

## **TOWN OF COMOX – MUNICIPAL MARINA**

### **GRID RENTAL APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Please read all the attachments in regard to environmental concerns and requirements as you will be acknowledging that you have read the information when you sign the waiver.
2. Complete and sign the waiver.
3. There is information on the tides and grid height for your review.
4. It will be your responsibility to determine what tide, grid, and date would be appropriate for your vessel. Refer to a tide chart (search online) to pick a time best suited for your vessel.
5. Return the completed package with the signed waiver, your payment, what Grid you would like to book, the date, alternative dates would be helpful.
6. The Town needs to receive the payment and the signed documentation before the grid can be reserved.



## ENVIRONMENTAL ETIQUETTE

### **SPILL RESPONSE:**

- Stop, contain and minimize the environment effects of the spill;
- Notify the Municipal Marina Caretaker immediately at telephone 250-331-5651 or the Town Hall at telephone 339-2202; and
- Report spills exceeding 100 litres by phoning 1-800-663-3456.

### **LUBRICATION WASTES:**

- Never drain engine oil into the bilge;
- Repair engine and tank leaks immediately;
- Put lubricating oil into waste oil collection tank on the west side of Municipal gangway approach; and
- Follow posted instructions on container use.

### **HULL SCRAPING: \*\*\*POWER WASHING IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED\*\*\***

- Keep paint debris from entering the marine environment.
- Collect debris left over after scraping in a tarp or drop-sheet.
- Dispose of hull scrapings in dedicated disposal bin clearly marked "GRID DISPOSAL".

### **BOAT PAINTING:**

- Paint by hand (rollers or brushes only); and
- Use tarpaulins or drop-sheets at all times to contain paint and other finishing debris.

### **LEAD ACID BATTERIES:**

- Do not put batteries in the refuse bins or leave them on municipal property; and
- Take batteries to a recycler or return to retailer.

### **REFUSE:**

- Place garbage in dedicated refuse bins – east and west gangway approaches; and
- Return recyclables to retailers or recycling depots in Town.
- The code for the refuse bins is **2022**.

### **PARKING:**

- Clean-up oil leaked from your vehicle; and
- Please advise Marina Caretaker of any spills noticed in parking area.



## **CLEAN AND GREEN SOLUTIONS - BOAT MAINTENANCE**

Maintaining a boat is not only necessary, but also never-ending! As soon as you have finished one project, the list of things that need attention has grown twofold. Many products that boaters use to clean, maintain, and repair boats are particularly harmful to the environment.

Marine cleaning products are typically more toxic than most household cleaners. They contain potent caustics and corrosives, which are harmful to the marine environment. Products containing phosphates, such as soap and detergents, can cause excessive algae growth, which depletes the oxygen necessary to sustain marine life. A high concentration of phosphate soaps can also cause fish to suffocate by destroying the natural oil on fish gills that helps them take in oxygen. In addition, many detergents contain heavy metals, which bio-accumulate through the food chain.

Any work conducted on or near the water greatly increases the threat to the marine environment. Spills from paint and other products are hard to prevent and even harder to contain. What can you do to minimize the impact of maintaining and repairing your vessels? Here are some tips for minimizing the need for heavy duty cleaning products, controlling leaks, spills and discharges and finding alternatives to toxic products.

### **1. CHOOSE THE RIGHT BOTTOM PAINT**

As marine suppliers have recognized the need to supply more environmentally friendly bottom coatings, boaters have an increasing choice of alternatives to conventional anti-fouling paints. Here are some of the alternatives available:

- epoxiated vinyls offer good adhesion to many traditional paints and still contain anti-fouling properties to control marine growth on the hull;
- copper co-polymer or "hard copper" paints are effective and long-lasting; and
- new coatings, such as silicon and Teflon, are also available and rely upon their physical properties rather than toxic biocides to inhibit marine growth.

### **2. FREQUENT CLEANING**

You can minimize marine growth and extend the life of your bottom coating by giving the hull a good wipe with a non-abrasive sponge.



### **3. CHOOSE PAINTS WITH LOW VOC CONTENT**

Whether bottom paint, topside paint or varnish, approximately 40 percent of the volume of the paint can consist of solvents and other ingredients that evaporate out of the paint while the film is curing. Look for water-based and low Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) anti-fouling paints.

