

Rules for releasing wastewater from your vessel into **MARINE WATERS**



**There are new rules for releasing
greywater and blackwater into SA waters.
These rules are different for vessels
on marine or inland waters.**

For more detail on what you need to do
to protect our marine environment from
wastewater pollution, check out the
Code of Practice for Vessel and Facility
Management (marine and inland waters).

For more information
visit www.epa.sa.gov.au/vfm
or call (08) 8204 2004
or 1800 623 445



New rules for vessels on marine waters

The EPA recommends that unless you can treat your wastewater on board, you should contain it on your vessel until you can dispose of it properly on land. Look out for marinas that provide wastewater pump-out stations and other services to help you protect the environment.

However, you can legally release wastewater into the ocean if you follow all of these rules.

BLACKWATER

You can only release **blackwater** into the ocean if:

- your boat is moving
- your boat is at least three nautical miles from land, an aquaculture lease (eg, tuna, oyster or mussel farms) or any people in the water
- it has been put through a macerator before it is released (this helps the waste to break down in the ocean)
- it has not been treated with a formaldehyde-based treatment.

If you have **treated** the blackwater to the standards listed in the code of practice then you can release it closer to land as long as you are not in a marina, canal or harbour, near people in the water or within three nautical miles of an aquaculture lease.

GREYWATER

You can only release **greywater** into the ocean if:

- your boat is at least one nautical mile from land or any people in the water
- your boat is at least three nautical miles from an aquaculture lease (eg, tuna, oyster and mussel farms)
- it does not have anything visibly floating in it (eg, food scraps).

If you have **treated** the greywater to the standards listed in the code of practice then you can release it closer to land as long as you are not in a marina, canal or harbour, near people in the water or within three nautical miles of an aquaculture lease.

For more information on any of these rules, including the treatment standards, see the Code of Practice for Vessel and Facility Management (marine and inland waters) at www.epa.sa.gov.au/codes or call the EPA on (08) 8204 2004 or 1800 623 445.