Guide to Green Boating

CLEAN MARINE BC

Published by Georgia Strait Alliance

Georgia Strait Alliance

"Caring for our Coastal Waters"

The Strait of Georgia is part of a great inland sea stretching from Puget Sound to Johnstone Strait. This area is sometimes referred to as the “Salish Sea”, in recognition of the Coast Salish people who historically inhabited its shores and still live here. Visitors and residents alike have always enjoyed the rich bounty of these waters, which continue to provide us with the most fabulous cruising in the world.

Despite its outward beauty, all is not well with the Salish Sea. The open ocean refreshes these waters slowly, which means pollution stays in our favourite areas for years. In addition, rapid population growth and development are increasing pressure on the marine environment. Shellfish contamination, unusual algae blooms and declining fish populations are all indications of a system under stress.

As boaters, we only contribute a small portion of the overall pollution entering the Strait, but it often concentrates near sensitive foreshore areas and in confined bays. There's a lot we can do to ensure the future health of Georgia Strait.

This guide outlines some of the steps we can take to minimize our environmental impacts.

- *Georgia Strait Alliance*

Illustrations by Dee Gale

WHAT YOU CAN FIND INSIDE

Boating is a popular pastime! With over 350,000 boats in the Strait of Georgia, we need to minimize our impacts, especially in areas where boats congregate such as marinas, anchorages and marine parks.

You can make a big difference, by pledging to follow these guidelines:

As a Green Boater I will…

Manage my sewage responsibly.

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Take care when fueling.

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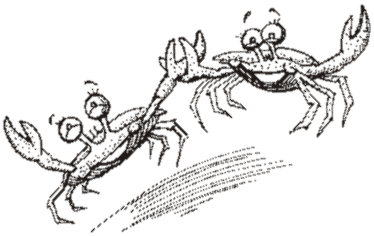
Check out **www.georgiastrait.org** for more ways you can help – take the online Green Boater Pledge while



SEWAGE WASTE DISPOSAL SITES

Pump-out Stations around the Strait of Georgia

Please note: GPS coordinates are WGS84 (NAD83) and are approximate only.

Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands

MARINAS	STATUS	COST
Van Isle Marina Sidney, BC 48° 40.310' N 123° 24.301'W	Pumpout station open all year Located at fuel dock	$10.00 fee
Port Sidney Marina Sidney, BC 48° 39.104' N 123° 23.491' W	Pumpout station open all year	$10.00 fee
Tsehum Harbour Authority Sidney, BC	Pumpout station open all year	NA
Coast Harbourside Marina Victoria, B.C. 48° 25.420' N 123° 22.788' W	Pumpout station open all year Available 8:30am - 4:30pm	$30.00 fee
Greater Victoria Harbour Authority Victoria, B.C.	Pumpout station open all year Located at Fisherman's Wharf Dock 2	$10.00 fee
Angler's Anchorage Marina Brentwood Bay, BC 48° 34.340' N 123° 27.874' W	Portable caddy available all year Pumpout being installed soon	currently no fee
Brentwood Bay Lodge and Spa Brentwood Bay, BC 48° 34.617' N 123° 28.022' W	Available Spring and Fall 9am -5 pm Available July and August 8 am - 8 pm	$10.00 fee Free for resident boats
Dungeness Marina Cowichan Bay, BC	Pumpout station Call ahead in off season 250.748.6789	$20.00 fee
Port of Nanaimo Eco Barge Nanaimo, BC 49° 10.273' N 123° 55.986' W	Pumpout station open all year	FREE
Deep Bay Harbour Authority Bowser, BC	Pumpout station open all year	FREE
Fairwinds Schooner Cove Marina Nanoose Bay, B.C. 49° 17.238' N 124° 08.003' W	Pumpout station open all year	$8.00 fee
Comox Harbour Authority Comox, B.C. 49° 39.155' N 121° 54.973' W	Pumpout station open all year (250) 339-6041	$7.00 fee
Campbell River Harbour Authority Campbell River, B.C. 50° 01.516' N 125° 14.274' W	Pumpout station open all year	$10.00 fee up to 30 gal.
Saanich Inlet Protection Society Saanich Inlet	Mobile Service Pumpty Dumpty (250) 480-9292	Free, Donations Accepted
Saltspring Is. Harbour Authority Saltspring Island, BC 48° 51.033' N 123° 29.746' W	Pumpout station open all year Located at Breakwater dock	$5.00 fee coin operated
Galiano Island-Montague Harbour 48° 35.000' N 123° 24.000' W	Mobile Service Pumpty Dumpty II	By Donation
Cowichan Fisherman's Wharf Cowichan Bay 48 44.490' N 123 37.020' W .	Temporarily out of service.	N/A

Sunshine Coast, B.C.

