

PRACTICE SAFE BOATING PRECEDURES AND DON'T BECOME A STATISTIC!

P L E A S E M E M O R I Z E

THE SEVEN STEPS TO SAFE FUELING:

1. Be sure the boat is safely moored to the fuel float or wharf.
SNUB ALL LINES!
2. Extinguish all flames on board. This means cigarettes, cigars, pipes, galley stoves and other appliances which have any open flames. Also, shut off all electric motors which may be running or switched on.
3. Close all doors, windows, portlights, hatches or other openings which may allow fumes to enter the bilge.
4. Remove the gas filler cap and secure it so that it will not fall overboard. GROUND THE NOZZLE to dissipate any static electricity build-up. DO NOT REMOVE IT FROM THE FUEL PIPE INTAKE FITTING UNTIL YOU ARE FINISHED!
A fuel hose must always be attended.
5. When the tank is full, replace the filler cap and wipe up any spillage; then WASH DOWN THOROUGHLY. Place gasoline soaked rags in a tightly sealed metal container and dispose of them later, ON SHORE.
6. Open all portlights, hatches, doors and windows to VENTILATE and allow any trapped fumes to escape. If you have a BILGE BLOWER - TURN IT ON AND VENTILATE FOR AT LEAST FIVE (5) MINUTES. Then check the bilge areas for fumes. Use the best fume detector, YOUR NOSE. Sniff for vapors. EXPENSIVE BILGE SNIFFING DEVICES ARE FINE BUT THEY ARE NOT INFALLIBLE.
7. AFTER YOU HAVE DONE ALL OF THE ABOVE AND YOU ARE SATISFIED THAT THERE ARE NO FUMES PRESENT, YOU MAY START YOUR ENGINE(S).

Outboard powered boats with portable fuel tanks should not be fueled with the tanks in the boat. Portable tanks should be lifted out of the boat and placed on the wharf to be filled. Pass the tank to the attendant and, after fueling, have it passed back to you. Secure the tank and wash down any fuel which may have spilled. If there are any decked-over areas on the boat, be certain to ventilate thoroughly for at least five minutes before starting the engine.