



THE CHANGING TIDE

Winter 2012

Have you secured your

Y valve

lately?



As you know, almost everything on your boat is self-contained to prevent non-deliberate discharge into the water bodies where you recreate. This includes the sewage system, which requires a manual closing of a Y valve. Why a Y valve and what is it, you ask?

Most marine sanitation devices are equipped with a Y valve, which allows for sewage containment onboard for subsequent discharge at a stationary facility or with a mobile pumpout service. It is typically located next to the onboard toilet and sits between a discharge pump and the open water (see photo). Federal law says that when you are operating on inland waters, in a "No Discharge Area", or within the 3-mile territorial limit, you must secure the Y valve with a padlock or non-releasable wire tie (33 Code of Federal Regulation 159.7 [b] and [c]).

To make sure the Y valve is working properly to prevent discharge of treated or untreated sewage, test your sewage system with a dye tracer placed in the holding tank. Tracers come in various forms like tablets, powder, or wax. Tablets work well on boats because there is no measuring involved and can be easily detected visually. Dye tablets color water, so if there is a leak, you will see a bright trail of water originating from where sewage discharges from the boat. Tablets take 3-5 minutes to disperse, so they are best used in small or medium bodies of water. Flush immediately to avoid staining. Fluorescent xanthene dye tablets come in various colors, are acceptable by the California Environmental Protection Agency and certified by the National Sanitation Foundation to the ANSI/NSF Standard 60 for use in potable water.



Y Valve

Photo By: John Hollenbeck

Don't forget that a state or local peace officer who reasonably suspects that a vessel is discharging sewage in an area where the discharge is prohibited may board the vessel, if the owner or operator is aboard, for the purpose of inspecting the marine sanitation device for proper operation and placing a dye tablet in the holding tank (CA Harbors and Navigation Code Section 782 d).



CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION



bay restoration foundation STEWARDS OF SANTA MONICA BAY



Destination Series: Lake Elsinore

Lake Elsinore is the largest natural freshwater lake in Southern California. Lake Elsinore sits at the foot of the Ortega Mountains and Cleveland National Forest in the County of Riverside, California. The lake provides a wide range of recreational activities and events, including power boating, fishing, wading, kayaking, jet skiing, waterskiing, and drag boat racing.

*Contributing author: Mary Santa Cruz,
Lake, Parks & Recreation Department for
City of Lake Elsinore*

Unique to Lake Elsinore is a high speed zone, with a maximum speed of 150 MPH. For a slower pace, visitors are encouraged to use the 3.5 mile long levee trail system that meanders along the shoreline for bird watching, biking, walking/running, and fishing. Located on the south side of the lake is a tournament channel for competition wakeboarding or waterskiing. This channel is available for rental.

A new \$8 million boat launch facility, partially funded by the California Department of Boating and Waterways, opened in June at the La Laguna Resort, located at 32040 Riverside Drive. This new facility features a 6-lane boat ramp, 270 pull thru parking spaces, and two 400-foot long floating docks. The launch includes the creation of an adjacent picnic area, fish-cleaning station, and restrooms. There are several other boat launch and RV/campgrounds around the lake.

The area surrounding the lake is renowned for extreme sports. On any given weekend thrill seekers can be seen hang gliding from the nearby cliffs, skydiving from the Skylark Airport, and racing motorcycles at the Lake Elsinore Motorsports Park. Visitors to the City of Lake Elsinore can also enjoy the challenging “links” style golf course and taking the entire family out to the ball game to watch the Storm Minor League Baseball at the Diamond Stadium.



Oil absorbent bilge pads are available at La Laguna Resort, Seaport and Elsinore West Marina, funded by a grant from the California Department of Resources, Recycling, and Recovery. A vessel sewage pumpout is available at La Laguna Resort and Elsinore West Marina. Additionally, the City of Lake Elsinore offers hazardous waste disposal the first Saturday of each month from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Public Works Yard.

For more information, visit Lake Elsinore on the web at www.lake-elsinore.org.

Photos Courtesy of: Lake, Parks & Recreation Department for City of Lake Elsinore



Coastal Cleanup Day

Returns to Marina del Rey

Equipped with reusable nets, gloves, and buckets, volunteers of the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation (Foundation) powered through the marina in support of International Coastal Cleanup Day. Supported by the local community, 158 volunteers on kayaks, standup paddle boards, and dinghies came together to rid the marina of more than 150 pounds of marine debris. Among the enthusiastic group included City of Santa Monica's Mayor Richard Bloom and Foundation President Laurie Newman. Their support in this world-wide effort is greatly appreciated.