MARINAS	STATUS	COST
Gibsons Marina Gibsons, B.C. 49° 23.963' N 123° 30.213' W	Pumpout station open all year	$15.00 fee
Gibson's Landing Harbour Authority Gibson's, BC	Pumpout station open all year	$5.00 fee
Lund Harbour Authority Public Dock Lund, BC 49° 58.891' N 124° 45.827' W	Pumpout station open all year	$10.00 fee
Harbour Authority of Pender Harbour Madeira Park, B.C. 49° 37.808' N 124° 03.986' W	Pumpout station open all year Located at Madeira Park Public Dock	$12.00 fee
Porpoise Bay (DFO Govt. Dock) Porpoise Bay, B.C. 49° 29.045' N 123° 45.525' W	Pumpout station	NA

Lower Mainland, B.C.

MARINAS	STATUS	COST
Shelter Island Marina Richmond, BC	Pumpout station open all year	$10.00 fee
Burrard Civic Marina Vancouver, BC	Pumpout station open all year	$2.00 fee
Coal Harbour Marina Vancouver, BC	Pumpout system subject to availability	$20.00 fee
Point Roberts Marina Point Roberts, Washington 48° 58.333' N 123° 03.817' W	Pumpout station open all year	NA
Heather Civic Marina False Creek, B.C.	Pumpout station open all year	Free
Fisherman's Wharf False Creek Harbour Authority Vancouver, BC	Pumpout station open all year Located at end of F Dock (Customs) 8:30 am - 3:30 pm - Check at office	$5.00 fee
Bayshore West Marina Vancouver, B.C.	Pumpout available for moorage patrons only	
Reed Point Marina Port Moody, BC 49° 17.562' N 122° 53.307' W	Pumpout available for moorage patrons only	
Mosquito Creek Marina North Vancouver, BC	Pumpout subject to availability	$12.00 fee
Deep Cove Marina North Vancouver, BC 49° 19.701' N 122° 56.128' W	currently under repair	$5 - $10 per boat
False Creek Yacht Club Vancouver, BC	Pumpout station open all year	$10.00 fee
Quayside Marina New Westminster, BC	Pumpout subject to availability Call Ch. 66A or 604-681-9115	$20.00 fee

NOTE: For any additions or comments on this information please e-mail us at **gsa@georgiastrait**

FEELING FLUSH

In busy or poorly flushed anchorages, sewage from boats hurts the environment. Each year a number of areas suffer from shellfish closures, health risks, and other unpleasant effects. This is no longer acceptable to residents or visitors.

Keeping it clean:

- ✓ Never pump out sewage at the dock, in anchorages or near sensitive areas such as shellfish beds.
- ✓ Install a holding tank or portable toilet.
- ✓ Use shoreside facilities whenever possible.
- ✓ Avoid chemical additives or bleach in your holding tank - safer products include enzyme or bio-active treatments. Read labels carefully before using. Never use products containing formaldhyde, ammonia or chlorobenzine.
- ✓ Don't use your boat's head to dispose of anything it isn't intended for. Kitchen wastes, solvents, detergents, paints, and other foreign objects will cause problems for you and the environment.
- ✓ Use pump-out services where available (see previous pages) - otherwise ensure that you are in open waters before emptying your holding tank or portable toilet.
- ✓ Dispose of your pet's waste properly, even on shore.

New laws under the Canada Shipping Act 2001 prohibit the discharge of raw sewage within three nautical miles of shore.

FILL 'ER UP

Repeated small fuel spills add up to a real problem for the environment. Spills during fueling are common - fuel vent overflow from a 100-litre tank can be as much as 1/2 litre and this increases for larger tanks. Remember: ***"Topping off the tank" means waiting for a spill to occur!***

Even small amounts of gas, diesel and oil can kill or harm marine plants and animals. When fuel or oil is spilled you see a sheen on the water. This can be fatal to the many tiny animals that live in the water's surface layer. Juvenile fish and shellfish also depend on this surface "microlayer". Let's keep it healthy for them!

