

Sewage Disposal

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Section 312 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) sets out the principal framework for regulating sewage discharges from vessels into the U.S. navigable waters and is implemented jointly by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Coast Guard. However, sewage discharges from certain vessels may also be subject to regulation under other federal statutes or international treaties.

In order to discharge within three miles, sewage must be treated using a U.S. Coast Guard-approved Type I or Type II Marine Sanitation Device (MSD). Alternatively, sewage may be stored onboard in a holding tank (Type III MSD). Treated and untreated sewage discharges are prohibited in:

- Freshwater lakes, reservoirs and other freshwater impoundments whose inlets or outlets are such as to prevent the ingress or egress by vessel traffic.
- Rivers not capable of navigation by interstate vessel traffic.
- No-discharge zones (NDZs) (as applicable).

You can find no discharge zones, by state, here: <https://www.epa.gov/vessels-marinas-and-ports/no-discharge-zones-ndzs-state>

The following links give you locations where you can get your MSD pumped out.

Maine

<https://www.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=d7c7e6027dce4109897f95289ac00f40>

New Hampshire

<https://nhdes.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=dea30ccf38fc4a45bd6dc21f20d38ac1>

Massachusetts

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1D7ev3T7FnLcE6Lk2IDzK5XiYfUY&ie=UTF8&hl=en&msa=0&ll=42.28950074639165%2C-70.09277338281251&spn=1.900213%2C3.713379&t=h&z=8>

Rhode Island

<https://dem.ri.gov/sites/g/files/xkqbur861/files/maps/mapfile/pumpmap.pdf>

Connecticut

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/81120a54fded41e6afa16c572a85d409>

Vermont

<https://www.uvm.edu/seagrant/sewage-pumpout-navigation-app>

New York City

<https://www.nyc.gov/assets/dep/downloads/pdf/water/nyc-waterways/boat-sewage-disposal/map-of-pumpout-stations.pdf>

New York State

https://goingcoastal.org/our_projects/mapping-pumpouts/