

A young woman with long, wavy brown hair is smiling broadly, looking towards the camera. She is wearing a white halter-neck top with a leopard print pattern and large blue hibiscus flowers. She is leaning over the stainless steel railing of a boat. The background shows a clear blue sky and the blue ocean with white wake from the boat.

CLEAN BOATER GUIDE

TAKE THE CLEAN BOATER PLEDGE!
WWW.VIRGINIACLEANMARINA.COM

CLEAN BOATER GUIDELINES



CONTAIN TRASH

- Do not let trash get thrown or blown overboard.
- If trash blows overboard, retrieve it.
- Pack food in reusable containers.
- Buy products without plastic or excessive packaging. Plastic is deadly to fish and birds.
- Do not toss cigarette butts overboard; they are made of plastic (cellulose acetate).
- Purchase refreshments in recyclable containers.

RECYCLE

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

FUEL CAUTIOUSLY

- Remember, fuel expands as it warms up.
- Fill your tank just before leaving on a trip.
- If you fill your tank upon your return to port, fill it to only 90% capacity.
- Use oil absorbent material to catch drips from the fuel intake and the vent overflow.
- Fill portable fuel tanks ashore.
- Add a fuel stabilizer to your tank if engine is used infrequently.

CONTROL OIL IN THE BILGE

- Keep your engine well-tuned: no leaking seals, gaskets or hoses.
- Place oil absorbent material or bio-remediating bilge boom in the bilge.
- Place an oil absorbent pad under the engine.

- Replace oil absorbent materials at least once a year.
- Check fuel lines for damages; replace with alcohol resistant hoses.
- Secure fuel hoses to prevent chafing and leaks.
- Never discharge bilge water with sheen. It is illegal.

PROPERLY DISPOSE OF OIL ABSORBENT MATERIALS

- If the pad is saturated with gas, allow it to air dry. Reuse.
- If the pad is saturated with diesel or oil, double bag it in plastic by placing one bag sealed inside another. Dispose in regular trash.
- Bio-remediating bilge booms should not be put in plastic bags. Discard in regular trash.

CLEAN GENTLY

- Wash your boat frequently with a sponge and plain water.
- Use detergents sparingly.
- Use phosphate-free, bio-degradable and non-toxic cleaners.
- Wax your boat. A good coat of wax prevents surface dirt from becoming ingrained.
- Clean wood with a mild soap powder and a nylon brush.
- Conserve water. Put a spray nozzle on your hose.

MAINTAIN YOUR VESSEL WISELY

- Collect all paint chips, dust and residue. Dispose in regular trash.
- Share leftover paint and varnish.
- Bring used solvents and waste gas to local hazardous waste collection sites.
- Use less toxic propylene glycol antifreeze.
- Keep your engine clean so you can spot leaks.
- Slip a plastic bag over used oil filters.
- Consider alternatives to toxic bottom paints.

SEWAGE

- Never discharge raw sewage in U.S. territorial waters.
- Use restrooms on shore.
- Under way, use approved Marine Sanitation Devices (MSDs).
- Discharge Type I or Type II MSDs over deep waters; avoid swimming areas, marinas and oyster bars.
- Establish a regular maintenance schedule for your MSD, based on manufacturer's recommendations.
- Pump-out and rinse holding tanks regularly.
- Use enzyme-based products to control odor and reduce solids in holding tanks.
- Avoid holding tank products that contain quaternary ammonium components (QAC) and formaldehyde.

DISPOSE OF FISH WASTE PROPERLY

- Do not throw fish waste into marina waters.
- Discard waste over deep water or in the trash.
- Or, save waste and use as chum or bait.

PROTECT SENSITIVE HABITAT

- Proceed slowly in shallow areas.
- Do not disturb wildlife.
- Avoid contact with submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV).
- Watch your wake. It can lead to shoreline erosion.

BE A RESPONSIBLE BOATER

- Learn about environmentally safe products and practices.
- Share the information with other boaters.
- Obey laws governing speeding, littering and discharge.
- Encourage boating facilities to provide trash cans, recycling bins and pump out stations.
- Support marinas that are environmentally responsible.



CLEAN BOATER MATERIALS

The following materials are available free of charge from the Virginia Clean Marina Program:

CLEAN BOATING TIPS

Found in this brochure are tips and information for boaters dedicated to keeping their boats clean and safe.

BOAT HOLDING TANK PUMP-OUT FACILITIES IN VIRGINIA

This is a comprehensive list of Virginia marinas equipped with pump-out and dump stations.

SHIPSHAPE SHORES AND WATERS: A HANDBOOK FOR MARINA OPERATORS AND RECREATIONAL BOATERS

Includes tips and information on best practices to use for boat cleaning and maintenance, boat operation and boat sewage disposal.

**MATERIALS ARE AVAILABLE AT
WWW.VIRGINIACLEANMARINA.COM**

TAKE THE CLEAN BOATER PLEDGE!

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HELP PROTECT THE CHESAPEAKE BAY AND VIRGINIA'S WATERWAYS

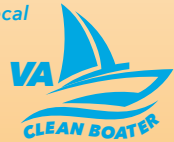
The Virginia Clean Marina Program recognizes boaters doing their part to keep the Chesapeake Bay and Virginia's waterways clean. This voluntary program gives participants the resources needed to minimize pollution and safely dispose of hazardous materials. Take the pledge and become a Virginia Clean Boater today!

THE VIRGINIA CLEAN BOATER PLEDGE

As a Virginia Clean Boater, I promise to abide by the *Clean Boater Guidelines* and pledge to:

- Recycle when possible
- Keep Virginia waters free of trash
- Practice proper fueling
- Use pump-out facilities
- Support a Virginia Clean Marina

Your choice of Clean Boater decal when you take the pledge.



I will also ensure that passengers aboard my vessel follow the guidelines for maintaining a clean boating environment. I will proudly display my Virginia Clean Boater decal on my vessel as an example for other boaters to follow.

WHY SHOULD YOU BECOME A VIRGINIA CLEAN BOATER?

By adopting pollution prevention measures, Virginia Clean Boaters can take satisfaction in knowing they are doing their part to:

- Keep Virginia waterways clean
- Preserve our waterways for the future
- Learn and teach clean boating habits

TO BECOME A VIRGINIA CLEAN BOATER AND GET YOUR BOAT DECAL:

1. Read the *Clean Boater Guidelines*.
2. Agree to follow the guidelines on our website, www.virginiacleanmarina.com.
3. Display your Virginia Clean Boater sticker on your vessel after you receive it in the mail.
4. Support a Virginia Clean Marina! Go to www.virginiacleanmarina.com to see a list of Clean Marinas near you.

THE VIRGINIA CLEAN MARINA PROGRAM

The Virginia Clean Marina Program is a joint partnership of the Virginia Institute of Marine Science's Marine Advisory Program, Virginia Sea Grant College Program, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and Virginia Department of Health (VDH).

