ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIONS AT WATER SPORTS EVENTS

QUICK CHECK ON THE WATER

Fuel spillage is the most common environmental impact concern at any water ski event. Use extreme care when fueling boats.

ON LAND

Keep the shoreline clean and provide for recycling of waste such as glass bottles and aluminum cans. Leave the site as you found it.

JOIN THE ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENT

IWSF has partnered with the Global Sports Alliance and the United Nations Environment Program UNEP to promote environmental awareness at all sporting events.

This brochure will outline several things you can do as a water sports enthusiast to assure environmental awareness at your events.

Remember we are all stewards of the environment and without clean water we would be without the resource most necessary to enjoy our sport.

More information is available at:

www.iwsf.com
www.info@gsa.or.jp
and
www.ecoflag.com

THE INTERNATIONAL WATER SKI & WAKEBOARD FEDERATION

THE GLOBAL SPORTS ALLIANCE

UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE
**STEP ONE: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

What impact will your event have on the local environment, and how can you reduce that impact?

Common concerns surrounding sports events include the amount of garbage produced, the means for separating and disposing of waste, the use of energy and water resources, the disruption of natural habitats, transport to and from events and the release of emissions. Event organizers, participants and spectators can all contribute to reducing the environmental impact of the event and to increasing environmental awareness.

Assess the size of your event. Do you expect 100, 1,000 or 10,000 spectators? Plan on how you will dispose of wastes and clean the area post event. Care must be given to leaving a site as you find it.

Use wave barriers or other devices to protect the shore line where appropriate.

Plan to recycle as much waste as possible. Prudent use of electricity and local resources should be analyzed to have minimum impact.

**STEP TWO: FUELING AREAS**

Fueling areas should be properly marked and secured as to minimize spill potential. A simple spill at a re-fueling station in itself is not a serious threat to the environment. But when added to hundreds of other spills occurring over a season the effects can be detrimental. By adopting some simple and safe practices this impact significantly reduces.

General fueling tips:

- Use a gasoline container that you can handle and pour easily.
- Use a funnel or spout with an automatic stop device to prevent overfilling.
- Fill up your tank before the event—caution: a full tank of gas can expand and overflow in the hot sun.
- Check your boat for any leaks of gasoline or oil—follow club/marina Codes of Conduct, or Emergency Response Protocol, for cleaning up spills safely.
- Install a fuel/air separator on tank vents where appropriate.
- Transport and store gasoline out of direct sunlight in a cool dry place.
- Always use caution when pumping gasoline and mixing it with oil.
- Identify fueling area and display proper signage.

**STEP THREE: INCREASING AWARENESS**

Fly the Ecoflag and let people know that as a sport we are involved. www.Ecoflag.com

1. Include information about the environment and the goals of the Ecoflag Movement in official programs, pamphlets and other materials handed out at the event.
2. Ask the announcer to include your environmental messages as part of their general announcements made throughout the event.
3. Ask the athletes taking part in your event to be environmental role models and to join in activities.

The Ecoflag movement is a global drive by sports enthusiasts to secure a healthy ecosystem for all our future generations. Contact www.IWSF.com. Access the IWSF Environmental Manual for more on what you can do.