

Smart Harbors

Raising the Standard

Winter 2015

Happy New Year

I hope 2015 finds everyone well! 2014 was a busy year with opportunities to reach an expanded audience and interact with colleagues from various agencies on a number of diverse projects.

One of the projects that affects the marina industry involves pressure washing. In August, representatives from the [Virginia Clean Marina Program](#) and the [Virginia Marine Trades Association](#) (VMTA) met with representatives from the Department of Environmental Quality Regional and Central Offices to discuss the management of pressure wash wastewater at marinas and boatyards. The discussion is continuing and VMTA and the Clean Marina program will monitor any developments and assist the industry as needed.

Another exciting project was participation on Virginia's Marine Debris Leadership Team. The team was comprised of professionals in the recycling industry, marine debris consultants, biologists, business owners and officials representing state and local governments. The culmination of efforts led to the development of the [Marine Debris Reduction Plan for Virginia](#) (Katie Register, Executive Director, Clean Virginia Waterways).

As always, visiting with all of you at your facilities was the highlight of the year. Happy 2015!

Thank you all for your support of the Virginia Clean Marina Program.

Anne Smith
Virginia Clean
Marina Program



Pressure Wash Wastewater at Marinas

The August meeting with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), VMTA and the Virginia Clean Marina Program was the first time in recent years that representatives from the industry and DEQ met to discuss the possibility of developing a regulatory document specifically for stormwater at marinas that would address pressure wash wastewater. Some of the methods that were previously acceptable methods for managing pressure wash wastewater at marinas are in violation of the [Clean Water Act](#).

Depending on how DEQ proceeds with the development of regulatory guidance, there may be opportunities for public comment. If this is the case, VMTA and the Clean Marina program will keep all of you informed about dates, locations and methods for public comment.



Tips for Managing Pressure Wash Wastewater

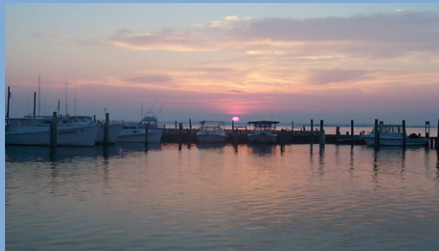
- ≈ Vessel wash areas in Chesapeake Bay Preservation Areas must be located outside of the Resource Protection Area; typically a 100 foot vegetated buffer. Check with your locality if you are unsure of the regulations in your area.
- ≈ All pollutants must be removed from pressure wash wastewater before it may be discharged. At a minimum allow large particles to settle out. More thorough treatment involves filtration or chemical or physical techniques to treat the pressure wash wastewater. Some methods include filtration devices such as screens, filter fabrics, oil/water separators, sand filters and hay bales to remove particles. Chemical treatment relies on the addition of some type of catalyst to cause the heavy metals and paint solids to settle out of the water.
- ≈ Collect all debris. Allow the debris to dry and dispose of with your standard waste after checking with your waste hauler. Your waste hauler may require a Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure test before accepting the debris. If it is determined that the debris is hazardous, bring the debris to a facility authorized to manage municipal or industrial solid waste.
- ≈ Pressure wash over an impermeable surface that has a berm that allows the wastewater to evaporate and the solid debris to be collected.
- ≈ Filter and capture the wastewater in a holding tank and contract with a hazardous waste hauler to pump and haul the wastewater as needed.
- ≈ When pressure washing ablative paint, use the least amount of pressure necessary to remove the growth. Consider using a garden hose and a soft cloth.
- ≈ Alternatively, there are many companies that manufacture zero discharge systems that filter and/or treat and then recycle the wash water.
- ≈ In preparing your Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plans, document your BMPs to show that you are taking steps to prevent the introduction of pollutants into navigable waters and the ground water supply.

For more information please refer to the [Virginia Clean Marina Guidebook](#).

Working Waterfronts

As many of you know, Virginia is very involved with the National Working Waterfronts Network. On February 26, 2014, the Virginia Institute of Marine Science hosted a Working Waterfront Summit. This Summit focused on issues that threaten the viability of Working Waterfronts in Virginia and built on the inaugural National Working Waterfront Symposium that was held in 2007 in Norfolk. Since the Norfolk Symposium, National Symposiums were held in 2010 (Portland, Maine) and in 2013 (Tacoma, Washington). The next National Symposium is November 16-19, 2015 in Tampa, Florida.

The report "Rural Chesapeake Bay/ Seaside of Virginia Working Waterfront Coalition Phase 2 - Virginia Summit" summarizes the efforts in Virginia.



Please send us your News!

Do you have a new and exciting method for managing recyclables at your facility? Are there any regulatory items that you would like addressed? Has your facility won an award, hired a new manager or purchased a fancy pump-out boat? If you have any news that you would like included in the Clean Marina Newsletter, Smart Harbors, please let us know. This is a quarterly newsletter with the next issue scheduled for April 2015 and we would like to include information from the marina community.

Comments or questions:

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Whitehouse Cove Marina Receives National Award

Whitehouse Cove Marina on Bennett's Creek in Poquoson won the prestigious Marinas and Harbors award at the 2014 States Organization for Boating Access Conference on Wednesday, October 8th. The conference, held in Little Rock, Arkansas is an annual conference that brings together boating access professionals from across the country.

The Marinas and Harbors Award recognizes a facility that is a "multi-faceted recreational boating facility which may include full-service marinas, transient dockage facilities, breakwaters, day-use boat launching and various related upland amenities."

Whitehouse Cove received a nationally competitive Boating Infrastructure Grant that helped fund transient slips and a portion of the upland amenities at their marina. Congratulations to the Brown's and Whitehouse Cove Marina!



Anne Smith presents the prestigious award to Craig Brown. (Photo by Cheryl Harvey Teagle.)

Clean Vessel Act Review

The Clean Vessel Act (CVA), 50 CFR 85, is up for review by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). The current CVA proposed rule change website, hosted by the FWS, Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program, Division of Programs and Policy staff, is available [here](#). The website includes the three hosted webinars to date, notes on each of the hosted webinars, opportunity to comment and information on proposed rule changes.

The CVA provides money for the installation of vessel sewage pump-out and dump stations. Funds for the CVA are provided by the Sport Fish and Boating Trust Fund through excise taxes collected on motor boat fuel and fishing equipment. The grant covers up to 75% of the cost of the purchase, installation and maintenance (up to \$1000 a year for maintenance) of pump-out and dump stations. Funds may also be used for the purchase of sewage pump-out boats and floating restrooms. A portion of the funds awarded to each state is used for education and outreach activities. For information about CVA funds in Virginia, please contact Preston Smith with the Virginia Department of Health, Preston.Smith@vdh.virginia.gov, 804-864-7468.

Four New Clean Marinas

There are currently 74 certified Virginia Clean Marinas. Congratulations to the most recently certified Virginia Clean Marinas:

- ≈ Dandy Haven Marina, Hampton
- ≈ Eco Discovery Park, James City County
- ≈ Kingsmill Marina, James City County
- ≈ Top Rack Marina, Chesapeake



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