

What is a “Clean Marina?”

Designated Clean Marinas voluntarily adopt and adhere to a set of pollution-reducing best management practices and receive official recognition for doing so from the Louisiana Clean Marina Program of the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources Coastal Management Division (DNR).

All marinas benefit from a healthy environment. The program’s goal is to protect the state’s water resources by reducing nonpoint-source pollution associated with marinas and the boating industry. Nonpoint-source pollution cannot be traced to a single location. It typically occurs when rainwater washes over land, collects contaminants from many sources and deposits them in streams, lakes, estuaries and other surface waters. Nonpoint-source pollutants include oil from cars and boats, chemicals from fields and lawns and pet wastes. Stormwater runoff from marinas, drips from fuel docks, discharges from marine heads and fish waste from recreational anglers are also nonpoint-sources of pollution.

Why Clean Marinas?

The Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments (CZARA) of 1990 require all coastal states to develop Coastal Nonpoint-Source Programs to address polluted runoff within the coastal zone. Marinas are not a major contributor to nonpoint-source pollution in Louisiana, however, they are an important gateway into the state’s sensitive marine habitats.

Louisiana Clean Marina Program

A program of the Louisiana Department
of Natural Resources



Five hundred (500) copies of this public document were published in one printing at a total cost of \$375.00. This document was published for the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources Coastal Management Division by LSU Graphic Services, to provide information to marina owners and operators concerning the Louisiana Clean Marina Program. It was funded in part by a grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.
Photos by Louisiana Sea Grant Staff

How does the Louisiana Clean Marina Program work?

Marina operators request a copy of the *Louisiana Clean Marina Guidebook* and a self-assessment checklist from DNR. These documents describe practical ways to reduce pollution, educate boaters and maintain the environment while increasing the marina's business. When the marina operator feels his or her facility is ready, a Louisiana Clean Marina Program representative will visit and provide a preliminary assessment. The representative can provide advice on areas in which the marina may need help in meeting checklist criteria. Marinas that meet at least a minimum score on the checklist will be awarded the Louisiana Clean Marina designation.

The *Louisiana Clean Marina Guidebook* addresses the following topics:

- Siting considerations for new and expanding marinas
- Marina design and maintenance
- Stormwater management
- Vessel maintenance and repair
- Petroleum control
- Sewage handling
- Waste containment and disposal
- Marina management
- Laws and regulations

Benefits of the program to Louisiana marinas

Clean Marina certification shows patrons that you care for the environment. Through voluntary participation in this program, Louisiana marinas have an opportunity to promote their businesses, educate boaters, maintain the environment and protect coastal waters.

After certification, you may:

- Use the Louisiana Clean Marina logo in your advertising and correspondence.
- Fly a Louisiana Clean Marina flag.
- Enjoy promotion by the Louisiana Clean Marina Program in publications, on the World Wide Web and at public events.
- Use your selection into the program as an opportunity to prepare a press release and promote your marina in the local media.

Clean Marina programs have also been established in Alabama, California, Delaware, Florida, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia and are planned for other coastal states. As the national program grows, more environmentally conscious boaters will choose "Clean Marinas" first.

Can any marina become a Louisiana Clean Marina?

The program is designed for a range of facilities, from small marinas with only a few slips and limited resources to the state's largest marinas. Marinas willing to adopt best management practices that meet the spirit and goal of protecting Louisiana waters from pollution may be considered for admission to the program.

For more information, contact:

Greg DuCote
Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
Coastal Management Division
(800) 267-4019
gregory.ducote@la.gov

