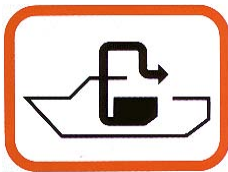


Important Note: The following text is excerpted directly from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's publication, *Environmental Compliance, Pollution Prevention, and Self Assessment Guide for the Marina Industry*. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Pollution Prevention Unit. March 2003. The only changes that have been made are the addition of links to pertinent resources or regulations and Editor's Notes, where appropriate.

Marine Vessel Waste Pump Out and Dump Stations

Currently, there are no statewide mandates or regulations requiring that marinas install a pump out or dump station at their facility, but there may be local laws which require such installation. Many municipalities also require permits for the installation and/or operation of a pump out and/or dump station. Marina operators should contact their local governing agencies to determine all pertinent requirements.



TECHNICAL GUIDELINES FOR CONSTRUCTION

Pump out and dump stations should:

- provide an efficient means of removing sewage from boats and a means of disposing of that sewage in a safe and sanitary manner.
- include all the equipment, structures and disposal facilities necessary to ultimately discharge or dispose of

boat sewage in an efficient, safe and sanitary manner without causing an actual or potential health hazard.

- include equipment for rinsing boat holding tanks.
- be operated and maintained to provide adequate service and be maintained to function as intended.
- be reliable, corrosion resistant, easy to use, neat, tidy and low maintenance.
- be conveniently located and easy to use to encourage boaters to use the facility.

All pumps should be:

- specifically designed for handling sewage
- safe, functional and efficient. S able to pump against the maximum head developed by elevation changes and line losses.
- able to transport flows out of the holding tank.
- properly sized. Pumps exceeding 45 gallons per minute may cause tanks to collapse.
- designed with a suction connection to the boat which shall be a tight fit and adjustable by adapters to service boat discharge connections.

Holding tanks:

- capacity should be determined based on several factors, including boat size and use patterns.
- should be sized on a case-by-case basis.
- should be designed and installed to meet local regulations.

APPROPRIATE METHODS FOR DISPOSAL OF VESSEL SEWAGE

Vessel sewage, known as sanitary waste, contains bacteria and viruses that can cause a variety of diseases such as hepatitis, typhoid, cholera, and acute gastroenteritis. In addition to bacteria and viruses, vessel sewage may contain harmful nutrients and biological oxygen demand (BOD) loadings on the waters of the state.

Publicly Owned Treatment Works

The preferred method of disposal, whenever available, is to discharge to a publicly owned treatment works (POTW). All approvals and permits involved in this type of connection are the responsibility of the applicant.

Holding Tank

In the case of a stationary facility, the pumpout will be directly connected to the holding tank. In the case of a portable unit, there must be a connection provided for sanitary disposal of the waste. Discharge to a holding tank involves removal and transport of the waste by a person licensed to haul septage waste to a municipal receiving/treatment facility. The name of the person contracted to do this must be provided at the time of the final inspection of the facility. All approvals and permits are the responsibility of the applicant. Sizing of the holding tank is dependent on the boat size and use patterns at each facility and the anticipated frequency of waste removal from the tank.

On-site Treatment

This includes discharge to a septic system or an on-site treatment plant. The marina owner must be aware that the unique nature of pumpout waste can often adversely affect the proper functioning of an on-site

system and the services of an engineer will be required to determine if on-site treatment is feasible. (Septic systems and on-site systems are designed to handle only sewage and not industrial or hazardous wastes.)

NOTE: New York State is a participant in the Clean Vessel Act funding program that provides marina operators assistance with costs of installing and renovating recreational marine vessel pumpout and dump stations. For further information on the Clean Vessel Assistance Program, contact the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation at 1-800-882-9721, or visit the [Web site, www.nysefc.org](http://www.nysefc.org).