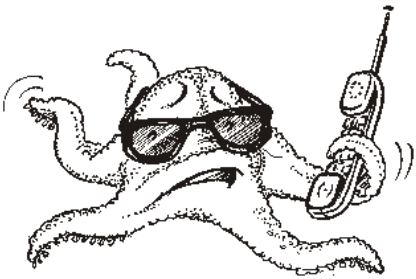
This symbol means there is more specific information available on our website.

Fuel dock operators point out that most marina fuel pumps are able to supply fuel much faster than small and medium sized boats are able to take it. The "kickback" effect or "burping" is a major source of fuel spills. The advice from marina operators is "don't rush your fuelling and don't worry about keeping other boats waiting for an extra minute or two".

Keeping it clean:

- ✓ Fill carefully! Plan to avoid spilling even one drop of fuel into the water.
- ✓ Know how much fuel you need, and feel for an increase in airflow from the vent - this means the tank is full. ***Remember:*** fuel expands on warm days!
- ✓ Don't transfer fuel between tanks when on the water. Carry reserve fuel in a container that connects to your engine.
- ✓ Don't rely on the automatic shutoff.
- ✓ Have fuel absorbent materials ready.
- ✓ Check fuel lines and fittings to ensure there are no leaks - this may save your life as well as the fish!
- ✓ When boating season is over fill tanks and add fuel stabilizer to protect engines and avoid the need to dispose of "bad fuel" in the spring.
- ✓ Never use soap to disperse fuel spills - this causes greater harm to the environment. And it's illegal!
- ✓ For safety, disperse any gasoline that has spilled into the water with a hose.
- ✓ All other spills must be contained with a spill kit - these should be available at all marinas. Dispose of used clean-up material as hazardous waste (see ***Disposal*** section).
- ✓ Put a "fuel saver" over your vent to catch spills and alert you that the tank is full.

Chemicals present in fuel react with sunlight to become up to 50,000 times more toxic - killing plankton and other species that are essential for a healthy marine environment.



Report all spills!
(Even spills of less than a litre are significant)
Contact Coast Guard on VHF 16
or 1-800-889-8852.

Be prepared to answer the following:

- Where, when and how did the spill occur?
- What kind of pollution is it?
- How much was spilled?
- What's the name of the person or vessel that caused the spill?

BATTLE OF THE BILGE

Oil, fuel, antifreeze and other fluids collect in the bilge and are then pumped overboard, often by automatic pumps. Bilge cleaners, degreasers and soaps - even biodegradable ones - increase harmful effects. These cleaners spread the pollution over a greater volume of water, harming greater numbers of fish and other marine life.

Half a litre of oil will cover an acre of surface water. If every one of the 200,000 boats on the coast spilt just ½ litre that would be a 200,000-acre oil slick! It all counts!

Keeping it clean:

- ✓ Don't pump oily bilge water overboard - if it discolours surface water ***it is pollution.*** This is a ***criminal offence!*** Large amounts of fuel or oil in the bilge must be pumped into a closed container and properly disposed of - ask your marina or marine mechanic for advice.
- ✓ Secure an oil absorbent pad in your bilge and check it often.
- ✓ Chronic fuel or oil in the bilge indicates a leak - check all fittings.
- ✓ To clean the bilge, pump out uncontaminated water and then wipe out the rest using an EcoLogo cleaner. Don't flush bilges with cleaners.
- ✓ Fit a drip tray under your engine to catch any leaks.
- ✓ Install a bilge filtration system.

Oil absorbing pads soak up the oil in your bilge, but not the water. These pads are very effective at keeping your bilge and the environment clean. When the pads are saturated, use gloves and wring out the oil into a container for recycling. Re-use the pad. To dispose of worn out pads see

ENGINE MAINTENANCE

Keeping it clean:

- ✓ Use an oil change pump to transfer oil to a spill-proof container, then cap this tightly.
- ✓ Slip a plastic bag over the oil filter before removing to prevent oil spilling into the bilge.
- ✓ Keep oil-absorbent pads handy to wipe up spills.
- ✓ Inspect and fix any leaks or drips.
- ✓ Antifreeze is harmful to marine life - use only when necessary. Propylene Glycol is the less toxic alternative.
- ✓ Dispose of oil, filters, contaminated absorbent pads and other materials correctly (see ***Disposal*** section).
- ✓ Use biodegradable oils whenever possible.

