



# ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club acknowledges that we have a responsibility to care for and protect the environment in which we operate. We are fully committed to improving environmental management systems across all of our operational activities and will encourage our tenants and members along with the wider community to join us in this effort.

We understand that we need to proactively address single-use plastics in our supply chain and on 3rd June 2019, RPAYC made a pledge via the Marina Industries Association to **reduce and eventually eliminate the use of single use plastics** by 2025 through changed business practices and recycling.

The Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club recognises our key environmental impacts to be in the areas of;

- Storage of vessels - Marina, Moorings & Hardstands
- Boatyard
- Mechanical and service activities
- Facility Management
- Environmental and Emergency policy, planning, testing and review
- Environmental; signage, education and information

We will strive to:

- Adopt the highest environmental standards in all areas of operation, meeting and exceeding all relevant legislative requirements.
- Access our organisational activities and identify areas where we can minimise our environmental impacts.
- Minimise the Clubs waste through careful and efficient use of all materials and energy.
- Purchase sustainable products wherever feasible.
- Publicise our environmental position. Clean Marina Program.
- Train, educate tenants, members and employees in appropriate, effective and responsible environmental practice and encourage their involvement in our environmental action policies and procedures.
- Reduce risks from environmental, health or safety hazards for employees and others in the vicinity of our operations.
- Aim to include environmental and ethical considerations in investment decisions where appropriate.
- Assist in developing solutions to environmental problems.
- Continually assess the environmental impact of all our operations.
- Reduce and eliminate single use plastics (2025)

The Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club **strictly prohibits** the following;

- Fishing and the disposal of fish waste
- Underwater hull cleaning
- Discharge of sewage, bilge and grey water
- Pressure washing on the marina
- Any form of land, water or noise pollution

RPAYC has developed a series of action plans to supplement each of our environmental policy objectives. The Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club will periodically review performance and publish these results.

The policy is made available to members and the public at Reception and on the Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club's website [www.rpayc.com.au](http://www.rpayc.com.au)

# WHS AND ENVIRONMENTAL RISK

## High Risk Vessel Maintenance

Members who require work on their vessel that may be considered a WHS or environmental high risk on Club property, and specifically the marina or hardstands, must contact the Club for prior approval. Refer below list. The Club may require Members to move their vessel to either the work berths or the boatyard, where the risk mitigation measures and conditions of the licence can be met. In the event the requirements of the EPA licence as per the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* (the POEO Act), Club By-Laws, policies or procedures cannot be met, the Club reserves the right to refuse approval.

### High risk work includes but is not limited to;

- Grinding
- Major sanding
- Spray painting
- Fuel transfers
- Rigg/Mast lifting
- Hot works

## General

- Members are required to notify the Club, have a facility agreement in place and must provide insurance for all vessels, trailers and storage items brought onto Club property. Storage fees are applicable
- Service wharf is for short term day berthing only (max 15 mins)
- Incidents and near misses must be reported to the Club
- Waste Bins; No domestic or bulk waste disposal, no disposal of hazardous chemicals, fuel, oil, gas bottles, batteries, flares or life rafts in garbage bins
- No dumping of gas bottles, hazardous chemicals, fuel anywhere on Club property
- External contractors; each employee is required to have undertaken the WH&S induction, hold a current Marine Card and insurances. Contractors may only park at the top car park (except Wed/Sat) or Crystal Bay and are required to sign in/out at the Club Reception or Boatyard Office. \*\*COVID19 restrictions external contractors may telephone to sign in/out.
- Ship to shore pump is located on the Service Wharf
- Cleaning; use low nitrogen and phosphorus detergents for on-board cleaning (refer to page 5)

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## Hardstands

- Areas immediately underneath and surrounding vessels must be kept clean, free of rubbish and debris
- Spills cleaned immediately or contact the Club for assistance
- No parking on the hardstand, pick up and drop off only
- Vessels brought onto hardstand facility licence agreement and insurance, crane induction is required
- Crane inductions are required in order to operate hardstand cranes

## Marina (including main gangways and fingers)

- kept clean, free of rubbish, debris and contaminants
- no storage of fuel, gas bottles or hazardous chemicals on gangway and fingers
- vessels must be secured in a such a manner to ensure no overhang gangway
- shore power leads must be tested and tagged every 12 months
- electrical equipment used must be tested and tagged
- spills cleaned immediately or contact the Club for assistance
- berth lines, shore power lead and hoses must not introduce a trip hazard
- courtesy trolleys to be returned to bays

## OUR ENVIRONMENT ..... HOW YOU CAN HELP

**Responsibility.** We all have a role to play in reducing the impact on the environment, you can help in a number of ways. All *Persons* on the *Premises* are expected to act in an environmentally responsible and safe manner and to cooperate with the Club Management and Marina Staff.

**Pollution.** It is the responsibility of the *Marina User* to comply with all of the relevant environmental laws and to recognise that all forms of pollution and contamination (including noise pollution) are prohibited on the *Premises*.

**In-Water Hull Cleaning is prohibited** including any process removing antifouling paint from the *Vessel's* hull

**Single use plastics** swap single use water/coffee containers for reusable containers, say no to plastic bags and bring your own, ask suppliers what they are doing to reduce single use plastics (influence the supply chain), find alternatives to plastics when and where you can and have an idea share it with us.

**Fishing is prohibited.** This is a fish friendly marina and fishing is prohibited. Do not feed the birds or fish. No fishing waste is to be disposed of at the Club.

**Noise.** Club Members and Guests shall not cause or permit any undue noise or disturbance to emanate from *Vessels*. Only activities which can be carried out within acceptable noise level can be conducted. These levels shall not exceed levels detailed by Northern Beaches Council. Apply brakes to wind generators.

