



Sheerness Road, Lower Halstow SITTINGBOURNE ME9 7EB

## CLUB GUIDANCE ON DRAINING OF FUEL TANKS

The following may serve as guidance on what is expected of members when cleaning fuel tanks:

**Diesel fuel and its associated sediment are considered pollutants and can contaminate soil and water sources, harming ecosystems and potentially posing health risks. Proper disposal methods should be followed to avoid environmental damage.**

### Why it's harmful:

- **Water contamination:**

Diesel fuel and its components are toxic to aquatic life and can pollute drinking water sources.

- **Soil contamination:**

Diesel can seep into the soil, impacting plant life and potentially contaminating groundwater.

- **Health risks:**

Exposure to diesel fuel can cause skin and respiratory irritation, and ingestion can be harmful

- **Environmental damage:**

Diesel spills and improper disposal can create lasting damage to ecosystems.

### Proper disposal methods:

1. Collect the sediment:
2. After draining the diesel fuel, carefully collect any remaining sediment and water in a suitable container. Use absorbent material when necessary to prevent spread of any spillage.
3. Contact local authorities:
4. Check with your local environmental agencies or waste management services for guidance on the proper disposal of petroleum-based waste.
5. Use a licensed waste disposal facility:
6. Some facilities specialize in handling and disposing of hazardous materials, including petroleum products.
7. Consider fuel polishing:
8. For larger tanks, fuel polishing systems can be used to clean the fuel and remove sediment, minimizing the amount of waste requiring disposal.
9. Clean the tank properly:
10. After removing the sediment, the tank should be cleaned thoroughly to prevent future contamination. This may involve using specialized cleaning solutions and proper rinsing.
11. Prior to tank flushing inform the yard master of your intention to do so and provide a plan of method to be used for approval.

### **ISSUE CONTROL**

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