

# Clean Boaters Guide Clean Fueling

One quart of spilled oil can create a slick over 2 acres in size. The cumulative effect of small spill can have serious effects on the marine environment. Improper fueling and inefficient two-stroke engine contribute to gasoline and oil entering our waterways.

## Follow these tips for Clean Fueling

### **Before Fueling:**

- > Know how much fuel your tank holds.
- > Turn off the engine and electronics.
- No smoking while fueling.
- > Fill portable tanks on lakeside.
- ➤ Have passengers exit the boat as a safety precaution while fueling.
- ➤ Use oil absorbent pads, socks or booms in your boat's bilge.
- > Keep engine well-tuned. Change oil filters often.
- > Use drip pan for engine work.
- ➤ Avoid pumping bilge water that is oily or has a sheen.

#### **During Fueling:**

- ➤ Have absorbent cloths and pads available when fueling to catch small drips.
- ➤ Use a splash- absorbing fuel collar to catch drops from the fuel nozzle.
- ➤ Attend the fuel nozzle at all time. Do not use a hands free clip!
- > Fuel slowly and carefully. Listen for a gurgling sound before the tank is full.
- Catch fuel back splash by putting a spill collection bottle under the fuel tank vent.
- > Rum your boats blower for few minutes after fueling.
- ➤ If you use your boats infrequently, add fuel stabilizer on the tank.
- ➤ Use your hand to check for air escaping from the vent. When the tank is nearly full, you'll feel an increase in airflow.
- ➤ Fuel expands as it heats up. Fill to 90% capacity instead of topping off to avoid spills.

# **After Fueling:**

- ➤ If fuel spills on the dock, wipe it up, don't hose it off into the water.
- ➤ If fuel spills in the water, do not disperse with soap or detergent. Detergent is toxic to marine life, spreads the problem and is a violation of federal law.
- ➤ If a spill occurs in a marina, notify marina's operator for proper disposal or recycling.