

## Fueling

- Use caution when filling your fuel tank and don't top off. Know the capacity of your tank and leave it at least 10% empty.
- Catch fuel drops with an absorbent pad. Properly dispose of soiled absorbents at the oil dump next to the harbor masters office
- Do not hose down gas spills, or apply detergents or soaps to an oil sheen.
- Install fuel tank vent whistles or fuel/air separators to avoid spills
- Inspect fuel lines and hoses periodically. Replace as needed.
- Use funnels for pouring oil and keep a supply of absorbent pads onboard for cleaning up spills.
- Dispose of used oil and drained oil filters at the oil dump next to the harbor master's office.
- If a spill occurs, notify the marina management immediately. All oil and chemical spills must also be reported to the National Response Center (800) 424 8802

## Fueling Fire

Most fires happen after fueling. To prevent fires, follow these common sense rules:

- Don't smoke or strike matches.
- Shut off motors. Turn off electrical equipment.
- Close all windows, doors and openings.
- Take portable tanks out of the boat and fill them on the dock.
- Keep the filling nozzle in contact with the fill pipe or tank.
- Wipe up any spilled gas with petroleum-absorbent pads. Discard the pads in a safe manner.
- Ventilate for at least five minutes. Make sure there is no odor of gasoline anywhere in the boat.
- Periodically check the system for fuel leaks.
- Visually check for leaks or fuel in the bilges.

## Ventilation Systems

All motorboats or motor vessels, except open boats, made after 1940 and using gasoline as a fuel must have at least two ventilator ducts fitted with cowls or their equivalent for the efficient removal of explosive or flammable gases from all engine and fuel tank compartment bilges. If engine and fuel tank compartments are closed and separated, two such ventilation systems are required.

At least one exhaust duct must be installed to extend from the open atmosphere to the lower portion of the bilge, and at least one intake duct must be installed to extend to a point at least midway to the bilge (or at least below the carburetor air intake level). The cowls must be located and trimmed for maximum effectiveness to prevent displaced fumes from being recirculated.

Boats built after July 31, 1980, that have a gasoline engine for electrical generation, mechanical power or propulsion must be equipped with an operable ventilation system.

- A compartment containing a permanently installed gasoline engine must either be open to the atmosphere or ventilated by an exhaust blower system.
- The intake duct for an exhaust blower must be in the lower one-third of the compartment and above the normal level of accumulated bilge water.
- A combination of more than one exhaust blower may be used to meet specified requirements. Boats equipped with either outboard motors or “open” construction inboard motors (i.e., not enclosed) are exempt from ventilation requirements.