

Bulletin

U.S. Department of the Interior

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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE ANNOUNCES AWARD OF CLEAN VESSEL ACT PUMPOUT GRANTS

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has awarded \$11.7 million in grants for 43 projects nationwide to provide pumpout and dump stations for boaters to dispose of human waste in an environmentally safe manner. Pumpout stations are used to pump waste out of recreational boat holding tanks. Dump stations are used to empty portable toilets.

The projects selected by the Service involve surveys and plans in 28 coastal states, construction of 538 pumpout stations and 127 dump stations in 29 states, education programs in 31 states, and miscellaneous projects such as operation and maintenance and upgrading waste treatment facilities to accept marine sewage in 4 states.

The Clean Vessel Act Pumpout Grant Program makes matching grants available, through a competitive process, to all states for construction and education, and to coastal states to conduct surveys and develop plans. In addition to the Service grants, the states will contribute \$4.0 million to the projects.

The funding comes from the Sport Fish Restoration Account of the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund, commonly known as the Wallop-Breaux Fund. That fund results from a 10-percent excise tax on fishing equipment and a 3-percent tax on electric trolling motors and sonar fish finders, a portion of the Federal fuels tax, and import duties on fishing tackle and pleasure boats.

Not only does the new program benefit boaters who will have more numerous and convenient facilities to use, but also the general public. Discharging waste into waters introduces disease-carrying microorganisms that contaminate aquatic environments and significantly impair their recreational value. People are put at risk by eating shellfish taken from, and by swimming in, affected bodies of water. In addition, decaying wastes can reduce oxygen levels in the water, making it difficult for fish and other marine species to breathe.

The following projects will be funded this year:

ALABAMA (\$218,106)

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management will conduct a survey, develop a plan, build 14 pumpout stations, and implement an education program.

ALASKA (\$412,500)

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game will build 13 pumpout stations and implement an education program.

CALIFORNIA (\$636,000)

The California Department of Boating and Waterways will conduct a survey, develop a plan, build 50 pumpout and/or dump stations, and implement an education program.

COLORADO (\$87,943)

The State of Colorado will build five pumpout stations and three dump stations.

CONNECTICUT (\$120,000)

The Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection will conduct a survey, develop a plan, build four pumpout stations, and implement an education program.

DELAWARE (\$70,500)

The State of Delaware will conduct a survey, develop a plan, build two pumpout stations and two dump stations, and implement an education program.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA (\$120,000)

The District of Columbia will build two pumpout stations and implement an education program.

FLORIDA (\$937,500)

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection will conduct a survey, develop a plan, build 20 pumpout stations, and implement an education program.

HAWAII (\$623,000)

The Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation in the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources will conduct a survey, develop a plan, build three pumpout/dump stations, and implement an education program.

IDAHO (\$41,500)

The Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation will build one pumpout station and one dump station, and implement an education program.

ILLINOIS (\$65,096)

The Illinois Department of Conservation will conduct a survey, develop a plan, and implement an education program.

INDIANA (\$48,156)

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management will conduct a survey and develop a plan for building facilities.

KENTUCKY (\$212,051)

The State of Kentucky will build four pumpout stations and one dump station, and implement an education program.

LOUISIANA (\$109,453)

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries will conduct a survey and develop a plan for building facilities.

MAINE (\$92,250)

The State of Maine will conduct a survey, develop a plan, build 20 dockside pumpout stations, acquire 1 pumpout boat, and implement an education program.

MARYLAND (\$1,463,289)

The Boating Administration of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources will conduct a survey, develop a plan, build 30 pumpout stations, provide operation and maintenance for 115 pumpout stations, provide technical assistance for 25 waste treatment plants, upgrade 5 waste treatment plants to accept marine sewage, and implement an education program.

MASSACHUSETTS (\$1,557,975)

The Massachusetts Department of Fisheries, Wildlife and Environmental Law Enforcement will conduct a survey, develop a plan, build/renovate 30 pumpout stations and 19 floating dump stations, acquire 42 pumpout boats, provide operation and maintenance for pumpout stations, and implement an education program.

MICHIGAN (\$376,500)

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources will conduct a survey, develop a plan, build 20 dump stations, and implement an education program.

MINNESOTA (\$100,000)

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources will conduct a survey, develop a plan, build four pumpout stations, and implement an education program.

MISSISSIPPI (\$37,500)

The Bureau of Fisheries of the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks will conduct a survey, develop a plan, and implement an education program.

NEW JERSEY (\$200,000)

The Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy will conduct a survey, develop a plan, and implement an education program.

NEW MEXICO (\$90,000)

The New Mexico Parks and Recreation Division will build two pump-out stations.

NEW YORK (\$1 million)

The New York Department of Environmental Conservation will conduct a survey, develop a plan, build 170 pumpout stations, and implement an education program.

NORTH CAROLINA (\$206,250)

The Division of Marine Fisheries of the North Carolina Department of Environment, Health and Natural Resources will conduct a survey, develop a plan, build 30 pumpout stations and 25 dump stations, and implement an education program.

OREGON (\$698,875)

The Oregon Marine Board will conduct a survey; develop a plan; build 15 pumpout stations, 18 dump stations, and 4 floating dump stations; provide operation and maintenance for 20 pumpout stations, 12 dump stations, and 4 floating dump stations; and implement an education program.

PENNSYLVANIA (\$99,324)

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission will conduct a survey, develop a plan, build two pumpout stations, provide operation and maintenance for pumpout stations, and implement an education program.

PUERTO RICO (\$13,000)

The Puerto Rico Department of Natural Resources will conduct a survey, develop a plan, and implement an education program.

RHODE ISLAND (\$362,890)

The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management will conduct a survey, develop a plan, build 21 pumpout stations, and implement an education program.

SOUTH CAROLINA (\$125,100)

The State of South Carolina will conduct a survey, develop a plan, build five pumpout stations and two dump stations, and implement an education program.

SOUTH DAKOTA (\$30,000)

The State of South Dakota will build four pumpout stations and two dump stations.

TENNESSEE (\$91,898)

The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency will implement an education program.

TEXAS (\$224,625)

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department will coordinate a survey and plan development, build six pumpout stations, and implement an education program.

UTAH (\$419,400)

The State of Utah will build 15 pumpout stations and 12 dump stations, and implement an education program.

VIRGIN ISLANDS (\$16,000)

The Virgin Islands Planning and Natural Resources Commission will conduct a survey of pumpout and dump stations and vessels with holding tanks and portable toilets.

VIRGINIA (\$122,663)

The Virginia Department of Health, through the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, will conduct a survey, develop a plan, build five pumpout stations and five dump stations, and implement an education program.

WASHINGTON (\$450,000)

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission will conduct a survey, develop a plan, build 10 pumpout and dump stations, and implement an education program.

WISCONSIN (\$247,500)

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources will conduct a survey, develop a plan, build/renovate eight pumpout stations, and implement an education program.