

MEMORANDUM

TO: Waterfront Community HOAs of Anne Arundel County
FROM: DNR, Chesapeake and Coastal Services
DATE: June 24, 2022
RE: No Discharge Zone Effective 1 July 2022

You are receiving this memo because we believe your community has waterfront homeowners and/or a community marina/dock. If not, please disregard this memo.

On July 1, 2022 a new 'No Discharge Zone' (NDZ) will take effect in all waters of Anne Arundel County which may impact some of the boaters in your community. The NDZ prohibits the use of Type I and II marine sanitation devices (i.e., Lectra Sans) that treat and release boat sewage. Boats with these devices can still operate in the area if the toilet/head is disabled while doing so and they may use their certified marine sanitation devices outside of the NDZ.

Maryland sought NDZ designation for these waters, which are impaired by nutrients and sediments, due to a high concentration of boats, the presence of resources sensitive to boat sewage, a prevalence of water contact activities, and strong local support for added protection.

Maryland Departments of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Environment (MDE) jointly applied to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for additional protection of Anne Arundel County waters in May 2020. After significant review and public comment, the NDZ is now final.

Enclosed are brochures and a fact sheet we have produced that you may want to share with your customers. To request more brochures, email donna.morrow@maryland.gov. We have also enclosed cards with our website that help boaters locate a pumpout throughout Maryland.

As part of the NDZ application process, DNR and EPA determined that there are adequate pumpout facilities within the Zone for commercial and recreational vessels. As a reminder, state law requires marinas with 50 or more slips—including community marinas—to have an operable pumpout. DNR administers grants for purchase of pumpout equipment as well as operations and maintenance of pumpouts. More information about pumpouts, grants, and complying with No Discharge Zones in Maryland is available on the department's website (<https://dnr.maryland.gov/boating/Pages/default.aspx>).

To report an NDZ violation, citizens should call MDE at 410-537-3510 (weekdays) or 866-MDE-GOTO (evenings and weekends). To report an inoperable pumpout station, citizens should email pumpouts.dnr@maryland.gov or call 410-260-8772. Thank you for your help in reaching the boaters of Anne Arundel County and in protecting our natural resources.

Tawes State Office Building – 580 Taylor Avenue – Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-260-8DNR or toll free in Maryland 877-620-8DNR – dnr.maryland.gov – TTY Users Call via the Maryland Relay

NEED A PUMPOUT?
Find one online at

dnr.maryland.gov/boating



CLICK ON PUMPOUTS
REPORT BROKEN PUMPOUTS TO
PUMPOUT@DNR.STATE.MD.US

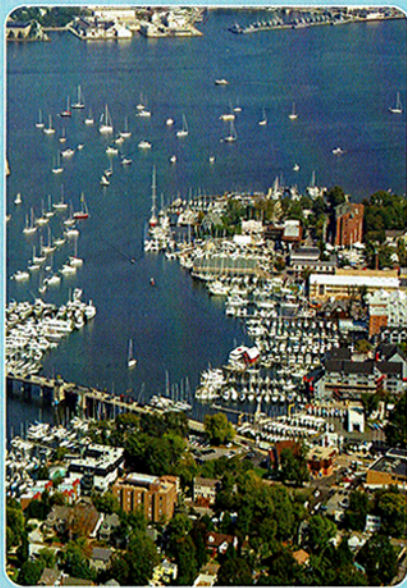
Keep our waters clean – use pumpouts

- It is illegal (and gross!) to discharge raw sewage anywhere within 3 miles of the U.S. coast.
- There are more than 350 pumpout stations in Maryland.
- Pumpout grant applications are available online.



GRANT FUNDING FOR PUMPOUT STATIONS IS PROVIDED BY
CLEAN VESSEL ACT FUNDS AND MARYLAND WATERWAY IMPROVEMENT FUNDS.

NO DISCHARGE ZONES in Maryland



A Boater's Guide 2022

No Discharge Zones (NDZs) are areas of water where the discharge of on-board sewage treatment systems is prohibited. The discharge of untreated (raw) sewage is already prohibited anywhere within three-miles of the U.S. coast. An NDZ does not restrict the discharge of gray water (from sinks and showers).