COMPLETELY EXHAUSTED

Conventional 2-stroke outboards discharge up to 25% of their fuel/oil mixture straight into the water - just think, if you used 20 gallons of fuel you might as well have poured a 5 gallon can of gas and oil into the water!!!

Motorized personal watercraft (jetskis) are bad for wildlife, water and air quality. They spill up to one-third of their fuel which is an estimated 600 million litres into U.S. waters each year, and discharge significant amounts of air emissions as well.

Keeping it clean:

- ✓ Always keep your engine well tuned.
- ✓ Choose 4-stroke or oil injected 2-stroke outboards instead of conventional 2-strokes. They're better for the environment, save fuel costs, and are quieter.
- ✓ Some new inboard diesel and gas engines produce less air pollution - consider this when choosing your next engine.

DISPOSAL INFORMATION

The following substances are listed as special household wastes and should ***only*** be disposed of at the appropriate facilities.
Never mix hazardous substances!

Substance	Disposal Information
Used oil	• www.usedoilrecycling.com • Some public docks and marinas
Oil filters	• www.usedoilrecycling.com • Canadian Tire Automotive centres • Some service stations (check first)
Oil absorbents	• Many places that collect oil filters. • www.usedoilrecycling.com
Stale or contaminated gas	• www.productcare.org • Service stations (check first)
Solvents & thinners	• www.productcare.org
Paints & varnishes etc.	• www.productcare.org • Some retailers
Antifouling paint	• www.productcare.org
Batteries	• Battery retailers • Local recycling depot
Antifreeze	• Service stations

B.C. Recycling Hotline: **1-800-667-4321** can provide information when you do not have web access.

Local Disposal Information		
Facility name	**Phone**	**Address**

DISPOSAL INFORMATION

The following substances are listed as special household wastes and should ***only*** be disposed of at the appropriate facilities.
Never mix hazardous substances!

Notes
Confirm disposal location before changing oil ***Do not mix fuel and oil!***
Drain first and dispose of oil as above.
Wring out and reuse (dispose of the liquid with used oil). Dispose of when no longer useable.
Store and transport only in "ULC" approved containers. ***Keep fuel out of oil collection facilities!***
Allow sediments to settle and then re-use.
Share product if still useable. (Some recycling depots have a paint sharing service.)
Store carefully and save for future use rather than disposing.
All antifreeze is harmful to marine life and should be recovered and recycled.

Notes (materials taken, hours etc.)

GREEN BOATING TIPS

- **Think!** Is what you put in the water safe? Remember, 350,000 boaters are doing the same thing!

- A recent survey found that most boaters would prefer marinas with high environmental standards. **Ask** your marina or yacht club to look at ways to improve its environmental performance. This includes facilities such as pump-outs and oil collection, as well as signs on docks showing how and where to dispose of waste products. See page 18 for more information.

- **Get involved!** There are many groups working to protect and restore the Strait and its watersheds. For ideas and information contact Georgia Strait Alliance: 250-753-3459 www.GeorgiaStrait.org

Reducing Greywater Discharges

Substances that are toxic to marine life are present in many products used to clean boats - even "biodegradable" products often contain harmful ingredients. ***Chlorine bleach*** is dangerous to marine life and can be a health risk for people.

Choosing environmentally friendly cleaning products can be confusing. In Canada, manufacturers don't have to substantiate claims such as "green" or "environmentally friendly". The best cleaning option is to use the alternatives on the following page. If you are buying cleaning products, here are some of the terms you may encounter.

Term	Explanation
Ecologo	The three-dove symbol indicates a degree of acceptability, but doesn't mean the product is harmless.
Biodegradable	Product naturally breaks down, but often into harmful components.
Surfactants	Surface active agents are in all soaps and detergents to create suds - they attach to fishes' gills, destroying their ability to breathe.
Chlorine	Found in bleach and other cleaning products, it forms the basis of dioxins and other deadly compounds that cause cancer and damage growth, development and reproduction in humans, fish and other wildlife.
Phosphate-Free	By law these products can still contain up to 1% phosphates.