**Ship to Shore Sewage.** Pump out of sewage from *Vessel* holding tanks can be carried out at the Ship to Shore Pump Out station free of charge located on the *Services Wharf*. Marina Users are reminded that the discharging of untreated sewage in enclosed waters in NSW is illegal.

**Fumes and odours.** Be aware of generated by *Vessels* and avoid the creation of fumes or odours.

**Clean and Tidy.** Club Members, Guests, Tenants and others must keep the *Premises* in a clean and tidy condition. Facility users must use the appropriate bins for recycling and general waste. For the disposal of gas bottles and batteries call the Club.

**Visual.** Please, avoid excessive lighting. No laundry or clothing shall be hung on or from the *Vessel*.

**Waste.** Disposal of any waste matter into the marine environment is strictly prohibited at all times. At no stage can any materials or substance be allowed to enter the marine environment. **Overboard Dumping** of any debris is not permitted. Works which allows debris to drop into the water are not permitted. **Washing Down** of materials generated from maintenance or repairs into the water is strictly prohibited.

**Bilge water, sewage, grey water and run off** from washing *Vessels*, and other liquid wastes are not to be discharged in the marine environment. Pumping of bilges in enclosed waters in **NSW is illegal**.

**Harmful Waste.** All harmful wastes (including but not limited to; oil, oily waters and products, noxious liquids, drained oil filters, scrap metal including anodes, batteries, acids), and all other harmful waste must be removed directly from the *Vessel* offsite. No such liquids are to be placed down the sewer. For disposal contact RPAYC.

**Pet Wastage.** All *Persons* are required to clean up their pet's waste immediately. All *Persons* are required to clean up any rubbish / dirt / items scattered by their pet. Dogs must be kept on a lead at all times whilst on Club property. Dogs are not permitted to use the Centreboard area (lawn) for toileting.

**Vessel Related Pollution.** All costs incurred in cleaning up spillages and in relation to any pollution are recoverable from the *Vessel Owner*. A *Fee* will also apply for waste removal.

**Report suspicious fish or aquatic plants** (dead and alive). Report a plant or fish you haven't seen before that could be a pest. If you think you have seen any of the marine or freshwater pest species, please either take a good quality digital photo, or collect a sample of the organism. If it's a fish, place it in a plastic bag and freeze it. If it's a seaweed, take the piece(s) home and carefully dry them between two sheets of blotting paper. Report the sighting to: DPI Aquatic Bio-security Unit [aquatic.pests@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:aquatic.pests@dpi.nsw.gov.au) or telephone: (02) 4916 3877

# WATER POLLUTION

The Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club is committed to the protection and preservation of the Environment. Section 120 of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act makes it an offence to cause pollution of waters.

For the full Protection of the Environment Operations Act or more information [Click Here](#)

## Abridged Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 (POEO). Dictionary.

### Water Pollution means;

placing... or otherwise introducing into or onto... through an act or omission any refuse, litter debris or other matter... so that the change in the condition of the waters... is likely to make the waters unclean, noxious, poisonous or impure, detrimental to the health...or obstructs or interferes with a persons ... enjoyment... of the waters.

### What constitutes water pollution?

Pollution of waters means;

Placing in or on, or otherwise introducing into or onto waters any matter so as to change the condition of the waters.

Placing any matter in a position where:

- (i) It falls, descends, is washed, blown or percolates, or
- (ii) It is likely to fall, descend, be washed, blown or percolates into any waters, onto the dry bed of any waters, or in any drain, channel or gutter used or designed to receive or pass rainwater, floodwater or any water that is not polluted.

### Who must report pollution incidents?

Under the POEO Act, the following people have a duty to notify a pollution incident occurring in the course of an activity that causes or threatens material harm to the environment

- a. the person carrying on the activity (this includes: Members, Club visitors, guests and contractors)
- b. an employee or agent carrying on the activity
- c. an employer carrying on the activity
- d. the occupier of the premises where the incident occurs

Notification must be given immediately, i.e. promptly and without delay, after the person becomes aware of the incident. Report pollution, concerns or incidents to;

The Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club  
Telephone (02) 9998 3700  
email [waterfront@rpayc.com.au](mailto:waterfront@rpayc.com.au)

NSW EPA Environment Line at any time to report major concerns or incidents

Telephone: 131 555  
email [info@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:info@environment.nsw.gov.au)

## POLICY IN WATER VESSEL WASHING

*Purpose:* To prevent pollutants discharging into the water from vessel cleaning activities.

*Procedure:* Persons should wash Vessels by hand. Care is to be taken to minimise the amount of run off.

- sweep and collect material from vessel surface prior to rinsing
- rinse vessel decks and exteriors with water only
- Ensure compliance with water use restrictions. Use trigger nozzle on hose or turned off when not in use.
- Pressure washing may only be carried out on the RPAYC Boatyard
- not use detergents where it may directly enter water, such as on the scum lines of the hull. Use warm water and/or rags or a brush instead.
- check product labels and use low nitrogen and phosphorus detergents for on-board cleaning
- mix the minimum amount of detergent required in a bucket to remove grime. Do not apply detergents directly onto brushes or the vessel
- use a mop and bucket or spill control equipment (absorbent sausages) to control wash-down water containing cleaning chemicals.
- dispose of wash-down water in bucket to Boatyard or landscaped areas
- clean and check anchor, fishing gear and seawater cooling systems on vessels as some marine pests can survive in the internal plumbing of vessels and can be translocated. report biofouling that has not been sighted before
- use warm instead of cold water as this leads to greater cleaning efficiency
- rinse hardstand/trailer vessels with freshwater after each trip, ensuring that the wastewater runoff does not re-enter the marine environment, and inspect the vessel for attached organisms. Remove any that are found and dispose of to a bin for landfill. Do not return organisms to water