

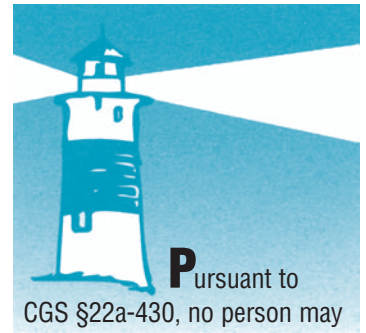
# Pressure Washing

## Potential Environmental Impacts:

Pressure washing of boat bottoms to remove marine organisms produces wastewater contaminated with antifouling paints containing copper, tin, lead, zinc, and other heavy metals in concentrations that are harmful to the marine environment. Even in small amounts, untreated pressure washing wastewaters can adversely impact water quality. Additionally, sediments contaminated with copper, lead, zinc and other metals can cause problems related to dredged material disposal. Pollutants dissolved in pressure washing wastewater can potentially pollute soil and ground water in upland areas.

## Legal Requirements:

- Pursuant to Section 22a-430 of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS), the discharge of pressure washing wastewater to surface waters, a storm sewer, sanitary sewer, or the ground is a regulated activity requiring a permit from the CT DEP.
- Pressure washing wastewater is a “process wastewater.” The General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater Associated with Industrial Activity (“Stormwater General Permit”) does not cover process wastewaters, including but not limited to, pressure washing wastewater. See Appendix F for more information on the Stormwater General Permit.
- All pressure washing wastewater must be collected and handled in an acceptable manner. Below are several options:
  1. Untreated Wastewater: Hire a waste hauler that is permitted by DEP pursuant to CGS Section 22a-454 to transport your untreated pressure washing wastewater to a permitted treatment or disposal facility. In order to do this, you must first test your collected wastewater and any sludge or filtered solids that have been removed from the wastewater to determine if they are hazardous waste or not. [Title 40 Part 262.11 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR); Section 22a-449(c)-102(a)(2)(A) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA)] If the wastewater or sludges/solids are determined to be hazardous, manage them in compliance with the hazardous waste requirements described in Appendix B. If the wastewater or sludges/solids are determined to be non-hazardous, manage them as “Connecticut-regulated wastes” as described in Appendix B.
  2. Treated Wastewater: Discharge treated pressure washing wastewater to a sanitary sewer pursuant to the Miscellaneous Discharges of Sewer Compatible Wastewater (MISC) General Permit, or if a sanitary sewer is not available, employ a licensed waste hauler to haul treated wastewater to a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW). Before pressure washing wastewater can be discharged to the sanitary sewer or hauled to a POTW the terms and conditions of the MISC General Permit must be met, which will require collection and treatment to meet discharge effluent limitations. See Appendix G for more information on the MISC General Permit.



**P**ursuant to CGS §22a-430, no person may initiate, create, originate, or maintain any discharge of water, substance, or material into the waters of the state without a permit for such discharge from the CT-DEP.

3. **Recycled Washwater:** Treat and reuse pressure washing wastewater through a closed loop recycle/reclamation system. Any wastewater removed or used during maintenance and cleaning of the system must be handled as described in paragraph one or two above, and any generated solid or hazardous wastes must be handled as described in paragraph one above. See Appendix B for further information on handling solid and hazardous wastes.

Note: Overspray must be controlled and is included in the wastewater collection and management requirements described above. This is especially important when using recycling equipment where contamination of the ground or surface waters may occur from spraying contaminated water.

### Best Management Practices:

- ✳ Prohibit underwater bottom cleaning, hull scraping, or any in-water process that removes paint from the boat bottoms.
- ✳ Conduct pressure washing of boat bottoms over an impervious surface prepared and maintained to prevent wastewaters and paint particulates from infiltrating into the pavement and to the ground.
- ✳ Prevent overspray by the use of enclosures and windbreaks where feasible and by avoidance of pressure washing in windy conditions.
- ✳ Minimize the amount of water used when boats are pressure washed. Use low volume, high pressure washing systems.
- ✳ Contact the CT DEP Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance, Division of Water Permitting and Enforcement at (860) 424-3018 for additional information or questions regarding the handling of pressure washing wastewater.
- ✳ To obtain a list of DEP permitted waste haulers, call the CTDEP toll free hazardous waste compliance assistance line at 1-888-424-4193 or the Hartford office at (860) 424-3023.

### Checklist for Clean Marina Certification:

- ✓ Is pressure washing wastewater being handled at your facility consistent with state and federal law?

YES      NO      N/A