

PART SEVEN

CONSUMER - OBLIGATIONS

7.1 GENERAL:

In accepting "the obligations" imposed by the Code, a member is entitled to assume that a consumer, with whom the member has dealings, will observe the obligations set out in this part of the Code.

Indeed BIA members will encourage their customers and boat owners to accept these responsibilities. Simple reminders, precautions and recommended practices have been combined into the Code which encourages customers/recreational boaters to be environmentally responsible in their conduct. Information centres on boat operation, maintenance and preventative actions individuals can take to maintain clean water and minimise on - and near - shore impact of water based recreation. Protecting the environment comes naturally to most boaters, because clean water is the foundation of enjoyable boating.

A common sense approach is thought to be a most effective way to protect the aquatic environment. A sixteen point check list in this part of the Code serves a quick reference to environmental concerns.

THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CONSUMER AND RECREATIONAL BOATERS INCLUDE :

- 7.1.1 To co-operate fully with all BIA members in order that the consumer may obtain maximum benefit from the Code.
- 7.1.2 To maintain any new or used product in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications and recommendations and subject the same only to fair wear and tear having regard to the nature of the product and equipment.
- 7.1.3 To give the BIA member all information possible concerning the purchase, trade-in, use, manufacture and repair of the product and equipment, so that the BIA member may be as fully informed as possible concerning the product and may exercise sound judgment and have clear responsibilities to the consumer in the terms of the Code.

7.2 ENVIRONMENT

Having regard to environmental responsibility, boat owners:

- 7.2.1 Shall be encouraged to take steps to ensure that any potential pollution risks are minimised.

- 7.2.2 Shall use their best efforts to educate fellow boaters to support the restoration and protection of our marine environment.
- 7.2.3 Shall be encouraged to maintain or improve our water quality for all boat users by compliance with all environmental laws and regulations in operation.
- 7.2.4 Will observe the regulations of usage of the waterways by government authorities, Marinas and boatsheds
- 7.2.5 Will not automatically or otherwise drain the engine bilge, unless bilge water is passed through a filter, or other control measure, to ensure no pollution of waters, and will at all times observe the "strict no discharge" policy of Marinas.
- 7.2.6 Will ensure no petroleum product residue be pumped overboard. Use of petroleum absorbent material which can be appropriately disposed of on land, is recommended.
- 7.2.7 Will be encouraged to use environmentally compatible products in the operation and maintenance of their vessels.
- 7.2.8 Will use oil-absorbing materials in the bilge areas of all boats with inboard engines and undertake to examine these materials at least once a month and replace as necessary and dispose of them in accordance with petroleum disposal regulations.
- 7.2.9 Will be encouraged to install fuel-air separators on air vents or tank stems of inboard fuel tanks to reduce the amount of fuel spilled onto the surface water during fuelling of boats.
- 7.2.10 Will at all times prevent fuel spills, and be knowledgeable regarding how best to treat any accidental spill, to maximise safety, and minimise environmental harm.
- 7.2.11 Will prevent the contamination of waterways whilst working on or maintaining their craft.
- 7.2.12 Will prevent and discourage in water hull cleaning or any other underwater process that is likely to remove anti-fouling or any other deleterious material into the marine environment.
- 7.2.13 Will act at all times to protect the waterways from senseless and harmful dumping by returning all garbage and other waste to shore for proper disposal or recycling and when possible, clean up after others who are less thoughtful.
- 7.2.14 Will be aware of the effect of noise, smoke and odours generated by their vessels and activities of those around them.

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- 7.2.15 Will keep your motors efficiently tuned, and avoid excessive idling and engine noise while at Marinas or in the vicinity of residential property.
 - 7.2.16 Will prevent unacceptable wake and propeller wash, especially in the vicinity of sensitive or erodible shores, Marinas and other waterway users.



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