

**California Boating Clean and Green Program**  
**Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW)**  
**August, 2024**

**Boating Clean and Green Program (BC&GP)**

[www.BoatingCleanandGreen.com](http://www.BoatingCleanandGreen.com)

**Program Manager**

Vivian Matuk, Environmental Boating Program Manager

**Funding**

Harbors and Watercraft Revolving Fund. Current Program budget: \$ 351,549 (not including staffing costs)  
California Coastal Commission Contribution: \$35,000. This program is with the Interpretation and Education Division.  
Shared program with the California Coastal Commission.

The California Boating Clean and Green Program supports DBW's mission of providing safe and convenient public access to California's waterways and leadership in promoting safe, enjoyable and environmentally sound recreational boating. The program serves approximately 8,000-10,000 boaters and water enthusiasts on an annual basis.

Some program activities and accomplishments for 2023 include:

- Distributing 7,500 California Clean Boater Kits that are designed to provide boaters with knowledge and tools to reduce their environmental impact and include information on clean boating practices, as well as three pollution prevention tools: an oil-only absorbent pillow, an oil absorbent sheet and a fuel bib. The kits are distributed by partner Dockwalkers and staff.
- Conducting 14 virtual and three in-person Dockwalker trainings, training 176 partner Dockwalkers.
- Conducting one educational meeting about clean and safe boating practices and three clean boating seminars and presentations, which altogether reached 200 boaters.
- Conducting two hybrid boating facilities spill response communication workshops for boating facility managers (100 participants).
- Participating in two boat shows sharing clean and safe boating information with over 300 boaters.
- Maintaining the California Fishing Line Recycling Program. In 2023, 373 stations were being actively maintained. Through this recycling program, 3,274 pounds of fishing line have been collected and properly recycled. Stretched out, this line would stretch from San Francisco to Bahia Negra, Paraguay!
- Promoting the 2023 Coastal Cleanup event. Once again, the boating community demonstrated its commitment to keeping our shorelines and waterways clean. Forty-one boating facilities and groups participated in the event with 1,799 volunteers collecting 17,641 pounds of trash and recyclables on land and from 203 kayaks, canoes, and dinghies. Last year staff led a Facebook Live event to promote the 2023 Coastal Cleanup event, with over 3,000 people participating in the educational live stream.
- Conducting the statewide education tool: The Online Clean Boating Quiz. The Program held a six-week online quiz campaign during July and early September 2023. The quiz challenged recreational boat owners to test their clean and green knowledge about preventive practices related to oil, fuel, hazardous waste, sewage, and marine debris. Weekly incentives included California clean boater kits for randomly selected participants. In 2023 the original goal was 6,000 quiz completions. Almost 13,000 people completed the quiz, a 125% increase from 2022.
- Implementing a virtual outreach and education campaign to better engage with boaters. The Boating Clean and Green Program has been implementing a year-round virtual educational and outreach strategy with videos and promoted posts in Facebook and Instagram. In 2023 this strategy generated over 15 million impressions.
- Implementing Expired Marine Flare Collection Events. Staff partnered with the California Product Stewardship Council, Port of Los Angeles, Alameda, Marin, and Contra Costa counties offering expired marine flare collection events. Over 4,000 expired marine flares were properly collected and disposed of at these events.
- Creating more Dockside Podcast episodes. The podcast was created to engage more recreational boaters, boating facilities operators and water enthusiasts. This podcast aims to showcase several topics that promote clean and safe boating practices. Since April 2022, twenty-five episodes have been published with almost 4,200 combined downloads. Staff collaborates with the California State Parks Boating Safety Unit.
- Managing the DBW Clean Vessel Education and Outreach Program grantees.
- Serving as a statewide point of contact for clean boating education and technical assistance. A key facet of the BC&G is strengthening and enhancing partnerships with marinas and other marine businesses, boating associations, environmental nonprofit groups, and government agencies.