



THE CHANGING TIDE

A California Clean Boating Network Publication

Presented by the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation

in cooperation with the California Integrated Waste Management Board

Volume 4, Issue 1

The Bilge Pad In - The Oil Out! Dana Point Harbor Gets Cleaner

Last summer, during the 2nd Annual National Clean Boating Week, Dana Point Harbor kicked off its new Bilge Pad Exchange Program. This program, which represents a partnership between the County of Orange, Dana Point Marina Company, Dana West Marina and the Dana Point Fuel Dock, was launched to encourage bilge pad use and recycling among boaters who frequent Dana Point Harbor.

On July 17, 1999 tables were set up at various locations around the harbor to promote the program and to provide boaters with informational flyers describing its purpose and how they can participate. Approximately 150 boaters attending the event received start-up pads, boater kits, shop towels and oil exchange containers. A second outreach event was held in conjunction with the Dana Point Tall Ships Festival in September, 1999. Over 5000 people attended the festival and over 450 boaters visited the Orange County Marine Institute where additional bilge pads were distributed.

Self-service bilge pad exchange opportunities are currently available at each marina, as well as at the fuel dock. At both marinas, new pads and used-pad disposal drums are available for tenants (key access only). At the fuel dock, pads and disposal drums are available to all boaters and are accessible during operating hours. The new bilge pads are supplied by the County of Orange for free to the harbor's fuel dock and marinas through a program supported by Used Oil Block Grant funds. Such funds are available to cities and counties throughout the state who promote used oil education, recycling and disposal opportunities for their residents. By participating in the program, boaters are not only

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Something for Nothing

The *Southern California Boater's Guide*, a 108-page, full color comprehensive guide to recreational and environmentally-friendly boating, is available for free on the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Project's web site! Visit <http://www.smbay.org/GUIDE/672.htm> to get your copy.

Each section of the Guide has been saved as a separate PDF file which can be downloaded and viewed using Adobe's Acrobat Reader. If you plan to visit, or would like information for just one harbor, downloading the information is now a cinch. Each file contains a short overview of the harbor and information on how to get a guest slip, harbor rules and ordinances, local recreational activities and events, and where to dispose of boat waste.

The following PDF files are available: (If you do not have Acrobat Reader, our page also provides a link to Adobe's home page where you can download that program.)

Introduction

General Boating Information
Boating Clean and Green
Quick Reference Guide

Santa Barbara Harbor
Ventura Harbor
Channel Islands Harbor
Channel Islands National Park & Marine Sanctuary
Marina del Rey Harbor
Redondo Beach - King Harbor
Los Angeles Harbor
Long Beach Harbor (Downtown Shoreline and Alamitos Bay)
Catalina Island (Avalon and Two Harbors)

Huntington Beach Harbour
Newport Harbor
Dana Point Harbor
Oceanside Harbor
Mission Bay
San Diego Harbor

If you would like to purchase the full color original, they are still available from the SMBRF for \$15.00 per copy plus \$3.30 for shipping (multiple orders have reduced shipping costs). To place an order, Please call Stephanie McDonald at 213/576-6641 or email your request to: smcdonal@rb4.swrcb.ca.gov.

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The SMBRF and CIWMB are working together to implement an educational program that promotes the recycling of boat-generated used motor oil.

“Launching” an Informational Message

The California Coastal Commission and the California Integrated Waste Management Board developed this informational sign to be posted at launch ramps throughout California. These signs, part of the Coastal Commission’s statewide Clean and Green Campaign, provide boaters with information about how to recycle their motor oil and other hazardous waste. The ultimate goal of the Campaign is to educate boaters on ways to prevent sources of pollution from reaching California’s waterways.

In support of the Campaign, the SMBRF has partnered with the US Coast Guard Auxiliary to post these signs at launch ramps throughout Southern California, including Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego County marinas. For more information or to have signs posted in your area, contact Stefanie Hada at 213/576-6648 or at shada@rb4.swrcb.ca.gov.