Thanks to the California Coastal Commission and the county-wide coordination of Heal the Bay, Coastal Cleanup Day throughout the County was an enormous success. Nearly 10,000 volunteers scoured local beaches, inland waterways, regional parks, and urban neighborhoods, and removed 20 tons of ocean-bound trash, while covering 56 miles of terrain.

The success of the marina cleanup would not have been possible without the efforts of our community sponsors. Donated kayaks from REI, UCLA Marina Aquatic Center, Boat Rentals of America, Cobra Kayaks, Los Angeles County Department of Beaches & Harbors, Pro SUP Shop, and Marina Harbor Anchorage enabled volunteers to get out on the water, and provided, for some, a first-time boating experience. The event would not have been possible without the generous sponsorship of the Santa Monica Windjammers Yacht Club and Hornblower Cruises & Events, who provided event space and transportation for our volunteers throughout the marina.



Thanks everyone for a successful cleanup event!

Photo by: Matthew Levin

Our volunteers were rewarded for their dedication to a clean environment with lunch from Chipotle and The Counter Burger. All aspects of the cleanup, including the sustainable raffle giveaway, breakfast, hand-picked fruits, and gift bags were provided generously by our community sponsors. Thanks to Action Watersports, Adventure 16, Arbor Collective, Catalina Island Conservancy, The Cheesecake Factory, The Counter, CVS, Eco Logical Skincare, Food Forward, Hot Dog on a Stick, Islands, Panera Bread, Ralphs, Starbucks, Taj India Palace, Trader Joes, Trade Winds Custom Canvas and ZJ Boarding House.

In addition to removing trash, Coastal Cleanup Day is a means to educate the public about the global marine debris problem. People who live inland may feel disconnected from the ocean environment and not realize that a shocking 80 percent of marine debris comes from inland communities. All of us are part of the problem, and together we can empower ourselves to become part of the solution.



Special guests Laurie Newman and Susan Nissman show off their finds for the day.



Coastal Cleanup Day participants at this year's photo booth.

Photos by: Matthew Levin

To view pictures from the event, visit the [SMBRC Flickr page](#).

Honey Pot Day Wrap Up



Thank you to everyone who helped to improve California's water quality by participating in this year's Honey Pot Day Program. With the help of more than 200 boaters in four Southern California harbors, the Department of Boating and Waterway's Clean Vessel Education Program and the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation were able to prevent more than 4,000 gallons of sewage from entering local waterways. For more information about this program visit www.HoneyPotDay.org.

Model Environment with SMBRF Boater Program Associate, Victoria Ippolito at MarinaFest in Marina del Rey

Photo by: Christy Beck





Photos by: Riverbank Marina

Destination Series:

Riverbank Marina

Located on the Sacramento River just minutes from downtown Sacramento and Discovery Park, Riverbank Marina operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Riverbank Marina offers more than 175 covered and uncovered berths and slips, all leased on an annual or month-to-month basis. This professionally maintained marina can handle boats and yachts of all shapes and sizes.

Riverbank Marina is home to three great restaurants providing a variety of dining choices. Relax and discover all the sights and sounds of the Sacramento River while you dine. Or maybe you had lunch in mind? Escape the hustle and enjoy a sunny patio lunch with friends or co-workers. And do not forget dining on the river for all those special occasions. Oh yeah – did we mention nightlife? Come rock out, dance, and have fun in the best atmosphere in Sacramento.



Pearl on the River serves Northern California Cuisine that features fresh, flavorful dishes, ingredients from local farms, all at a reasonable price. Pearl's "Live Menu" means the menu may change every day in order to deliver only the freshest food to your table. Crawdad's River Cantina is the only restaurant that is actually on the Sacramento River (That is right – it floats!). Serving a California/Baja Style grilled menu of fish, steak, chicken, pasta, sandwiches, fresh salads – and crawdads! They have live music all summer long, Thursday through Sunday nights. Chevys on the River serves South-of-the-Border Fresh Mex food in a festive Mexican atmosphere.

The marina has a fuel dock and newly remodeled restrooms with showers. There is 24-hour video surveillance of the marina and its parking lots and electronically controlled gate access. The marina also offers a public sewage pump-out and dump station facilities. Riverbank marina partners with the Coast Guard Auxiliary to offer boating certification classes.

