



Priority actions when boating...

Everyday things you can do

- Make sure your boat and its engines are in good working order – this will minimise the water, noise and air pollution that comes from your boat.
- Observe the emissions from your boat and regularly check for oil or fuel leakages.
- Install an approved onboard sewage treatment system or holding tank. On small craft this could be as simple as using a portable caravan/camping toilet. Use pump out facilities at marinas and wharfs to collect and dispose of human waste.
- Take care where you anchor, particularly around seagrass beds and other sensitive areas, as these are important marine habitats.
- Travel at speeds that avoid excessive wash. This may cause bank erosion and disturb sensitive river or seabed environments, as well as disturb or endanger others.
- Stow all loose items. Make sure everything onboard is secured to avoid anything flying overboard such as plastic bags, drink containers, wrappers, packaging and other articles.
- Keep bilges clean to prevent pollutants being discharged overboard. Use an absorbent mat in the bilge to clean up oily water and dispose of these materials appropriately.
- Understand and obey noise restrictions. They apply to both engine noise and amplified music, and the time and area in which you are boating.
- If fishing, ensure you have the appropriate licence for recreational fishing in your state. Abide by your licence conditions observing fish sizes and bag limits.
- Keep your rubbish on board and dispose of it properly ashore – this includes cigarette butts. Collect any other rubbish that you see – discarded plastics and fishing lines can injure or kill marine animals.
- Reduce your use of toxic cleaning and painting products. Use phosphate-free and environmentally friendly detergents. Dilute detergents with water before use.

How can I find out more?

Visit www.livingthing.net.au

