

Take care of our lake!

A floating community can potentially contribute to water pollution with both liquid and solid wastes. To help bring the water quality and sediments of Lake Union to a cleaner level, these floating home Best Management Practices (BMPs) are recommended. Remember, under Washington State Law, Chapter 90.48.080 RCW, it is illegal to discharge or allow to be discharged any pollutant into the water. With a little forethought and common sense, we can stop pollutants from falling into Lake Union, thus creating a safer and cleaner "water yard" for outdoor recreational pleasure.



Best Practices for Floating Home Owners

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Best Practices

Garbage and Recycling

- 1) Dispose of garbage on shore in your garbage dumpsters. Recycle paper, glass, cans in the recycle bins. Keep area around dumpsters and bins neat and debris-free.
- 2) Do not dispose the following in the dumpsters: paints, solvents, fuel, oil, batteries, anti-freeze, wet rags. Take these to the King County Household Hazardous Waste Station.
- 3) Do not dispose of any item from your floating home or dock into the water.

House, Deck and Dock Maintenance

- 1) When prepping the house or deck for paint, stain or varnish, tarp your work area to trap any paint chips or dust, thus preventing anything from falling into the lake.
- 2) Vacuum or sweep up frequently.
- 3) Keep the paint in small containers, bringing out only what you need.
- 4) Use a drip pan or tarp to mix or transfer paint or solvents. Keep the containers in a drip pan while working.
- 5) Paint and solvent spills need to be contained and cleaned up immediately.

Sub-Contractors

- 1) Inform your contractors, subcontractors, and any

employees about these water quality Best Management Practices (BMPs).

- 2) You will be responsible for the actions of your contractors, subcontractors, and any employees regarding adherence to all water quality rules and regulations.

General Housekeeping

- 1) Secure all household items and outdoor furnishings located near the edge of the structures in a manner which will keep them from blowing or falling overboard into the lake.
- 2) Consider vacuuming decks instead of sweeping to minimize dirt from entering the lake.

Gardening

- 1) Tarp your work area when planting or repotting plants to avoid anything from falling into the water.
- 2) If using fertilizers on your plants, do not overwater so that the toxins spill over into the lake.

Boat Maintenance

- 1) Engine Work
 - Use absorbent pads under engine or in bilge when changing oil.
 - Recycle waste oil and oil filters at an automotive store or at the household hazardous waste station. Recycle batteries when you buy new ones.
 - Dispose of antifreeze and transmission fluid at the household hazardous waste station.
- 2) Painting and Varnishing
 - Tarp the area between the boat and the floating

- home to trap any sanding dust or debris.
- Vacuum and sweep up frequently. Use a sander with a collection bag.
- Keep paint and varnish in small containers and inside a secondary drip pan.
- Use a tarp or drip pan under your materials when mixing or transferring paint, varnish or solvents.
- Paint, varnish and solvent spills should be treated as oil spills.
- Do not leave any containers of fuel, oil, solvents, fluids, paint, batteries or debris of any nature on the dock or out in the open on your deck or access ramp.

Accidental Spills

- 1) In case of a fuel, oil, paint, solvent or dangerous material spill, STOP the source of the spill and begin to clean up immediately.
- 2) DO NOT pour liquid detergent onto the spill.
- 3) Keep absorbent pads available to throw onto the surface of the water to sop up the spill.
- 4) Double bag the dirty absorbent pads and dispose of them in your garbage dumpster.
- 5) For a large and uncontrolled spill, call the U.S. Coast Guard at 1-800-OILS-911.

Pets

- 1) Scoop and discard pet poop via the home sewer system or bag it and place in the garbage.



It's common sense.
Don't throw or drop
anything in the water.