Maryland's NDZs were selected for several reasons:

- high concentration of boats
- resources sensitive to boat sewage
- water contact activities
- waters impaired by nutrients and sediment
- strong local support

Complying with NDZ

When navigating within an NDZ:

- Secure Type I and Type II MSDs (treat and release systems). Acceptable methods to secure these systems include locking the door to the head or disabling the seacock.
- Type I and II MSDs do not have to be removed. They can be used outside of the NDZs.
- Use pumpout facilities to empty Type III systems (holding tanks) and portable toilets.
- Find pumpout stations at dnr.maryland.gov/boating

To Report NDZ Violations

Maryland Department of the Environment
410-537-3000 (weekdays)
1-866-MDE-GOTO (evenings and weekends)

NDZ Enforcement

Cooperation by boaters is the key to successful implementation of NDZs. Please respect restrictions in these areas and encourage other boaters to do so. Violators will be subject to civil penalties up to \$10,000.

Keep Our Waters Clean—
Use Pumpouts!



Adequate facilities are required to help boaters act responsibly. The EPA has determined that sufficient pumpout stations are available for boaters in these areas. Maryland law requires marinas with 50+ slips or any new or expanding marina to have a pumpout station.

Maryland DNR administers grants to marinas to purchase and maintain pumpout facilities. More than 340 marinas across Maryland are equipped with one or more units designed to handle waste from holding tanks and portable toilets. There are also three pumpout boats operating in Annapolis, St. Michaels & Wye River, and the West & Rhode rivers during the boating season.

Find pumpouts and much more at
dnr.maryland.gov/boating.

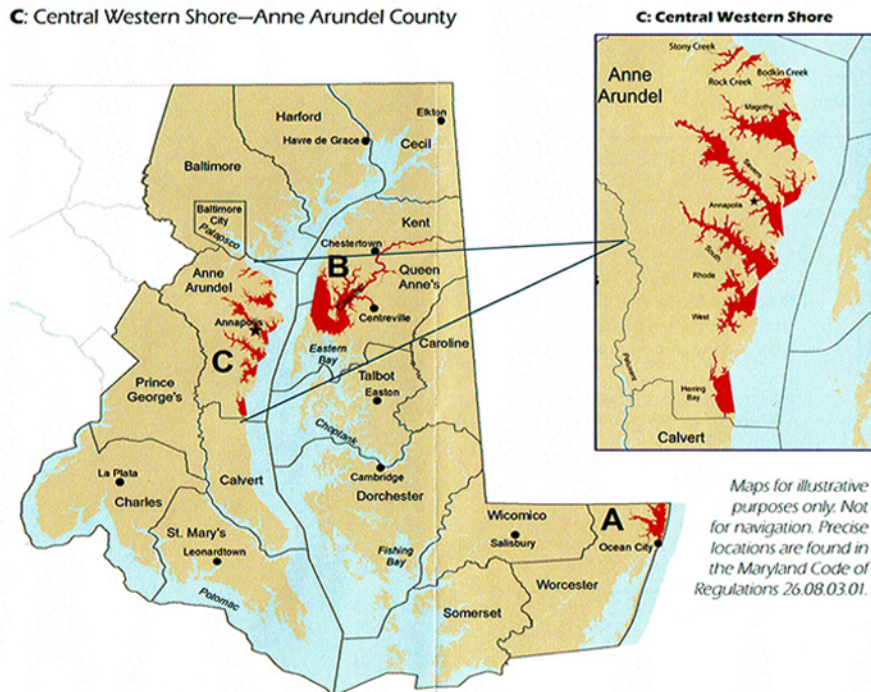
Report Inoperable Pumpouts

Maryland Department of Natural Resources
410-260-8772 (weekdays)
pumpouts.dnr@maryland.gov

No Discharge Zones in Maryland

In cooperation with local partners, Maryland has taken an extra step towards protecting sensitive waterways by working with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and local partners to designate No Discharge Zones (NDZs) in the following areas. The EPA has determined that sufficient pumpout stations are available for boaters in these areas. A complete list of pumpouts is found at dnr.maryland.gov/boating

- A:** The Northern Coastal Bays: Sinepuxent, Isle of Wight and Assawoman Bays
- B:** Chester River and its tributaries
- C:** Central Western Shore—Anne Arundel County



Maps for illustrative purposes only. Not for navigation. Precise locations are found in the Maryland Code of Regulations 26.08.03.01.



