



ALASKA BOATERS TIP SHEET

Clean Fueling

General Clean Fueling Practices:

Be alert and use clean fueling practices to keep you and the harbor safe.

- ◆ Know the capacity of your tanks and how much fuel is in them. If there is any doubt about the amount, physically sound the tanks prior to fueling.
- ◆ Regularly check fuel fittings, hoses, and your bilge for leaks.
- ◆ Remember that fuel expands in warm weather. Leave at least 5% of space in your fuel tank for expansion.
- ◆ Turn off the motor and all electricity on board.
- ◆ Don't smoke, extinguish all flames, and check all bigles for fuel vapors.
- ◆ Never leave a fuel hose unattended and keep the nozzle in contact with the fill pipe to avoid static electricity.
- ◆ Do not rely on the nozzles automatic shut off. Communicate with the station attendant regarding how much fuel you need and have him or her notify you when you are approaching that amount.
- ◆ Before you remove the nozzle, shake it to remove any final drips.
- ◆ When removing the nozzle, have an absorbent pad available to catch any drips. Store pads away from any source of ignition and dispose of saturated pads as hazardous waste.

Built-in Tanks

- ◆ Consider installing a "fuel whistle" on your vent. This inexpensive device will confirm when your tanks are close to full.
- ◆ Use a fuel spill container to cover the air vent and catch spills.
- ◆ At the end of boating season, leave tank full to reduce corrosion and condensation. Add fuel stabilizer to prevent stale gas.

Portable Tanks or Outboard Engines

- ◆ Fuel on land whenever possible.
- ◆ Fill the tanks slowly, and keep absorbent pads on hand to catch spills.
- ◆ Keep the vents closed while transporting the tanks.
- ◆ Leave fuel tank empty during long periods of inactivity.

