

Online Training Resource for Marina Operators



The Clean Marina Classroom is a self-paced, convenient way for marina operators to seek clean marina certification for their facilities. The online Classroom includes information on laws, regulations and best management practices focusing on issues such as petroleum control, waste disposal and marina management. The Classroom includes resources relevant to all freshwater marinas and fulfills the training requirement of Clean Marina certification programs.

WHAT IS A CLEAN MARINA?

Clean Marinas voluntarily pledge to maintain and improve their waterways by reducing or eliminating releases of harmful substances and phasing out practices that can damage aquatic environments. Participants work through a certification process that includes online classroom training, a self-evaluation checklist and a site visit.

The Classroom is open to all public and private marina and boatyard operations. Marina owners or operators work through the class at their own pace – most finish within eight weeks. There are no grades, but having a thorough understanding of the material is crucial in preparing for certification. The Classroom consists of nine units that each include best management practices focused on the unit's theme.

CLASSROOM UNITS

1. Siting Considerations and Marina Design:

Marinas face important decisions in choosing the optimal site and design for new or expanding facilities, while also considering natural resources.

Unit focus: Avoiding or minimizing environmental impacts and protecting marina structures from damage.

2. Marina Facilities and Habitat: Marina facilities can be designed and maintained to minimize impacts on the environment and protect habitat and water quality.

Unit focus: Land use topics related to landscape design and grounds maintenance.

3. Stormwater Management: It is critical for marinas to effectively manage stormwater runoff.

Unit focus: Stormwater source control, management strategies and low-impact alternatives.

4. Boat Maintenance: One of the easiest ways to contain waste at a marina is to restrict the area where maintenance activities are performed.

Unit focus: Containing sanding dust and blasting debris, and mitigating impacts of pressure washing, painting operations, engine repair and handling chemicals.

5. Petroleum Control: Adopting effective oil change and fueling practices and emergency response plans are among the most important things marinas can do to protect water quality.

Unit focus: Safety, signage and proper training.

6. Sewage Handling: Raw or poorly treated sewage is harmful to human health and water quality.

Unit focus: Pump-out stations, proper sewage disposal, septic system maintenance as well as related services and education.



7. Waste Management and Recycling:

Effectively reducing and managing waste may reduce disposal fees.

Unit focus: Fish waste management, solid waste, hazardous products, as well as recycling and recommended disposal methods.

8. Marina Management and Boater Education:

After implementing best management practices, it is important to let the staff, boaters and public know the actions the marina is taking to protect the environment.

Unit focus: Staff training, business practices, education and outreach.

9. Aquatic Invasive Species Education:

Aquatic invasive species have significant economic and ecological impacts.

Unit focus: The role of marina operators in educating about and preventing spread of aquatic invasive species.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- **Laws and Regulations:** The Classroom provides an overview of state and federal laws, regulations and permit information. Though it is not comprehensive, it provides a starting place in understanding the legal setting for marina activities.
- **Sample Contracts, Forms and Signs:** Users benefit from access to sample materials that may easily be adapted for use by your marina. Sample contract language, emergency response plans and stormwater management plans are all provided.
- **Photos and Videos:** These resources provide visual examples of best management practices, the benefits of becoming a Clean Marina and encouragement from other Clean Marinas.

MOVING TOWARD CERTIFICATION

During the training, marina operators refer to their state Clean Marina certification checklist as they complete the course units. Material in the Classroom is directly related to the checklists available through each state program.

After completing the Classroom training and the checklist, marinas participate in a site visit with a Clean Marina certification specialist before being considered for certification. Consult your state program for next steps.

CONTACT

cmpcourse@umich.edu
(734) 763-1437

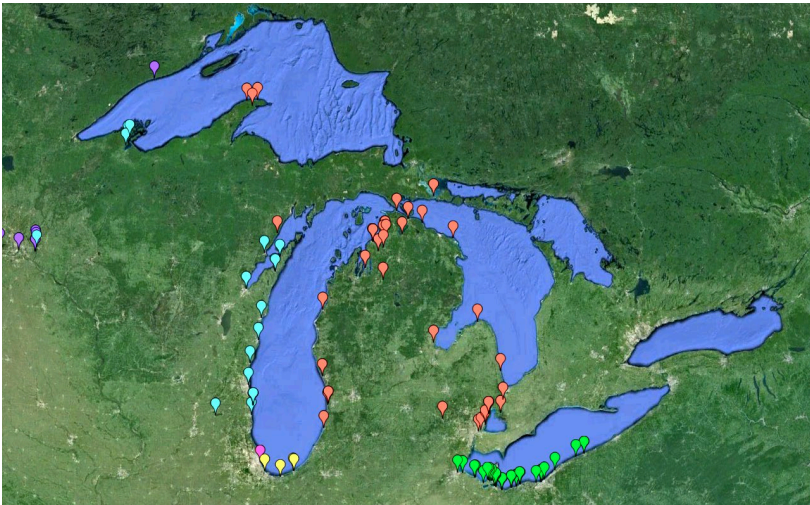
REGISTER ONLINE

To participate in the course, complete the combined pledge statement and registration form online, see: www.cleanmarinaclassroom.org

Course Fee: \$100

Questions about registering?
cmpcourse@umich.edu
(734) 763-1437

Questions about your state's program?
Check out the state-specific contacts on the Clean Marina Programs page available at www.cleanmarinaclassroom.org



WHERE TO FIND CERTIFIED CLEAN MARINAS IN THE GREAT LAKES REGION

For more information on regional efforts: www.glcleanmarina.org

See the most up-to-date list of certified marinas online:

- **Illinois:** www.dnr.illinois.gov/cmp/Pages/IllinoisCleanMarina.aspx
- **Indiana:** www.in.gov/dnr/naturepreserve/4747.htm
- **Michigan:** www.michigancleanmarina.org
- **Minnesota:** www.minnesotacleanmarina.org
- **Ohio:** ohioseagrant.osu.edu/cleanmarinas
- **Wisconsin:** www.wisconsincleanmarina.org

ABOUT THE CLEAN MARINA CLASSROOM

The Classroom, developed by Michigan Sea Grant for the Michigan Clean Marina program in 2009, was expanded in 2013 to include resources relevant to all freshwater marinas, with support from the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The revised Classroom is part of a collaborative regional effort, including Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin Sea Grant programs, to support education and outreach efforts across the Great Lakes states, through the Green Marina Outreach and Education Project. This regional effort is focused on reducing or eliminating pollution from entering the Great Lakes through boating and marina activities.

www.cleanmarinaclassroom.org