

Smart Harbors

Raising the Standard

Summer 2016

Please Take the 2016 Mid-Atlantic Marine Industries Work Force Development Survey

Tom Murray

This survey is being sent to marine business in the Mid-Atlantic to find out if they are in need of skills training for their employees and what types of training are most important. Your views are crucial to determine if investment in training programs is warranted. The more responses we receive the more reliable our data will be on what training is lacking and where dollars should be spent. For more information and to complete the survey please follow <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/marineworkforce2016>.

Federal Reformulated Gasoline Program

The Virginia General Assembly passed SB 557 during the 2016 legislative session. This bill charges the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality with seeking an exemption from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to the Federal Reformulated Gasoline Program for qualifying marinas. The full text of the bill can be found [here](#).



Aquatic Invasive Species Education Program

During the 2016 session of the Virginia General Assembly [HB 1115](#) was passed and approved by the Governor. HB 1115 amends the Code of Virginia (Code) to establish an educational program aimed at preventing or slowing the spread of aquatic invasive species with special emphasis on zebra mussels, quagga mussels and other nuisance species. Section 29.1-571 of the Code defines nonindigenous nuisance species as “nonindigenous aquatic freshwater animal species whose presence in state waters poses or is likely to pose a significant threat of harm to (i) the diversity or abundance of any species indigenous to state waters; (ii) the ecological stability of state waters; or (iii) the commercial, industrial, agricultural, municipal, recreational, aquaculture, or other beneficial uses of state waters. Nonindigenous aquatic nuisance species shall include the zebra mussel, quagga mussel, and all species of snakehead fishes of the family Channidae.”

The States Organization for Boating Access has a publication, [Construction and Integration of Aquatic Invasive Species \(AIS\) Prevention Areas at Recreational Boating Facilities](#), which offers tips for managing the transport of invasive species on a state level that includes many good resources that deal with educating boaters on the subject of invasive or nuisance species. Some other good resources include the [U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service](#), the [Mid-Atlantic Panel on Aquatic Invasive Species](#) and [Maryland Sea Grant](#).

The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF) is tasked with developing the educational program in Virginia to include “cleaning and draining guidelines, designated dry times for watercraft and other recreational equipment (§29.1-576.1).” The educational program may be included in safe boating classes, through printed materials and on the DGIF website.

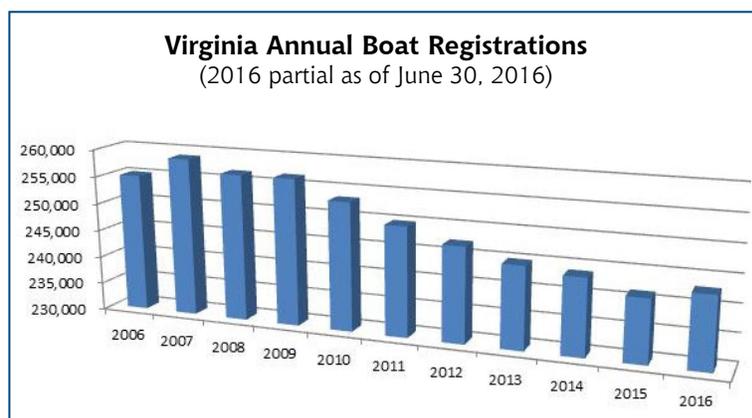
Recreational Boat Registrations in Virginia

Tom Murray

As reflected in the graph below, the number of recreational boats registered in Virginia has increased over the past year. This is the first increase since 2007.

In addition, the June 2016 sales of recreational watercraft in Virginia were 2.9% above June 2015 sales. According to [Info-Link Technologies](#) there were 366 new watercraft over 25' sold in Virginia in the twelve month period through June, a 25.3 %

increase over the same period ending June 2015. This reflects the overall positive trend on the Atlantic coast from Connecticut through Florida according to data obtained from Info-Link.