### **4. READ THE PAINT CAN LABEL**

After bottom paint is applied, don't clean the hull before the amount of time prescribed by the paint manufacturer.

### **5. FREQUENT LESS TOXIC CLEANING**

Many boat soaps still contain phosphates, which contribute to algae growth that depletes the water of oxygen. Without oxygen, fish cannot survive. Boat cleaning products often contain other toxins, such as arsenic and degreasing agents, which are lethal to fish.

- Reduce your need to use harmful soaps by scrubbing and rinsing with fresh water a few times during the boating season;
- use only phosphate-free and chlorine-free bio-degradable soaps; and
- use products conservatively - rather than dousing your deck with soap, apply small amounts with a cloth and wipe it up.

### **6. NO DISCHARGE SURFACE PREPARATION**

The goal should always be to keep all dust, paint, wood chips, chemical strippers and metal shavings from entering the water. Here are some tips for keeping toxins and debris out of the water:

- use vacuum sanders or grinders which automatically collect and store paint, varnish or wood dust before it can get into the environment;
- always keep a supply of absorbent rags or pads within easy reach to address small spills;
- use tarps or drop sheets to catch paint and other contaminants that may be scraped off the hull;
- mix paints on land, **NOT** on the dock. Use drip pans and containment trays. Always mix paints on a tarp or some other form of containment; and
- use smaller containers (i.e. gallon cans). The smaller the container, the smaller the spill and the less you have left over.



## NOTIFICATION TO BOAT OWNERS

Effective immediately, power washing on the Town of Comox tidal grids is **strictly prohibited**. The Ministry of Environment has given explicit instruction to all tidal grid owners in Coastal British Columbia to minimize any and all threats of toxic materials, including anti-fouling paint wash from entering any and all fish bearing waters. The Town of Comox **will** allow hand scraping and collection of bottom growth by means of a tarp on the Municipal Grids.

A dedicated disposal bin for hull scrapings will be located adjacent to the grids, clearly identified as "GRID DISPOSAL". This bin is not intended for any waste other than what is scraped and collected from the vessels hull. Please fully read the Boat Maintenance and Environmental Etiquette literature affixed to the Grid Waiver Agreement when processing your grid rental with the Comox Town Hall.

Help us ensure this facility remains open by complying with the Comox Municipal Grid Usage Environmental Etiquette.

If you have any questions regarding these requirements, please email: [marina@comox.ca](mailto:marina@comox.ca)



## **COMOX VALLEY REGIONAL DISTRICT – STAGE 3 WATER RESTRICTIONS**

The Town of Comox operates under the Comox Valley Regional District's Water Conservation Bylaw. From time-to-time, water restrictions are implemented throughout the Comox Valley for various reasons.

When Stage 3 water restrictions are implemented, washing of vehicles and boats with water is prohibited. If you have reserved the Grid and Stage 3 restrictions are implemented, you will not be able to wash your boat with water.

Please ensure you check for water restrictions, which are in place, on the date of your Grid rental. You can visit our website at [comox.ca](http://comox.ca) or the Comox Valley Regional District's website at [comoxvalleyrd.ca](http://comoxvalleyrd.ca). In addition, various notice boards have been placed throughout the Valley showing the current stage of water restrictions.

Should your Grid rental be affected by Stage 3 restrictions, you have the option of rebooking for a later date, or requesting a refund (less the 10% admin fee).



**(Updated May, 2009)**

# Comox Municipal Marina

## Depth of water over Comox Grids

### HEIGHT OF TIDE

IN FEET	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
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### DEPTH OF WATER

COVERING GRID #1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	4
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### DEPTH OF WATER

COVERING GRID #2	0	0	0	0.5	1.5	2.5	3.5	4.5	5.5
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GRID USERS ARE REMINDED THAT THE ABOVE FIGURES ONLY APPLY UNDER "STANDARD" CONDITIONS. ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE, WIND DIRECTION AND TEMPERATURE ALL AFFECT HEIGHT OF TIDES, AND ACTUAL DEPTH OF WATER CAN VARY, DEPENDING ON THESE FACTORS. HOWEVER, UNLESS THESE VARIATIONS ARE EXTREME, THE ABOVE FIGURES ARE APPROXIMATELY CORRECT.