Remember: Choose carefully!

Keeping it clean:

- ✓ Read labels and look for non-toxic, chlorine-free, phosphate-free products. Use the "EcoLogo" symbol as a guide to "less harmful" products.
- ✓ Minimize your use of soaps and detergents.
- ✓ Keep your boat waxed and wash with fresh water and a brush. Remember: use water carefully, as the Gulf Islands and other areas often have water shortages in the summer.
- ✓ Check out "Alternative Cleaners" (see page ?).

ALTERNATIVE CLEANERS

Many non-toxic cleaners for your boat can be made from ingredients you might already have on hand in the galley. Try these inexpensive alternatives!

Task	Alternative Cleaners
Decks	1 part vinegar to 8 parts water
Fibreglass	Baking soda and salt (in wet paste)
Aluminium	1 tbsp. cream of tartar in 1/2 litre hot water
Brass	Worcestershire sauce, vinegar and salt solution
Chrome	Vinegar and salt solution
Chrome/metal	Polish with baby oil
Copper	Lemon juice and salt solution
Clear Plastic/glass	1 part vinegar to 2 parts water
Mildew	Vinegar and salt solution or tea tree oil
Wood (interior)	Polish with olive oil
Bleaching	Hydrogen peroxide bleach (NOT chlorine bleach)
Scouring	Baking soda and water paste
Hair	Baby shampoo (phosphate-free & pH balanced)
Shower	Wet area & scour with baking soda
Toilet	Baking soda
Dishes	Use minimal amounts of dish soap. Choose non-petroleum based soaps (eg. Nature Clean)
Après cleaning	1 part rum to 2 parts fruit juice - mix with ice.

YOUR BABY'S BOTTOM

One of the greatest potential sources of pollution is the dryland area in marinas where boats are hauled out for cleaning. Most of us enjoy blasting away with the pressure washer to clean the bottom. Unfortunately, the paint residue that we remove is toxic and when we wash it down the storm drain it goes straight into the water. Very few marinas have installed recirculating systems because of the cost and the difficulty of disposing of the toxic sludge that is collected. Until these systems are in place, boaters can eliminate the problem by using a “drop sheet” to collect residue from cleaning, sanding or painting. Responsible marinas insist on this. Don't feel shy about suggesting this practice to other boaters.

Keeping it clean:

- ✓ Choose hard antifouling or new “non-fouling” paints.
- ✓ Only use a ***soft*** brush or cloth to clean your hull in the water - this prevents the release of toxic paint into the environment.
- ✓ Don't buy more than you need. Reseal and keep for future use.
- ✓ Avoid tide grids for sanding, scraping or painting. If other options are not available, use a groundsheet to collect spills as well as residue from sanding or scraping, then dispose of this properly.

Have your boat hauled out annually and plan to do any substantial work on dry land, where you can contain waste products and keep them out of the marine environment.

TOPSIDE WORK

Any foreign substance entering the water can hurt marine life. To minimize the risk, you should do most of your work on land. Follow these steps when minor dockside work can't be avoided - check with your marina for its policy on this.

Keeping it clean:

- ✓ Don't let anything fall in the water, including sanding dust, solvents, strippers etc. Choose water-soluble solvents.
- ✓ Ensure that sanders, grinders and other tools have dust collection fittings in place.
- ✓ ***Be prepared!*** Always have absorbent pads or rags on hand to contain spills.
- ✓ ***Contain the mess!*** Use tarps on the dock and between the dock and the boat to catch spills and other materials.
- ✓ Mix paints and other liquids on shore and have only small amounts open on the dock or boat at any time.

Never pour paint or other liquid wastes down storm drains or any other drain.

Before doing any work on your boat ask your marina or boatyard for a copy of Environment Canada's Best Management Practices. Become familiar with where to dispose of paints, solvents and other wastes.

GARBAGE IN - GARBAGE OUT

Trash is ugly and kills fish and wildlife. Plastics can foul props or engine intakes and cause expensive repairs.

In BC, 13,803 volunteers collected 2,924 bags (19,620 kg) of garbage in the 2003 Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup. Shoreline and recreational activity accounted for more trash than any other category.

Keeping it clean:

- ✓ Don't let trash get **thrown, blown or washed overboard.**
- ✓ Many remote areas do not have garbage facilities, so plan to bring back everything you take with you.
- ✓ Remember: “reduce, reuse, recycle”.

