

Water Awards For Boats



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Bristol Floating Harbour

Get on board

Introduction

What is the Water Award Scheme?

A voluntary scheme recognising boats disposing of wastewater inline with Good Environmental Practice in the Floating Harbour.

How does it work?

All boats moored in the Harbour are encouraged to apply for the Water Awards.

Successful boats will -

- Receive a Water Award Certificate
- Receive a Campaign sticker
- Be listed on the Council website (45,000 daily hits)
- Be eligible to use the Get On Board campaign logo on promotional literature (commercial boats only)
- Be entered into a prize draw to win discounted mooring fees.

If the boat is unsuccessful, boat owners will receive practical advice and feedback on how they can improve waste disposal methods.

How long does Award last?

The Awards last indefinitely, however compulsory waste disposal checks by Bristol City Council will take place every three years. Awards will be withdrawn if boats no longer meet the standards of the scheme.

Who decides on Award allocation?

The allocation of awards will be decided by representatives from Bristol City Council.

Exceptions

Whilst ALL boats should make every effort to follow Good Environmental Practice, it may not be possible to fit a holding tank for grey water on board due to lack of space or other such practical issues or exceptional circumstances. This will be taken into account.

Grounds for Appeal

If you are unhappy with the outcome, boat owners are permitted to appeal outlining their concerns for reconsideration.

Good Environmental Practice

What is it?

Good Environmental Practice is the best method of wastewater disposal without causing harm to the Floating Harbour environment.

Good Environmental Practice for wastewater disposal in Bristol Floating Harbour is defined by Bristol City Council using mooring classifications (see table below).

Boat Classification	Black /Foul Water (Sewage, Elsan toilet waste, port-a-potties, etc)	Grey Water (Sinks, baths, showers, washing machines, dish washers, ice machines, etc)	Water Award level
Commercial	No Discharge	No Discharge	★ ★ ★
Residential	No Discharge	No Discharge	★ ★ ★
Leisure	No Discharge	No Discharge	★ ★ ★
		Discharged Grey water should NOT be discharged into harbour waters, however exceptions do exist. Only use biodegradable products: x No fats or oils x No gross solids x No misdirected sewage x No strong detergents x No food	☆ ★ ☆

Mooring classification

Boats moored within the Floating Harbour are classified subject to their mooring agreements held with Bristol City Council (Commercial, Residential, Leisure).

Good Environmental Practice varies subject to boat classification due to the **amount** and **nature** of time spent onboard.

Commercial and residential

All boats with commercial and residential mooring agreements should follow Good Environmental Practice as part of the Mooring Agreement held with Bristol City Council. This includes leisure craft with commercial licenses.

Leisure

Leisure craft with annual mooring licenses should follow Good Environmental Practice, however we acknowledge this may not be possible in all circumstances due to physical restraints onboard. Where this is the case, leisure craft may discharge grey water, subject to good practice of ensuring no fats or oils, no gross solids, no food, no misdirected sewage and no strong detergents are used. Biodegradable products should be used at all times.

Applicant details:

Applicant Name: _____

Applicant Address:

Post code: _____

Tel: _____

Mobile: _____

Section E

Boat details:

Boat Name: _____

Boat Mooring Location: _____

Mooring Agreement Classification (please tick)

Refer to Section C

- Commercial Residential
 Leisure

Boat length (feet) _____

Boat capacity (persons) _____

Boat Usage - how often do you use your boat?
(please tick)

- Daily Weekly Monthly
 Every 3-4 months Every 6 months
 Every 6-8 months Annually

Waste Tank Onboard? (please tick)

- YES NO

Waste Tank Capacity (Gallons) _____

Space for a tank onboard? (please tick)

- YES NO

Waste Removal Contractors / pump out details
(please attach receipts)

Onboard facilities

Sanitary Facilities onboard

No. of Facilities

Regular Toilet

Portable Toilet

(please specify below)

Elsan

Portapotti

Other (please specify)

Sea Toilet

Waste Water Facilities onboard

No. of Facilities

Galley sink

Bathroom sink

Bath

Shower

Washing Machine

Dishwasher

Ice Machine

(commercial vessels only)

Other (please specify)

Sanitary disposal

(Sanitary waste or black water includes all sanitary waste such as sewage, chemical toilet waste, Elsan toilets etc)

Please state how you dispose of your waste from the following when moored in the Harbour -

Regular Toilet _____

Portable Toilet (please specify below)

Elsan _____

Portapotti _____

Other (please state) _____

Sea Toilet _____

Did you know?

The discharge of sewage into the Floating Harbour can affect water quality by locally increasing the biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) and therefore reducing the available oxygen required for aquatic species and their survival.

Although the quantity of material discharged from boats can be small, it is untreated. Raw sewage introduces microbial pathogens into the environment and can pose a health hazard for users.

In addition, excessive quantities will raise the nutrient levels of the water that can trigger algal "blooms".

The most immediate impacts of boat sewage are those that are visual and odour related, both of which are unwelcome to boaters and non-boaters alike.

Grey water disposal

(Grey water includes all waste water from your boat from the galley sink to the washing machine!)

Please state how you dispose of your waste from the following when moored in the Harbour -

Galley sink _____

Bathroom sink _____

Bath _____

Shower _____

Washing machine _____

Dishwasher _____

Ice machine _____

Other _____

Did you know?

Grey water discharges likely to contain soaps and detergents and other chemical products used on board can be harmful to the environment.

Detergents contain phosphates, which can lead to nutrient enrichment and algal blooms, which can prove toxic to aquatic life.

Bilge water

Did you know?

- A single litre of fuel can contaminate over a million litres of water
- Oil is toxic to fish and water species
- The majority of oil pollution in our rivers and oceans comes from everyday sources like refuelling, engine emissions & oil leaks
- Oil & fuels are the most frequently reported pollutant of inland waters in England & Wales.

Advice

- The most effective way to clean oily bilge water is to use an oil absorbent sock.
- Check bilge water for contaminants before routine pumping.
- Use a funnel when pouring fuel or oil.
- Good maintenance of fuel lines, connections and seals helps avoid leaks.
- Transfer used oil or waste fuel in proper containers and dispose of in the oil waste facilities.

- Dispose of all oily or fuel-soaked materials in the hazardous waste container at Underfall Yard.
- When fuelling, avoid topping off or overfilling to reduce the risk of fuel overflowing from vents. Allow room for expansion in the tank.
- Never use detergents to deal with spills – it may disperse the fuel or oil and save you embarrassment, but they can be more toxic to aquatic life than the oil itself.
- Avoid using oil and fuel on the pontoons, other than on those dedicated to refuelling. Off the boat, the Government recommends a distance of at least 10m from the water.
- A drip tray under the engine is a requirement on many waterways. If it starts getting oily, find and mend the leak!

Application Conditions

1. The vessel must hold a current Bristol mooring agreement / licence (Bristol City Council, Bristol Marina or Poole's Wharf Marina).
2. Entrants must be the current registered agreement/licence holder or owner of the vessel.
3. At the time of award allocation, the vessel is acknowledged to meet the standards of the scheme. If these standards are not upheld, the award may be withdrawn.
4. Receipts from the purchase of pump outs and waste removal contractors are required upon application to the scheme, where applicable.
5. Owners will permit access to the vessel and co-operate with the Get on Board vessel inspections.
6. Vessels that continue to discharge wastewater illegally will face prosecution and/or the revocation of their mooring agreement / licence.
7. The allocation of awards to vessels with commercial classification does not represent an endorsement by the Get On Board campaign partners.

Get on Board Campaign

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A Joint British
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