

BE A GOOD BOATING STEWARD

Employ some of the following steps to help keep our waters healthy.

LITTERING – REDUCE, RECYCLE AND CONTAIN TRASH

- Avoid products with plastic or excessive packaging.
- Purchase drinks in recyclable containers and recycle them.
- Use a reusable water bottle.
- Prevent trash being thrown or blown overboard, including cigarette butts.

FUEL/OIL SPILLS – PREVENT AND CLEAN UP

- The Clean Water Act prohibits the discharge of oil or oily waste into water.
- Follow best practices for fueling.
- Maintain your bilge.
- Properly dispose of oil-absorbent materials.
- Use preventative equipment like a fuel/air separator along your vent line.



Photos:
Matt Knighton
Ohio Sea Grant
Michigan Sea Grant



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- A woman with short brown hair, wearing a grey baseball cap and glasses, is smiling and holding a white spray bottle. The bottle has a label that says 'Mango' and features a small logo. She is wearing a white t-shirt with a small blue logo on the left chest. The background is a bright, outdoor setting with a building and some greenery.

- Wash frequently with water and a sponge first.
- Select the least toxic product for the job.
- Use soaps that are phosphate free, biodegradable and nontoxic.
- Avoid ammonia, sodium hypochlorite, chlorinated solvents (bleach), petroleum distillates and lye.
- Use alternative cleaning products such as baking soda and vinegar.

Check and remove plants and animals from the following:

- Boat hull, bottom and sides (visible mud or sand).
- Anchor and anchor line.
- Trailer, including rollers, trailer axle and lights/wiring.
- Sailboats and kayaks, including centerboard or rudders.
- Motorboats, including motor/prop, bunks and intake grate.

Lake Champlain Sea Grant (LCSG), a cooperative effort of the University of Vermont and Plattsburgh State University, with support from NOAA. LCSG develops and shares science-based knowledge to benefit the environment and economies of the Lake Champlain Basin. <http://www.uvm.edu/seagrant>

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