Oil Absorbent Bilge Pads Available in August

Improperly handled oil poses a significant threat to marine wild-life and habitat. Oil in the marine environment destroys the insulating ability of fur-bearing mammals and also destroys the water repelling abilities of bird's feathers leaving both groups vulnerable to the elements. Many will ingest oil when they try to clean themselves which can poison the wildlife. (NOAA, Office of Response and Restoration, National Ocean Service, What's the Story on Oil Spills, May 2, 2005, revised October 26, 2008.)

Fish are also directly impacted by oil in the marine environment. Fish uptake the oil through their gills, may ingest oil or oiled prey and the oil impacts the ecosystem which supports the fish. (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region, Effects of Oil Spills on Wildlife and Habitat, December 2004.)

The Clean Water Act (CWA) of 1972 is the principal federal statute protecting navigable water in the United States. Section 311 of the CWA addresses pollution from oil and hazardous substances providing the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Coast Guard with the authority to respond to oil spills; §311 also prohibits the discharge of oil or hazardous substances into the navigable waters of the United States and adjoining waters. (EPA, Emergency Management, CWA Overview, March 17, 2009.)

The Virginia Clean Marina Program applied for and received a grant from the Chesapeake Bay Restoration Fund. The sale of Chesapeake Bay preservation license plates funds the grant program at a rate of \$15 for each \$25 plate sold or renewed with the DMV keeping \$10 from each sale or renewal.

We are in the process of securing bids and should have the oil absorbent bilge pads ready for distribution by August. I will send out another notice when they arrive, but until then, you can let me know if you would like some to distribute to your slip holders.

Keep Virginia Beautiful Awards \$500 Grant to Norview Marina

6th Annual "30 Grants in Thirty Days" Being Distributed in June

Richmond, Virginia (June 6, 2016) – Keep Virginia Beautiful is awarding its annual "30 Grants in Thirty Days" daily during the month of June. Norview Marina in Deltaville has been awarded a grant of \$500 in the Cigarette Litter Prevention category. Government, non-profit, civic and service organizations in Virginia were invited to apply for grants for \$500 to \$1,000 telling how they are addressing these pressing issues: Litter Prevention, Recycling, Cigarette Litter Prevention, and Community Beautification.

Since 2011, Keep Virginia Beautiful has provided over \$110,000 to 140 organizations throughout the state. This year, for the first time, they are awarding 45 grants because of the generosity of our partners at Altria, Keep America Beautiful, WestRock Foundation and Trex.



Norview Marina in Deltaville is an organization that's been fighting to eliminate cigarette waste from their property and waters for years. Their goal is to substantially reduce the incidence of cigarette waste with their efforts. They plan to increase the number of installed cigarette receptacles, and distribute portable ashtrays to employees and guests. Informational signage will help to educate the public and heighten awareness of the problem. The Cigarette Litter Prevention Grant from Keep Virginia Beautiful will help aquatic plant and animal life, and enhance visitors' experience.

The mission at Keep Virginia Beautiful is to engage and unite Virginians to improve our natural and scenic environment through five impact areas: Litter Prevention, Waste Reduction, Recycling, Beautification, and Environmental Education. For more information on, go to <http://www.KeepVirginiaBeautiful.org>.

Deltaville Yachting Center Environmental Addition – No Mow "Mariners' Meadow"

Onna Grimm

As an environmental steward, Deltaville Yachting Center's environmental project for 2016 will be the addition of a 'no mow' area in the front lawn.

Beauty is in the eye of the beholder, and for 15 years we have mowed the large grass area to the left of the drive entrance. To reduce our carbon footprint and in an effort to promote natural habitat and pollination of native grasses, we will convert part of the grass area into a "MARINERS' MEADOW" for strolling and relaxing.



The paths around and through the meadow will be kept neatly mowed, with signage to help you 'think' as you stroll.

Vegetation is nature's filter – it soaks up runoff and filters pollutants so that in the end, cleaner water is being released into our lakes, rivers and streams.

