Waste Management Practices for Users of Port Reception Facilities

People need to bring generated marine litter to port and marinas, and marine litter should be discharged to port reception facilities through proper procedures, so that unnecessary litter is not to travel around the ocean. Users of port reception facilities need to bear in mind the procedures of use of port reception facilities. More detailed guidelines are provided in the guidelines for providing and improving port reception facilities and services for ship-generated marine litter in the Northwest Pacific region which were developed by MERRAC as another outcome of MALITA project. Users also need to separate ship-generated marine litter and discharge into the appropriate receptacles depending on the categories.

- Plastics.
- Floating dunnage, lining, or packing material.
- Ground paper products, rags, glass, metal, bottles, crockery, etc.
- Cargo residues paper products, rags, glass, metal, bottles, crockery, etc.
- Food waste.
- Incinerator ash except from plastic products which may contain toxic or heavy metal residues.

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Background

Marine litter is any persistent, manufactured or processed solid material discarded, disposed of or abandoned in the marine and coastal environment. Marine litter comes from multiple sources, land-based and sea-based sources. In particular sea-based activities include fishing, shipping, recreational activities and passenger ships that generate a significant proportion of marine litter. Among others, sea-based litter such as derelict fishing nets, wire, rope and plastic bags, remains on the seabed, in the water column and on the sea surface. It can also be transported with ocean currents and winds and found on the beaches and shorelines. Marine litter can cause injury or death of human and other living thing by entanglement and ingestion. Animal might occasionally feed on plastic bag looks like food which may lead them to starvation or malnutrition. Abandoned fishing nets can trap a number of animals and lead to their death consequentially. Vessels can also be damaged by buoyant materials which can result in considerable costs to repair. In this regard, marine litter is now recognized as one of major marine pollution that destroys the ecological, economical and cultural values of the marine and coastal environment.

These guidelines were developed as a part of the NOWPAP Marine Litter Activity (MALITA) in order to provide good action tips how to reduce the amount of marine litter. There are several global conventions and agreements which aim at protecting the marine environment from marine litter.

Global Regulations Related To Marine Litter Management

There are several global conventions and agreements which aim at protecting the marine environment from marine litter.


Fishing

Fishing is human activities catching fish or other aquatic species. During fishing activities, various kinds of marine litter can be generated, and abandoned, lost, and derelict fishing gears take a greatest portion among sea-based marine litter. Fishing sector should recognize that these kinds of marine litter could lead to the some decline of fish stock and consequently pose a threat to fishing activities as a whole.

Examples of Marine Litter Generated from Fishing Activities

Fishing Activities
- Fishing nets;
- Fishing line, rope and wire;
- Fishing lures;
- Salt bags;
- Rubber gloves;
- Traps (crab, fish);
- Baits and floats;
- Straps;
- Plastic sheeting and tarps;
- Boxes (fish boxes, cardboard boxes).

Ship Maintenance and Operation
- Oil and lube bottles;
- Dirty rags;
- Light bulbs;
- Plastic bottles and cans;
- Beverage bottles and cans;
- Takeaways (cups, plates, forks, knives, spoons, etc.);
- Grocery bags and miscellaneous goods.

Activities Related to Shipboard Life
- Cigarette butts and filters;
- Grocery bags and miscellaneous goods.
- Food wrappers and containers;
- Tableware (cups, plates, forks, knives, spoons, etc.);
- Plastic material (bags, etc.);
- Beverage bottles and cans;
- Oil, oil filters, and lead batteries.
- Packs of tobacco and matches;
- Metal and plastic fasteners;
- Seafood containers.

Shipboard Marine Litter Management
- Do not throw away overboard cigarette butts, beverage cans, food wrappers, etc.
- Use permanent or reusable tableware instead of disposable ones.
- Pack food in reusable containers rather than plastic bags.
- Don’t throw marine litter back into ocean if it is caught during the fishing operation and dispose it of at a shore, use port reception facilities.
- Don’t throw cigarette butts, beverage cans, etc.
- Install trash compactors on large vessels.
- Do not throw overboard cigarette butts, beverage cans, food wrappers, etc.
- Never leave used oil or fuel filters unattended. Store them in a safe and secure place.
- Manage buoys, floats, straps with caution and do not let them to be drifted or blown off.
- Take back unusable fishing gear and dispose of properly.
- Never leave used oil or fuel filters unattended. Store them in a safe and secure place.
- Don’t throw away overboard cigarette butts, beverage cans, food wrappers, etc.
- Install trash compactors on large vessels.
- Don’t throw overboard cigarette butts, beverage cans, etc.
- Use permanent or reusable tableware instead of disposable ones.
- Pack food in reusable containers rather than plastic bags.
- Don’t throw marine litter back into ocean if it is caught during the fishing operation and dispose it of at a shore, use port reception facilities.
- Educate crews about the importance of reducing marine litter and good waste management system on vessels.

Action Tips for Reducing Marine Litter

- Keep all containers closed.
- Bring all litter generated during the voyage back ashore.
- Make appropriate separation of recyclable materials.
- Install trash compactors on large vessels.
- Use permanent or reusable tableware instead of disposable ones.
- Do not throw overboard cigarette butts, beverage cans, food wrappers, etc.
- Never leave used oil or fuel filters unattended. Store them in a safe and secure place.
- Separate and store recyclable materials like cans and bottles, glass, paper, antifreeze, oil, oil filters, and lead batteries.
- Designate a permanent onboard trash bin. Use a container with a lid.
- Don’t throw away overboard cigarette butts, beverage cans, food wrappers, etc.
- Install trash compactors on large vessels.
- Do not throw overboard cigarette butts, beverage cans, etc.
- Use permanent or reusable tableware instead of disposable ones.
- Pack food in reusable containers rather than plastic bags.
- Don’t throw marine litter back into ocean if it is caught during the fishing operation and dispose it of at a shore, use port reception facilities.
- Educate crews about the importance of reducing marine litter and good waste management system on vessels.

Examples of Marine Litter Generated from Fishing Activities

Fishing Activities
- Cigarette butts and filters;
- Grocery bags and miscellaneous goods.
- Food wrappers and containers;
- Plastic material (bags, etc.);
- Beverage bottles and cans;
- Oil, oil filters, and lead batteries.
- Packs of tobacco and matches;
- Metal and plastic fasteners;
- Seafood containers.

Ship Maintenance and Operation
- Oil and lube bottles;
- Dirty rags;
- Light bulbs;
- Plastic bottles and cans;
- Beverage bottles and cans;
- Takeaways (cups, plates, forks, knives, spoons, etc.);
- Grocery bags and miscellaneous goods.