



News Release
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Clean Marina Program Helps Keep Michigan Waters Clean

The great thing about the Michigan Clean Marina Program, says Chuck Pistis, is that everyone wins – marinas, boaters, fish, plants and wildlife, and the public. “It’s a win-win situation because it is not only environmentally appropriate and a positive program overall, but it also offers an economic payoff for the business,” said Pistis, Michigan Sea Grant Extension Leader.

What is the Michigan Clean Marina Program?

The Michigan Clean Marina Program helps marinas follow policies that ensure cleaner and safer operation. The overall aim is to promote environmentally sound marina and boating practices to reduce pollution, enhance fish and wildlife habitat and protect Great Lakes water quality. Marina owner/operators can join the program by voluntarily pledging to put environmentally friendly best management practices into action. Marina operators follow a 10-step process to achieve certification, including completing an online course and a site visit from a Clean Marina certification specialist.

Why do I Care?

The program protects our waters while making local marinas more economically viable. Marinas deal with hazards and potential pollutants every day and are often the stewards of waterfront areas. So, whether you’re a boater, marina-goer or not, you have an investment in our water environment. Clean and healthy water is crucial to building and maintaining a high quality of life throughout Michigan and the Great Lakes basin. The Clean Marina Program helps accomplish that by outlining a set of recommended and required best management practices (BMPs). Best management practices address a variety of things, like petroleum control and spill prevention, stormwater management and boat maintenance and repair.

Who Oversees the Program?

The Michigan Clean Marina Program is administered through a unique partnership that includes the Michigan Boating Industries Association, Michigan Sea Grant and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

Learn More: www.michigancleanmarina.org

At a Glance

- Voluntary training and certification program for marinas.
- Clean Marinas put environmentally friendly practices into action.
- Owner/operators follow 10 steps, including completing an online course.
- About 40 marinas in Michigan are certified (with more in the works).
- Michigan one of first states to have a program, now leading regional, Great Lakes effort.

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The Michigan Clean Marina Program is a cooperative effort of the Michigan Boating Industries Association, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and Michigan Sea Grant College Program (Michigan State University and the University of Michigan). The Clean Marina Program is supported by the Michigan Clean Marina Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization.