

The Basics of... No Discharge Areas

We all know it's not good boating (or legal boating) to discharge our marine heads directly overboard. But now we keep hearing about "No Discharge Areas." What does that mean?

Boats in No Discharge Areas are not allowed to put any sewage overboard, whether treated or untreated. No Discharge Areas do not affect your gray water discharge. If you have a portable toilet on-board or your head is attached to a holding tank, you are fine. You pump all your sewage out at a onshore pumpout station anyway.

If you have a Type I or II Marine Sanitation Device (MSD) designed to treat the sewage and then discharge it, you may not use this in a No Discharge Area.

If you have a "Y-valve" or a Type I or II MSD, be sure to secure your system before entering a No Discharge Area. Visit our website for more details.

Flip this card to find out if you might be boating in, or heading toward, a designated No Discharge Area.



The BoatU.S. Foundation is a national nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that helps boaters be safer and better stewards of the environment.

**Part of *The Basics of...*
Boater Education Series**

Am I boating in a No Discharge Area?

Under federal law, completely enclosed freshwater lakes and reservoirs, and rivers without interstate navigation are No Discharge Areas. As of July 2003, other EPA-approved No Discharge Areas are as follows:

California

Avalon Bay Harbor, Channel Islands Harbor, Dana Point Harbor, Huntington Harbor, Mission Bay, Newport Bay, Oceanside Harbor, Oxnard, Pacific Coast Hwy. Bridge, Richardson Bay, San Diego Bay, Santa Catalina Island, Sunset Bay

Florida

Destin Harbor, Key West Harbor, state waters of Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary

Georgia/South Carolina

Lake Hartwell

Lake Tahoe

All waters, California & Nevada sides of the lake

Maryland

Herring Bay, Assawoman & Isle of Wight Bay, Ocean City inlet north to Delaware state line

Massachusetts

Nantucket Harbor, Wareham Harbor, Waquoit Harbor, Westport Harbor, Chatham-Stage Harbor Complex, town of Harwich, Buzzards Bay, Three Bays/Centerville Harbor, Wellfleet Harbor, coastal waters from Muskeget Island to Great Point

Michigan

All waters

Minnesota

Minneapolis-St. Paul, confluence of the Mississippi and Minnesota Rivers, Boundary Waters Canoe Area 100 mile border of Minnesota & Canada

Missouri

All waters except the Mississippi and Missouri rivers and western portion of Bull Shoals Lake

New Hampshire

All waters except tidal waters

New Jersey

Barneget Bay, Manasquan River,

New Jersey- continued

Shark River, Navasink River, Shrewsbury River

New Mexico

All waters

New York

Lake George, Hudson River 65 miles from Roseton (above Newburgh) to southern tip of Houghtaling Island (at Coeymans) and from the Troy-Waterford Bridge to Lock #2, East Hampton, Mamaroneck Harbor, Huntington/Northport Bay, Lake Champlain, Port Jefferson Harbor, Setauket Harbor, Little Bay, The Narrows and Conscience Bay, Peconic Estuary from west Orient Point to Montauk Point, north shore of Long Island including Lower Huntington Bay, Northport Harbor, Centerport Harbor, Duck Island Harbor, Price Bend

Rhode Island

All waters up to 3 miles out; Great Salt Pond, Block Island

South Carolina/North Carolina

Lake Wylie, Lake Murray, Lake Keowee, Broad Creek, Lake Thurmon

Texas

24 freshwater lakes

Utah/Arizona

Lake Powell

Vermont

All, including parts of Lake Memphremagog & Lake Champlain

Virginia

Smith Mountain Lake

Wisconsin

All, except Lake Superior, the Mississippi & parts of St. Croix River

Look for this
symbol to find an
onshore pumpout
station!



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