For more information, visit Riverbank Marina online at www.RiverBank.com or call the front office at (916) 922-0720.





New Boater Outreach Program in Rio Vista

Contributing author: Marianne K. Butler, Education Program Manager, Solano Resource Conservation District

Solano Resource Conservation District piloted a new boater outreach program in Rio Vista this summer. The goal of the program titled, Rio Vista Boater Outreach Program, was to educate boaters on the use of bilge pads. The program was a success. Nearly 200 boaters were educated over the summer. The program provided one-on-one boater interaction and focused on the benefits of using oil absorbents to prevent oil and other engine fluids from escaping into the river. Sixty-five percent of the boaters that participated in the program had never heard of oil absorbents. More than 25 percent of boaters reached by this program installed an oil absorbent immediately after talking to program staff.

The program was carried out by Dockwalker Deborah Bartens. Through the Dockwalker Program, volunteers are trained to conduct face-to-face boater education and distribute boater kits with educational information while visiting marinas, boat launch ramps, boat

shows and events. Boater kits are distributed to boaters who answer a short survey regarding their boating practices. Kits contain oil absorbents.

The Rio Vista Boater Outreach Program 2012 was sponsored by Solano County, City of Rio Vista, and Solano Resource Conservation District, in partnership with the California Department of Boating and Waterways and the California Coastal Commission's Boating Clean and Green Program, and the Keep the Delta Clean Program.

Throughout the year, boaters can pick up free oil absorbents at the Delta Marina and Sandy Beach County Park in Rio Vista. Used oil absorbents are considered a hazardous waste once used and it is essential that they be disposed of properly. Sandy Beach and most boat maintenance shops have easily accessible containers for used absorbents to make safe disposal easy.



Photos by: Solano Resource Conservation District

For more information about the Summer 2012 Rio Vista Boater Outreach Program, please contact Marianne Butler at Marianne.Butler@Solano-rcd.org or 707.301.5778.

Controlling *Egeria densa* and Water Hyacinth on the Delta

Contributing author: Terri Ely, California Department of Boating and Waterways

During visits to the Delta this summer, did you see any *Egeria densa* with white tips? Did you see any brown water hyacinth? If so, you saw evidence of Department of Boating and Waterways (DBW) treatment. The sheer size of the delta keeps our crews busy. Crews are active in Stanislaus and Merced Counties, in Solano County, near Antioch, Stockton, and many places in between.

This is not an easy job. Water hyacinth mats can double in size in two weeks or less during hot delta summers. *Egeria* readily sprouts new plants from pieces broken off by boats or mechanical harvesting. The environment itself creates challenges. Between the tides and the wind, water in the delta moves around regularly. In summer, it's common to see hyacinth mats floating along, sometimes landing back in the same places crews have already treated. In the accompanying photograph, the visual line between the browning hyacinth DBW treated and recent new hyacinth coming in is evident.

Every season brings new challenges, and 2012 was no exception. September is generally the harbinger of cooler fall temperatures, which slows the growth rate of the plants considerably. However, this September's record setting heat wave proved advantageous to the invasive plants. Having a record number of ninety-plus degree days sustained unusually vigorous growth, particularly in water hyacinth.



Impacted *Egeria*. Photo by: California Department of Boating and Waterways

Despite these challenges, controlling invasive weeds is an important part of DBW's work in order to protect the natural ecosystem and keep waterways clear for boating and other recreational activities.

Destination Series: Clear Lake

Visit Clear Lake, one of the largest natural lakes in California and possibly the oldest in North America

Contributing Author: Victoria Samuelson, Braitto's Marina Office Assistant and Vivian Matuk, California Department of Boating and Waterways and California Coastal Commission

Photo by: Air Photo



Clear Lake (Lake County) has more than 100 miles of shoreline and 68 square miles of surface area. The area is popular for all kinds of water recreation, including swimming, fishing, boating, hiking and water-skiing. Lake County hosts numerous local and nationwide bass fishing tournaments and the Konocti Cup Regatta, which is the largest sailboat racing event of the year on Clear Lake.

Clear Lake's scenic beauty and abundant wildlife make it an excellent place to enjoy nature and relax. Even wine lovers can enjoy many award winning wineries found near the lake.

The lake's basin is home to year-round populations of ducks, pelicans, grebes, blue herons, egrets, and osprey, and winter populations of bald eagles. The basin also supports abundant population of deer, bears, raccoons, and other animals. Fishermen will be able to find black bass, catfish, crappie, and bluegill.

