

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[^] (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

[^]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.