

Fish Waste/Bait

In small quantities, fish waste is scavenged by crabs and other marine animals. However, in an enclosed marina basin decomposition of excessive fish waste can produce foul odors and impair water quality through increased nutrient and bacteria levels and decreased dissolved oxygen. This can cause fish kills as well as an unsightly mess.

Dispose of Fish Waste Properly

- Do not throw fish waste, unwanted bait, or bait packaging into marina waters.
- Discard fish waste over deep water or in the trash.
- If available, use fish cleaning stations.
- Recycle fish parts by composting with peat moss or burying in the garden as fertilizer. Or freeze fish waste and reuse as chum or bait.



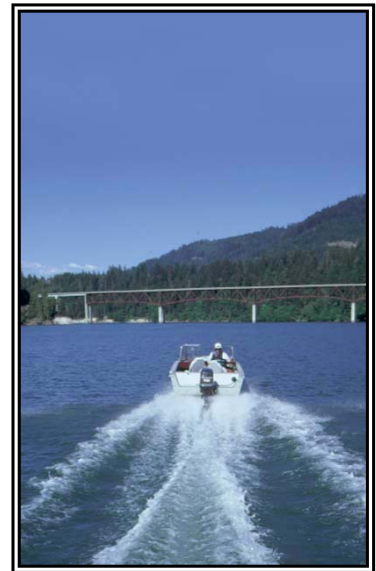
Fish Cleaning Station

Underway

Boat traffic (including personal watercraft) through shallow-water areas and in the nearshore areas at wake-producing speeds can stir up bottom sediment, uproot submerged aquatic vegetation, erode shorelines, and harm some animals. Disturbed sediment can cause darker waters which harm aquatic plant life and bottom-dwelling organisms, reduce dissolved oxygen levels, and disrupt fish feeding. The loss of underwater plants reduces available habitat for fish, shellfish, and waterfowl, diminishes the recycling of nutrients, and decreases natural shoreline erosion protection.

Protect Sensitive Habitat

- Always be aware of your wake. Distribute your passengers equally. A heavy stern creates a larger wake.
- Observe posted No-Wake Zones.
- Operate away from shore as much as possible to avoid disturbing wildlife, chopping vegetation, and disturbing bottom sediments.
- Proceed slowly in shallow areas.
- If you run into a grass bed, stop and tilt your engine. Use a pole or walk your boat out of the area.
- Do not disturb wildlife.



For more information,
contact the Clean
Marina Coordinator at
503-378-2625