Sediment studies developed by the U.S. Geological Survey in 1973 and 1980 revealed lake sediments half a million years old, making it possibly the oldest lake in North America.

Abundant natural resources such as fish and birds attracted Native Americans to settle by the lake. Archaeological evidence indicates humans have lived in the Clear Lake region for at least 11,000 years.

Located at the end of the lake's Buckingham Peninsula, you will find Braitto's Marina. The owner, Carl Braitto, bought the property in 1964 and the marina is still operated by this family. The marina stores approximately 300 boats and is open seven days a week, year round. This facility offers boat slips as well as dry storage, one boat launch ramp, fuel dock and a small store with marine supplies. In addition, the marina offers pollution prevention services such as used oil collection (for tenants only), sewage, port-a-potty dumpstation and marine battery recycling. Environmental information can be obtained when visiting the marina from a trained Dockwalker who is ready to share clean and safe boating information with boaters and visitors.

The marina is also home base of the Lake County Marine Sheriff Patrol, Lake County Sea Scouts, the US Coast Guard Auxiliary, the Konocti Bay Sailing Club, Maherajah Waterskies, and White and Sons Boatworks.

For more visitor information on Lake County activities and marinas, contact the Lake County Visitor Information Center at (800) 525-3743 or www.lakecounty.com.



Northern California Chapter

Attention California Marinas and Yacht Clubs: New Oil Spill Response Toolkit for Your Facility!

Marinas and yacht clubs in California now have access to an oil spill prevention and response “information packet” to help them get needed information in the event of an oil spill. The packet includes an oil spill plan template, emergency contact numbers, oil spill response organization information, and much more in an easily accessible electronic document.

In response to large scale oil spills that have occurred on the San Francisco Bay such as the M/V Cosco Busan, several federal, state, local government, marine industry, and boating organizations started the San Francisco Bay and Delta Area Committee Marinas and Yacht Clubs Oil Spill Preparedness Work Group in 2010. The agencies leading this effort included Department of Fish and Game’s Office of Spill Prevention and Response, Cal EMA, California Department of Boating and Waterways, and the California Coastal Commission. Organizations played an important role in this work group and its accomplishments. Organizations included: California Association of Harbor Masters and Port Captains, U.S. Coast Guard, San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, Marina Recreation Association, Clean Marinas California Program, Pacific Inter-Club Yacht Association, Western Marine Insurance Service Corporation, and the San Francisco Baykeepers.

The group focused on the development of oil spill response notification procedures to improve communication capabilities between the Unified Command, counties’ office of emergency services offices, and harbor and marina operators.

Marinas and yacht clubs, such as yours, are the primary waterfront constituents with extensive local waterways and boating knowledge. The work group developed the packet to provide you with resources to improve coordination between response agencies during oil spill incidents. Resources can easily be customized in developing specific plans for individual facilities. You are encouraged to use it and to share its availability with others.

The information packet is available under the Marinas and Yacht Club tab at: <https://calspillwatch.dfg.ca.gov/>



Photo by: Vivian Matuk, California Department of Boating and Waterways/ California Coastal Commission

Please use this toolkit and share the link to help us get the word out to other marinas and yacht clubs. If you would like to order a hard copy, please contact Vivian Matuk (415-904-6905) or vmatuk@coastal.ca.gov

Boating Community Participation in the 2012 Cleanup Day Program for Marinas and Yacht Clubs, a Success!

California’s recreational boating community increased its contributions to Coastal Cleanup Day (CCD). This year 827 volunteers cleaned 53 miles of shoreline and collected approximately 7,893 pounds of trash and recyclables on land and from 199 non-motorized vessels.

“Recreational boaters are committed to keeping California’s waterways clean and to efforts which make the marine environment healthier,” said the Department of Boating and Waterways acting Director Lucia Becerra.

This year over 63,000 volunteers participated in Coastal Cleanup Day. Those volunteers picked-up 740,000 pounds of trash and recyclable materials, or 336 tons and cleaned more than 1,400 miles of shoreline.

Information was collected this year to better understand what resources recreational boaters require to further help in Coastal Cleanup Day. Your boating facility can easily be part of this effort in 2013. For information on how to participate, visit www.coast4u.org or contact the following coordinators: Vivian Matuk, (415) 904-6905 or Shannon Waters, (415) 904-5214. We hope your boating facility can be part of this worthwhile event.