According to the U.S. Coast Guard, 30,000 fur seals die annually due to entanglement in plastic debris!

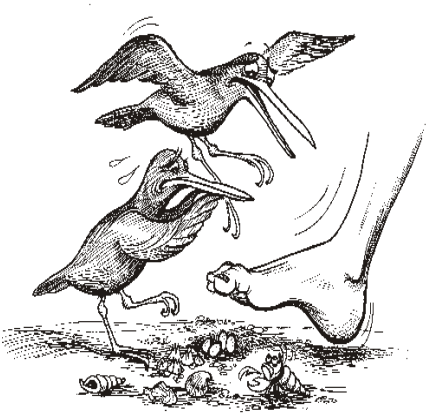
FOR THE BIRDS

Wildlife is sensitive to disturbance from people, boats and pets. Birds often abandon their nests and young, and feeding or other behaviour critical to survival can be disrupted.

Marine Birds

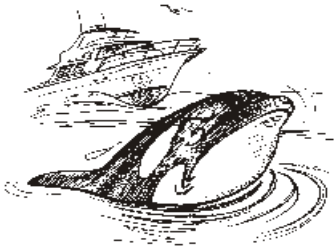
- ✓ Don't approach within 100 metres of bird colonies.
- ✓ Don't allow pets ashore where they can disturb birds or nests - this can easily kill young birds.
- ✓ Marine birds often nest on the ground or in burrows on small islets, cliffs and shorelines. These nests are difficult to see - ***so be careful!*** For more information contact the Canadian Wildlife Service: (604) 666-0143.
- ✓ Respect ecological reserves - these are identified on charts.

There are only 11,000 oystercatchers left in the world. Between April and August they build camouflaged nests near the shoreline of small islets or spits. These are easy to disturb without even knowing you’ve done so.



Marine Mammals

- ✓ Stay at least 100 metres from whales, porpoises and other marine mammals, and 200 metres from seal or sea lion haulouts.
- ✓ If you're lucky enough to get to travel with whales, always go parallel with their direction (don't cut across their path or stop just in front of them).
- ✓ Avoid erratic manoeuvres, and never chase whales or other animals. Minimize your wake and engine noise. The federal Fisheries Act makes it illegal to disturb marine mammals.
- ✓ Report observed violations or harassment of marine mammals to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans: 1-800-465-4336.
- ✓ For more detailed information on marine mammals and further viewing guidelines contact the Georgia Strait Alliance: (250) 753-3459.



Propeller scars are common on many marine mammals - use caution when they are near.

Did you know the southern resident population of Orcas is now officially endangered ?

SENSITIVE AREAS

River and stream estuaries: up to 80% of BC's wildlife relies on estuaries at some part of its life cycle - especially important to juvenile and spawning salmon and marine birds.

Keep all pollution out of the water e.g. oil, soap, sewage etc. Avoid running motors in shallow waters.

Eelgrass/kelp beds: key habitat for juvenile fish, crabs and shorebirds.

Anchors can damage these areas. Use fixed moorings instead where possible.

Shellfish areas: clams and oysters are an important economic resource on the coast. These and other filter feeders are very sensitive to pollution.

Never discharge sewage or other pollution in these areas. Take care to not damage shellfish beds with anchors, dinghies or other activities.

Enclosed bays, narrow channels: these experience very little exchange of water and tend to accumulate pollution.

Never discharge sewage or other pollution in these areas.

AN INVESTMENT IN FISH

Marine protected areas, or marine reserves, can be effective in protecting habitat and restoring declining species like rockfish. Rockfish - actually 36 different species in BC waters - can live for up to a century and need to reach their teens in order to reproduce. When younger fish are caught before they have a chance to breed, the species is unable to sustain itself. Setting aside protected marine areas for these and other species can go a long way to addressing this.

Protected areas are already established in the terrestrial world. In British Columbia, more than 12% of our land has protected status. But for our coastal waters, it's less than 1%.

