

# INTERNATIONAL POLLUTION REGULATIONS

MARPOL CONVENTION, ANNEX V

## DISCHARGE OF GARBAGE INTO THE SEA IS **PROHIBITED**

- All garbage must be retained on board and disposed of at facilities on land, in port or a marina.
- Unprocessed food waste can be discharged at sea only while the vessel is moving and is as far as practicable from the nearest land<sup>^</sup> (but not less than 12 nautical miles).
- For vessels of 100 gross tonnage and above, and every vessel which is certified to carry 15 or more persons, refer to the Garbage Management Plan.
- Fishing and tourist vessels are allowed to release small amounts of food into the sea for the purpose of fish feeding or tourist operations.

**Note:** Cooking oil cannot be discharged into the sea  
**Violations of these requirements may result in penalties**

<sup>^</sup>The definition of 'nearest land' includes the Great Barrier Reef and Torres Strait area and can be found in MARPOL Annex V



# REPORTING ILLEGAL GARBAGE DISCHARGE

## You can help keep our seas clean by reporting any violations of the garbage discharge regulations

Information is needed to assist in investigating and prosecuting offenders. Useful information includes:

- the **name** of the vessel responsible;
- the **time, date and location** of the incident (distance from land, GPS coordinates);
- details of **how much and what type of garbage** was discharged; and
- other **witnesses** or vessels in the vicinity.

**If possible take photographs or video images of the pollution, the vessel or the person involved.**

**Please REPORT illegal garbage discharges to:**

Joint Rescue Coordination Centre (Australia)

Phone: 1800 641 792 (freecall) or (02) 6230 6811 at any time

**Please keep this information card on board your vessel.**

**MARPOL requires that all vessels of 12m or more in length overall display a placard that notifies the crew and passengers of the garbage discharge regulations.**