution from boating activities.

Oil and Fuel

Hydrocarbons (diesel or oil) can be very damaging to marine life and is very unsightly therefore it is important to ensure that these substances are not introduced into the marine environment. Steps to reduce this risk are as follows:

- ✓ When refuelling take care not to spill fuel or overfill the tank.
- ✓ Ensure that portable tanks are sited and secured safely on the craft. When filling portable fuel tanks do it away from the water's edge to avoid a spillage into the sea.
- ✓ Waste oils and used filters should be carefully disposed of on shore using the designated disposal facilities provided.

Where bilge water is contaminated with oil or fuel, every effort should be made to transfer the contaminated bilge water to secure containers for proper disposal on shore. There are some good and reasonably-priced oil / water separators available. Contaminated water should not be pumped into the sea!

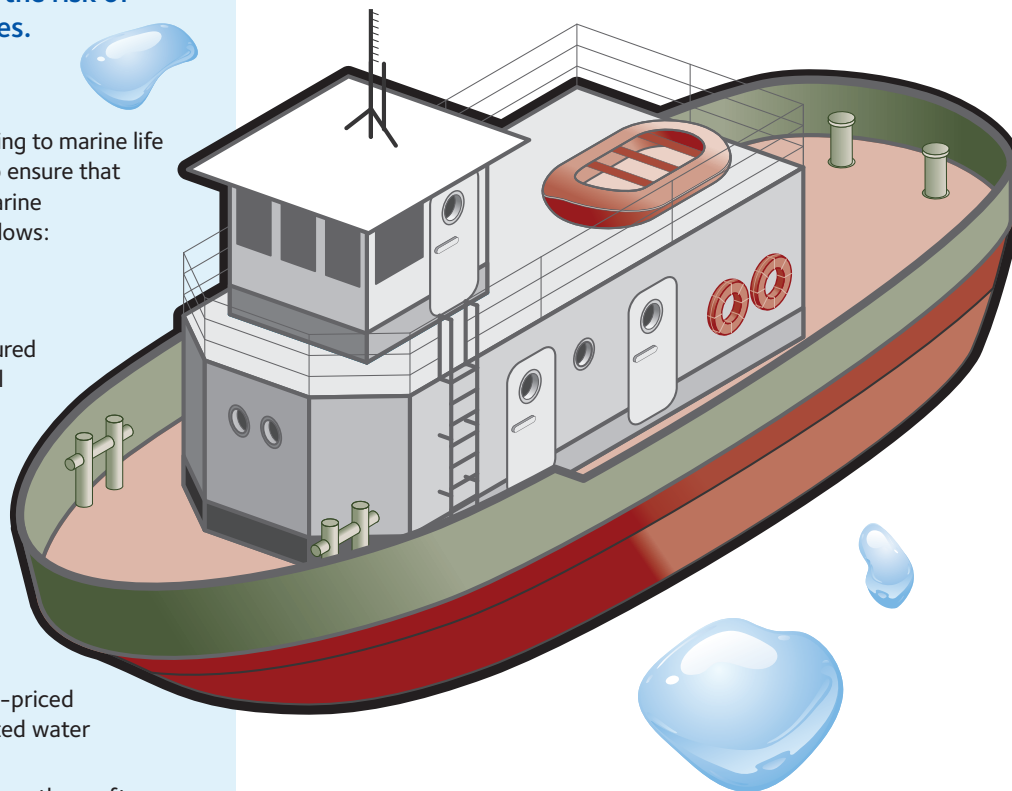
- ✓ Keep a small quantity of absorbent material on the craft to use in the event of a spill and to clean oil from bilge water. Used absorbents and rag should be disposed of properly.
- ✓ Boats with inboard engines where possible, should have a drip tray under the engine and gearbox to prevent oil entering into the bilge. The drip tray should be emptied regularly into a secure container.

Emulsifiers and detergents can cause pollution themselves – they should be used sparingly and only when necessary on oil spillages or contaminated bilge water.



Sewage

Sewage can have a serious impact on the aquatic environment. Apart from the visual unpleasantness of raw sewage floating on the water, it can also be harmful to aquatic plants and animals as it removes oxygen from the water. It can also pose a health risk to swimmers and other users of the sea for recreational purposes.



Sewage disposal

Ideally boats should be fitted with an adequate holding tank for sewage and waste water. However, if it is necessary to discharge liquid waste at sea, this should **only** be done offshore where swimming, wind-surfing or other recreational activities do not normally take place.

Vessels with containment facilities for sewage and waste water should pump their waste into approved sanitary stations where possible. Elizabeth Marina has facilities for pumping out marine holding tanks and emptying chemical toilets. For more information please contact Jersey Marinas, tel: 447708.

It is not permitted to discharge toilets into harbours or marinas. Always use the minimum amount of toilet chemicals.

Litter

Litter can be very damaging to wildlife and look very unsightly. Refuse generated on a vessel or in harbour/ marina areas must be kept secure until it can be appropriately disposed of. Where possible waste should be recycled at the waste disposal sites provided.



Cleaning, Painting and Anti-fouling

Anti-fouling products are designed to kill or discourage naturally occurring organisms. If used carelessly they can cause damage to the marine environment. Scraping anti-foul products from your craft may release harmful substances into the water.

Soaps and detergents can produce 'grey water' which promotes algal growth. This can lead to oxygen being removed from the water causing marine life to suffocate.

In order to reduce the risk of your cleaning activities causing pollution, you should observe the following guidelines:

- ✓ When removing old layers of anti-fouling paint, take care to prevent any material from entering the sea.
- ✓ Take specialist advice on the type of paint you use and always apply the product in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- ✓ When cleaning or hosing down your craft, use minimal abrasion, especially on soft anti-foul.
- ✓ Reduce the water pressure if the runoff is coloured.
- ✓ Use minimal detergents, degreasers or any other chemical cleaners.
- ✓ Use water based paints where possible.
- ✓ Take care when using paints and varnish and always keep the lids on pots.
- ✓ Clean up when you have finished. Ensure that tins, brushes and debris are collected and disposed of in a recommended manner.
- ✓ Always clean up any spillage and never wash it into the sea or any watercourse or drain leading to the sea.