Coastal Cleanup Day at Ballena Isle Marina and Ballena Bay Yacht Club
Photo by: Vivian Matuk, California Department of Boating and Waterways/ California Coastal Commission

The California Coastal Commission and Department of Boating and Waterways would like to thank the following boating facilities, coordinators and partners for their participation:

Marinas and Yacht Clubs:

- Aeolian Yacht Club
- Alamos Bay Yacht Club
- Andreas Cove Yacht Club
- Ballena Bay Yacht Club
- Ballena Isle Marina
- Dana Point Harbor
- Encinal Yacht Club
- Eureka Marina
- Grand Marina
- Half Moon Bay Yacht Club
- Humboldt Bay Yacht Club
- Long Beach Yacht Club
- Oakland Yacht Club
- Owl Harbor Marina
- Peter’s Landing Marina
- Port Royal Yacht Club
- Santa Monica Windjammers Yacht Club
- Sea Breeze Yacht Club
- Seal Beach Yacht Club
- Sequoia Yacht Club
- Silver Gate Yacht Club
- Sun Harbor Marina

County Coordinators/Partners:

- Alameda County Industries
- American River Parkway Foundation
- Aquarium of The Bay
- City of Alameda
- City of Long Beach El Dorado Nature Center
- Heal the Bay
- I love A Clean San Diego
- Orange County Dana Point Harbor
- Pacific Inter-Club Yacht Association
- Pier 39
- San Mateo County Water Pollution Prevention Program
- Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation

Celebrating 2012's Dockwalkers

The California Department of Boating and Waterways and the California Coastal Commission's Boating Clean and Green Program, Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation, and Keep the Delta Clean Program would like to express our deep gratitude to all Dockwalker volunteers and organizations that supported the Dockwalker Program this year. 6,000 boater kits were distributed throughout California. Working together made this year another success!

To learn more about the Dockwalker Program, upcoming trainings or to schedule a training class, visit www.BoatingCleanandGreen.com (click on "Dockwalkers"). You may also contact the program coordinator, Vivian Matuk, at (415) 904-6905 or vmatuk@coastal.ca.gov.

The following Dockwalkers administered and returned the highest number of surveys and will join the ranks in the Dockwalker Hall of Fame:

- Charlie Duncan (US Coast Guard Auxiliary) Redding
- Sabrina Colias (Lake Berryessa Partnership) Vacaville
- Alisa Kim (Lake Berryessa Partnership) Davis
- Sharon Nichols (US Coast Guard Auxiliary) Sacramento
- Jim Minkel (US Coast Guard Auxiliary) Benicia
- Deborah Bartens (Rio Vista Boating Program) Rio Vista
- Tommy Holtzman (US Coast Guard Auxiliary) Carmichael
- James Fitzgerald (US Coast Guard Auxiliary) Bodega Bay
- Rachel Kippen (Save Our Shores) Santa Cruz
- Robert Sebring (US Power Squadrons) Huntington Beach
- Mel Widawski (South Coast Corinthian Yacht Club) Culver City
- Bob Riopel (Recreational Boaters of California) Penn Valley
- Kathryn Hyde (San Francisco Depart. Of the Environment) San Francisco
- Joaquin Duran (US Coast Guard Auxiliary) San Jose
- Brock de Lappe (Alameda Marina) Alameda
- Vickie Bauman (Willow Berm Marina) Isleton
- Vernon Torres (US Coast Guard Auxiliary) Spring Valley
- Ed Padilla (Solano County) Modesto
- Barbara Wilkinson (US Coast Guard Auxiliary) San Diego
- Dick Daybell (US Power Squadrons) Fullerton
- Bob Sullivan (Kono Tayee Property Owners Association) Lucerne
- Craig Johnson (US Coast Guard Auxiliary) Hollister
- James Goff (US Coast Guard Auxiliary) North Highlands
- Carla Houston (Model Environment) Los Angeles

All awards were graciously donated to the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation.

Awards included: Fleece jackets from West Marine; gift certificates to California Pizza Kitchen, Whole Foods Market, & Starbucks Corp; tickets to the Aquarium of the Pacific, Long Beach, & Aquarium of the Bay, San Francisco; gift baskets from Trader Joe's; an Alcatraz Cruise for two people; & a Hornblower Yacht Cruise brunch for two people.

The Changing Tide newsletter is a great resource for you to get California's latest clean boating information. Help to reduce our carbon footprint and the amount of trash added to the waste stream by going paperless. To go paperless, contact Victoria Ippolito at vippolito@waterboards.ca.gov or 213-620-2271



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