

California Boating Clean and Green Program
Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW)
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Boating Clean and Green Program (BC&GP) www.BoatingCleanandGreen.com

Program Manager

Vivian Matuk, Environmental Boating Program Manager

Funding

Harbors and Watercraft Revolving Fund. Current Program budget: \$ 340,000. California Coastal Commission Contribution: \$43,000. This program is with the Interpretation and Education Division. Shared program with the California Coastal Commission.

The California Boating Clean and Green Program (BC&GP) supports DBW's mission of providing safe and convenient public access to California's waterways and leadership in promoting safe, enjoyable and environmentally sound recreational boating. The program serves approximately 10,000 boaters and water enthusiasts on an annual basis.

Some program activities and accomplishments for 2025 include:

- Distributing 6,500 California Clean Boater Kits that are designed to provide boaters with knowledge and tools to reduce their environmental impact and include information on clean boating practices, as well as three pollution prevention tools: an oil-only absorbent pillow, an oil absorbent sheet and a fuel bib. The kits are distributed by partner Dockwalkers and staff.
- BC&GP's Dockwalker Program celebrated this year its 25th anniversary. The Dockwalker Program is the first of its kind in the nation and has championed peer-to-peer education and outreach to inspire environmental stewardship in California. This program is implemented by the BC&GP and The Bay Foundation. Since 2000, over 1,400 Partner Dockwalkers (environmental educators) have shared clean boating practices with over 130,000 boaters across the state. 2025 recognizes the 25th year of the Dockwalker Program, and throughout these years there has been a groundswell of vital knowledge and resources shared across California. This year was a success with conducting a total of 16 virtual and in-person training courses and working with 219 partner Dockwalkers.
- Conducting one educational meeting about clean and safe boating practices and two clean boating seminars and presentations, which altogether reached 200 boaters.
- Conducting three hybrid boating facilities spill response communication workshops for boating facility managers (138 participants) and two aquatic invasive species prevention workshops with 103 participants.
- Participating in two boat shows sharing clean and safe boating information with over 300 boaters.
- Expanding the California Fishing Line Recycling Program from 518 stations in 2024 to 530 in 2025. Through this recycling program, 3,958 pounds of fishing line have been collected and properly recycled (527 pounds in one year). Stretched out, this line would stretch from San Francisco to Punta Arenas, Chile!
- Promoting the 2025 Coastal Cleanup event. Once again, the boating community demonstrated its commitment to keeping our shorelines and waterways clean. Forty-five boating facilities and groups participated in the event with 1,968 volunteers collecting 13,233 pounds of trash and recyclables on land and from 101 kayaks, canoes, and dinghies.
- Implementing a virtual outreach and education campaign to better engage with boaters. The Boating Clean and Green Program has been implementing a year-round virtual educational and outreach strategy with videos and educational posts in Facebook and Instagram. In 2025 this strategy generated over 10.7 million impressions.
- Implementing Expired Marine Flare Collection Events. Staff partnered with the California Product Stewardship Council, Ports of San Diego and Los Angeles, City of Morro Bay, and Alameda, Marin, Del Norte, Orange, and Contra Costa counties in offering expired marine flare collection events for the public. Five hundred and twenty-eight participants properly disposed of 8,596 expired marine flares (or 3,757 pounds) at these events (*this data is from 2024 and has not been previously reported. The 2025 collection events will take place in mid-November and after the Commission meeting*).
- Creating more Dockside Podcast episodes. The podcast was created to engage more recreational boaters, boating facilities operators and water enthusiasts. This podcast aims to showcase topics that promote clean and safe boating practices. Since 2022, thirty-four episodes have been published with over 6,260 combined downloads. Some of the topics this year included the first ever bilingual episode about nature and access for all, California boating incidents, the largest dam removal in history and Cyril Derreumaux, a kayaker, extreme athlete, three times world record holder and the first person to complete solo kayak crossings of both the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, among others. Staff collaborates with the California State Parks Boating Safety Unit.
- Managing the DBW Clean Vessel Education and Outreach Program grantees.
- Serving as a statewide point of contact for clean boating education and technical assistance. A key facet of the BC&GP is strengthening and enhancing partnerships with marinas and other marine businesses, boating associations, environmental nonprofit groups, and government agencies.