Dumping oil and other waste is *ILLEGAL!*

To Recycle Oil and Other Wastes
1(800)CLEANUP

For Sewage Pumpout Locations
1(800)ASKFISH

To Report Oil and Chemical Spills
1(800)424-8802
1(800)852-7550

**Our Playground...
 Their World**

HELP KEEP CALIFORNIA WATERWAYS CLEAN

- Recycle Used Motor Oil and Filters
- For Recycling Locations, Call 1-800-CLEANUP
- Keep Oil Out of the Barge — Use a Barge Pod
- Use Re-Refined Motor Oil in Your Boat and Car

from curb to coast

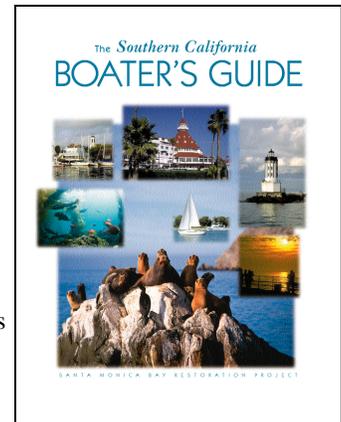
This eye-catching poster was originally created by the City of Los Angeles as part of its comprehensive Storm Water Educational Campaign (in partnership with the County of Los Angeles). The *upper portion* of the original version depicted a street curb and gutter with the “No Dumping, This Drains to Ocean” message stenciled over the top of the curb. The stencil was intended to help community residents make the connection that storm drains discharge untreated waste directly to the ocean. Unfortunately, much of what is thrown into the storm drains ends up on Southern California’s beaches and contaminates swimming areas. Last year alone, more than 4555,000 lbs of trash were collected from California’s beaches on Coastal Clean-up Day. Weekly clean-ups by school children and the Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors add to the amount collected each year.

To encourage boaters to help prevent coastal water pollution, the SMBRF collaborated with the artist (a City of Los Angeles employee) to develop this new scenic version - one which links marine life, recreational enthusiasts and boaters. The image now conveys the message that: 1) boaters share this aqua-playground with a plethora of marine life and other recreational users, 2) their activities can and sometimes do impact coastal waters, 3) there are proper ways to dispose of boating waste to better protect the marine environment.

The posters are now available and are being distributed to boaters, marine supply shops, marina and yacht clubs, as well as to local government agencies. If your marina, yacht club or marine supply store would like copies to distribute, please contact Stefanie Hada at 213/576-6648 or via email at shada@rb4.swrcb.ca.gov

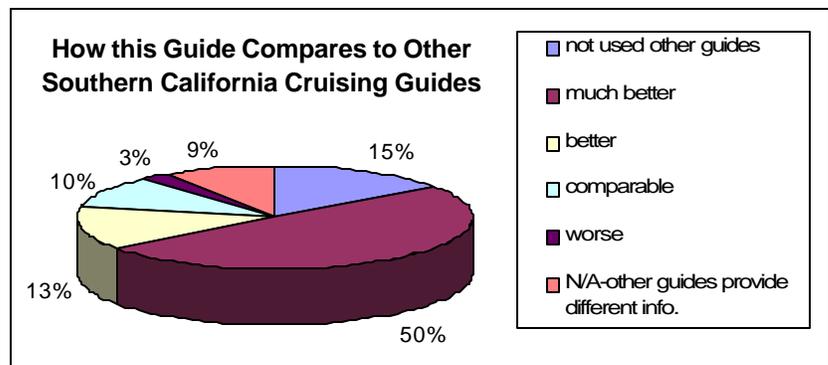
For Love of the Guide

In the last issue of *The Changing Tide*, we highlighted the recreational and environmental habits of boaters based on 239 survey cards returned to the SMBRP. These tear-out survey cards were included with the Southern California Boater's Guide that we produced last year to help us focus our educational efforts. The Guide also contained an informational card asking boaters to provide their opinions about the Guide's layout, usefulness, and harbor information once they had had a chance to use it. Based on the scores given (below), we are proud to say that the Boater's Guide has proven to be a highly valuable resource for Southern California boating communities. Here's how well each statement scored (on a scale of one (1) to five (5), five being best):