Marine reserves work. A survey of about 100 of these areas around the world showed that after just two years of protection, the number of fish grew on average by 91%, and the average size and number of species increased as well. These benefits spilled out around the reserves, benefiting fishermen. For example:

- *The waters around Cape Canaveral have been off limits to fishing for a number of years for security reasons. The closure has actually been a bonanza for anglers. Fish are more abundant, more diverse and larger--so big that sport fishers working the waters around the zone are catching a record number of trophy fish.*

- *In St Lucia, a third of the country's fishing grounds were designated as marine reserves in 1995. Within three years, commercially important fish stocks had doubled in the adjacent areas.*

Marine protected areas can come in many different forms and no two will be exactly alike. Initiatives to watch in southwestern BC include:

- *Orca Pass:* Canadian and US citizen groups are working to have the waters between the Gulf and San Juan Islands recognized as an International Stewardship Area, and to create marine reserves within this area, where needed, to conserve species in decline. For info: Georgia Strait Alliance (www.GeorgiaStrait.org).

- *Rockfish Conservation Areas:* 89 small areas (mostly in Georgia and Johnstone Straits) have interim closures on some types of fishing in order to conserve rockfish. Be sure to familiarize yourself with the locations and regulations before

  www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/recfish/Rockfish_Maps_2004/default_e.htm

- *Strait of Georgia National Marine Conservation Area:* A large, multiple-use area in the southern Strait, to be established over the next several years. For info: Parks Canada (www.pc.gc.ca/progs/amnc-nmca/index_E.asp)

- *Race Rocks:* One of four Marine Protected Area pilot projects. For info: Fisheries and Oceans (www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/oceans/mpa/default_e.htm)

CLEAN MARINE B.C.

Is your marina a clean marina?

The ***Clean Marine BC*** policy below can help you determine where a marina is at as far as being truly green is concerned.

Does your marina/boatyard/harbour authority/yacht club…

A) Understand and recognize the vital importance of maintaining a clean natural environment as being fundamental to its activities?

B). Accept and adopt those best management principles and operating practices that are appropriate to its operation, by committing itself to the best of its ability to:

1. Eliminate the release of contaminants to the water column, both directly and indirectly.
2. Minimize the release of pollutants to the atmosphere.
3. Avoid contamination of the ground.
4. Adopt waste reduction, reuse and recycling strategies.
5. Optimize energy and water conservation.
6. Promote good environmental practices to all parties.
7. Abide by and, where possible, exceed the requirements of all relevant legislation?

C) Introduce sound environmental practices into every aspect of its operation; train its employees to understand and implement those practices; and provide the resources that are needed?

D Integrate an environmental philosophy into the contract between the marina and its customers?

E) Make all suppliers and subcontractors aware of the environmental commitment of the marina and encourage them to adopt the same good practices where appropriate?

F) Also commit itself to an ongoing program of self-evaluation and strive to continually upgrade and improve its environmental performance in light of future developments in marina management techniques and product availability?

Get your marina involved in the voluntary Clean Marine BC
– Marina Eco-rating program. Visit our website for more details **www.georgiastrait.org** or email the program coordinator at **cmbc@georgiastrait.org**

WHO TO CALL

- **Coast Guard** (marine spills - 24 hours): **Coast Guard** on **VHF 16** or **1-800-889-8852**
- **Provincial Emergency Program** (24 hours - spills of dangerous materials): **1-800-663-3456**
- **Department of Fisheries and Oceans** (Violations of fishing/shell fishing regulations) **1-800-465-4336**
- **B.C. Recycling Hotline and Household Special Wastes: 1-800-667-4321**
- **Canadian Wildlife Service: (604) 666-0143**
- **Marine Mammal Research Group** (marine mammal sightings) at **1-800-665-5939**
- **Office of Boating Safety: 1-800-267-6687**

Solutions for a healthy Strait of Georgia depend on you. We want your comments and feedback. Please contact Georgia Strait Alliance at 250 753-3459 or gsa@GeorgiaStrait.org.

Help care for our cruising waters.

Georgia Strait Alliance is the only grassroots organization working to protect the whole of the Strait of Georgia and its waterways -- truly one of the world's finest cruising grounds. With its rich marine life and natural environment, the region is a boater's paradise. Please help ensure that future generations get a chance to enjoy these magnificent waters too, by sending a tax-deductible donation today to:

Georgia Strait Alliance
195 Commercial Street
Nanaimo, BC V9R 5G5

Nanaimo: (250) 753-3459
Vancouver: (604) 633-0530

Caring for our Coastal Waters
www.GeorgiaStrait.org

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