Deltaville Yachting Center was Middlesex County's 1st Virginia Clean Marina in 2002. The addition of the "MARINERS' MEADOW" to its landscape will play a significant role in impacting nonpoint source pollution before it enters our waterways.



Reminder - 2017 Boating Infrastructure Grant Applications due August 1, 2016

The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) is now accepting applications for the Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG) through Monday, August 1, 2016. The BIG program is administered on the national level by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and on the state level by VDH. The program is funded through the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund.

See [50 CFR Part 86](#), Boating Infrastructure Grant Program; Final Rule, published May 6, 2015, for guidance on proposal preparation. Please note that the scoring criterion was updated in 2015. Do not hesitate to contact Preston Smith, Preston.Smith@vdh.virginia.gov, 804-864-7468, or Anne Smith, annesmith@vims.edu, 804-684-7768, with any questions.

Save the Date!

The 2016 [Virginia Marine Trades Association \(VMTA\)](#) Annual Conference is Tuesday, November 15. The conference is being held at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science in Gloucester Point. Please visit the [VMTA](#) website in the next couple of weeks for more details.



For additional information on the Virginia Clean Marina program please click on the logo to visit our website.



VIMS | WILLIAM & MARY
VIRGINIA INSTITUTE OF MARINE SCIENCE
MARINE ADVISORY SERVICES
P.O. Box 1346
GLOUCESTER POINT, VA 23062

Pressure Wash Wastewater Management

As many of you may recall, members of the Virginia Marine Trades Association and a representative from the Virginia Clean Marina Program met with staff at the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) in August 2014. The subject of this meeting was the management of pressure wash wastewater at marinas and boatyards. The DEQ has recently told a marina that was renewing their Virginia Discharge Elimination System Permit that they must stop pressuring washing activities or face the threat of fines. The facilities pressure washing activities took place no more than 20 feet from the water's edge on a non-permeable surface. As you can imagine, the customers were not happy about no longer being able to pressure wash their boats.

A different marina, Two Rivers Marina & Yacht Club, proactively decided to discontinue pressure washing and developed this sign explaining the rationale behind their decision. Here is the sign they placed in the area previously dedicated for pressure washing.

As a refresher, here are some tips for pressure wash wastewater management:

- ≈ Vessel wash areas in Chesapeake Bay Preservation Areas must be located outside of the Resource Protection Area; typically a 100 - foot wide vegetated buffer. Check with your locality if you are unsure of the regulations in your area.
- ≈ All pollutants must be removed from pressure wash wastewater before it may be discharged. At a minimum allow large particles to settle out. More thorough treatment involves filtration or chemical or physical techniques to treat the pressure wash

wastewater. Some methods include filtration devices such as screens, filter fabrics, oil/water separators, sand filters and hay bales to remove particles. Chemical treatment relies on the addition of some type of catalyst to cause the heavy metals and paint solids to settle out of the water.

- ≈ Collect all debris. Allow the debris to dry and dispose of with your standard waste after checking with your waste hauler. Your waste hauler may require a Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure test before accepting the debris. If it is determined that the debris is hazardous, bring the debris to a facility authorized to manage municipal or industrial solid waste.
- ≈ Pressure wash over an impermeable surface that has a berm that allows the wastewater to evaporate and the solid debris to be collected.
- ≈ Filter and capture the wastewater in a holding tank and contract with a hazardous waste hauler to pump and haul the wastewater as needed.
- ≈ When pressure washing ablative paint, use the least amount of pressure necessary to remove the growth. Consider using a garden hose and a soft cloth.
- ≈ Alternatively, there are many companies that manufacture zero discharge systems that filter and/or treat and then recycle the wash water.
- ≈ In preparing your Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plans, document your BMPs to show that you are taking steps to prevent the introduction of pollutants into navigable waters and the ground water supply.
- ≈ For more information please refer to the [Virginia Clean Marina Guidebook](#).