Score Category

- 4.83 The layout of the Guide is easy to follow.
- 4.77 The layout of each harbor section is easy to follow.
- 4.48 The General Boating section is informative and useful.
- 4.61 The Harbors section is informative and useful.
- 4.46 The Clean and Green section is informative and useful.
- 4.56 The information contained in the Guide will encourage me to visit more harbors in Southern California.
- 4.27 The information contained in this Guide will encourage me to use more recycling/disposal facilities.
- 4.44 The Guide increased my awareness of Southern California's ocean resources and the impact that boating activities can have on the marine environment.



63% of respondents rated the Southern California Boater's Guide as "much better" or "better" than other guides they have used.

We want to extend a very special thank you to the marinas who collected and returned survey cards for us and to the boaters who mailed their cards in directly. The information provided on these cards is helping us focus educational efforts where they are most needed in the boating community. Currently, the SMBRF is working on a number of innovative outreach projects including: 1) efforts to increase recycling and hazardous disposal opportunities for boaters in each harbor, 2) educating mobile maintenance workers about how their activities can contribute to polluting marina waters and 3) increasing the number of reliable pumpout facilities available in each harbor.

(The Bilge Pad In ...continued from page 1)

reducing oily-water discharges, but are also helping to clean up and protect Dana Point Harbor.

What Makes This Pad So Special, You Ask?

Each bilge pad is a 100% polypropylene, hydrophobic pillow that is placed in the boat where bilge water collects. The pads absorb up to one gallon of oil while repelling water. Once saturated, the pad should be removed and exchanged for a new one at any one of the harbor facilities mentioned above. Since every pint of oil absorbed by these pads prevents oil pollution to one acre of the water's surface, participation in this program makes a real difference in keeping the ocean and harbor waters cleaner.

An additional benefit of the program is that the used pads are incinerated and used as fuel for generators (another form of recycling) rather than being discarded as hazardous waste.

Since its start in July last year, the Bilge Pad Exchange Program has been well received by the boating community. Dana Point Harbor's marinas and fuel dock report that bilge pads are being used and recycled at an increasing rate, and boaters are starting to see the difference. For more information about this program, contact Steve Kim with the County of Orange at (714) 667-3709.

SANTA BARBARA, VENTURA, LOS ANGELES, ORANGE, San bernardino & riverside COUNTIES

tide-bits

did you know...

- The amount of trash dumped at sea in one year (14 billion lbs.) is more than double the total US fish catch in one year (6 billion lbs.)!
- The typical personal watercraft vessel operated for 7 hours pollutes as much as a 1998 automobile driven 100,000 miles.
- The Southern California Boater's Guide is now available online. See this issue's cover story, "*Getting Something For Nothing.*"
- Later this year, the SMBRF will launch a new educational program to address pollutants generated from hull cleaning activities.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Earth Faire 2000: Saturday, April 22, 2000 11:00 a.m - 8:00 p.m. at Exposition Park, Los Angeles

Since it was first celebrated in 1970, Earth Day has grown in importance and spectacle around the world. Locally, Heal the Bay and many other organizations have joined forces to sponsor EarthFaire 2000 on Saturday, April 22 at Exposition Park in Downtown Los Angeles from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Held for the previous two years at Santa Monica Pier, the event attracted 25,000 visitors from all over the Los Angeles area. This year, event organizers expect the number of visitors to double. The theme is "Sustainability," which is usually defined as "the ability to meet current needs without compromising the ability of future generations to do the same." In other words, ensuring that we are good stewards of our precious natural resources so that our kids and grandkids will be able to enjoy their benefits as much as we have! We invite the public to visit the SMBRF's booth, which we will host along with TreePeople, to learn about the impacts of pollution on our environment. In addition, the Clean Energy Fair will display alternative-fueled vehicles and information booths on alternate types of power that are better for human health and the environment. There will be lots of food and plenty of music and fun, so bring the whole family to EarthFaire 2000. For more information on this event, please visit www.earthdayla.org. See you there!



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