This document was produced by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Chesapeake & Coastal Service
580 Taylor Avenue, E-2
Annapolis, MD 21401
410-260-8772
Toll free in Maryland: 877-620-8367
TTY Users call via the MD Relay
dnr.maryland.gov/boating

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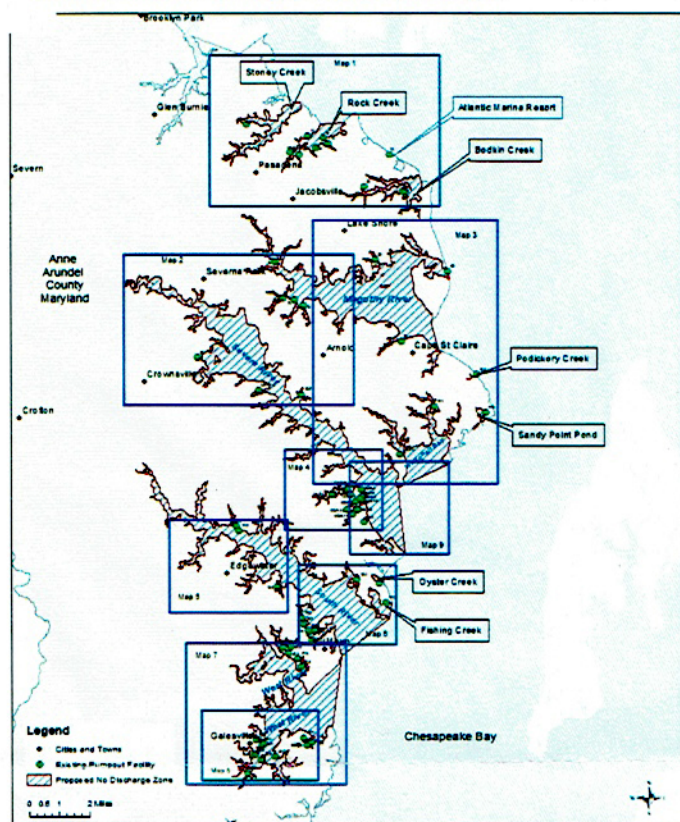
Anne Arundel County No Discharge Zone



Fact Sheet 2022



Overview Map Including Pumpout Locations



SUMMARY: The Severn River Association, with support from Anne Arundel County and the City of Annapolis, developed a No Discharge Zone proposal for all waters in Anne Arundel County. The Maryland Departments of Natural Resources and the Environment reviewed and submitted it to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for designation of these waters as a No Discharge Zone (NDZ). That designation was completed in 2021 and, by adoption of state regulations, will be effective July 1, 2022.

What is a No Discharge Zone (NDZ)?

A no discharge zone (NDZ) is an area in which both *treated* and untreated sewage discharges from vessels are prohibited. It is already illegal to discharge raw/untreated sewage within 3 miles of the U.S. Coast. Within NDZ boundaries, vessel operators are required to retain sewage on board for disposal onshore at a pumpout facility and/or disable 'treat and release' (Type I or II) marine sanitation devices. To obtain this additional level of protection for state waters, states must apply to the U.S. EPA, who assess the need and the availability of pumpout stations to the boating public.

How will the NDZ be enforced? Both the Natural Resources Police and U.S. Coast Guard will be able to enforce observed violations on the water. The Maryland Department of the Environment will be authorized to issue civil penalties not to exceed \$10,000 per violation. Education will be the primary approach; penalties and fines would be a last resort.

Where Can Boaters Find a Pumpout Station? Are they reliable? Maryland law requires marinas with 50+ slips of a certain size to have an operable pumpout station. The NDZ application identified 55 publicly available pumpout stations within these waters. A list of grant funded (publicly available) pumpouts is available at dnr.maryland.gov/boating/pumpout. Due to operations and maintenance grants to marinas, most pumpouts are reliable. However, please report inoperable pumpouts to DNR at 410-260-8772 or pumpouts.dnr@maryland.gov.

When Will the NDZ Become Effective? The provisions in §B(4) of COMAR 26.08.03 Discharge Limitations will be effective for all vessels on **July 1, 2022**, with the exception of United States Coast Guard Inspected Passenger Vessels as defined in 46 CFR Chapter I, Subchapter T, Small Passenger Vessels (Under 100 Gross Tons), for which this regulation will become effective on July 1, 2025.

Why Seek NDZ Designation? According to the University of MD Center for Environmental Science, the lower western shore region, which includes Anne Arundel County, is meeting less than 20 percent of the target for nitrogen reduction¹. The rivers are important economic drivers for the region, providing jobs and revenue through tourism, commercial and recreational fishing, and boating. Providing greater environmental protection with an NDZ will help improve the health of the water, and protect the important resources of Anne Arundel County waters.

More Information and the full NDZ proposal: dnr.maryland.gov/boating/Pages/pumpout/ndz.aspx • epa.gov/vessels-marinas-and-ports/vessel-sewage-discharges • severnriver.org/ •

¹<https://ecoreportcard.org/report-cards/chesapeake-bay/health>