The Michigan Clean Marina Program encourages marinas to develop environmentally sound and economically feasible approaches to reduce waste and prevent the release of hazardous substances. Marinas pledge to join the program, and then follow a 10-step process to achieve Clean Marina certification.

**BENEFITS FOR CERTIFIED CLEAN MARINAS**

- Save money through reduced insurance costs, waste disposal fees and increased energy efficiency.
- Generate revenue through recycling, energy efficiency and other efforts.
- Reduce legal liabilities by implementing best practices, including staff training.
- Protect water quality and fish, plant and wildlife habitat in Michigan’s waterways and the Great Lakes by reducing pollutants.
- Access free boater education information and marketing tools.
- Increase occupancy rates and customer loyalty.
- Enhance the public image of boating and marinas by promoting environmentally sound best practices.

When you become a member of the Michigan Boating Industries Association (MBIA), you receive even more benefits, such as discounts on fuel purchases, shipping and more.

**CASE STUDIES**

**INSURANCE DISCOUNTS:** Sundog Marina on Lake St. Clair reported an annual savings of $1,500 on liability insurance following their certification. Clean Marina customers also benefit: boaters have reported insurance discounts for docking at certified Clean Marinas.

**OIL RECLAMATION:** Belle Maer Harbor in Harrison Township is a full-service marina with 836 boat wells and 108 dry stack spaces. The harbor invested in an oil filter crusher and an oil holding tank. They reduced disposal costs, and they are able to extract larger quantities of oil when crushing the filters. The investment has changed the marina’s oil program from an expense to a revenue. Belle Maer previously paid a company $1 per gallon to dispose of the oil and now gets paid market value per gallon.

**EFFICIENT ENERGY:** Torresen Marine in Muskegon is a full service marina/boatyard with 100 slips and 600 sailboats. Torresen’s solar roof project involved installing 750 panels, while replacing a deteriorating boat storage building. The marina will recover its building costs in an estimated 10-12 years and can sell energy to the utility company, reducing their long-term energy costs by 30 percent. Grosse Pointe Shores Municipal Marina replaced all of their lighting with LED bulbs, reducing their energy costs by 40 percent annually.

**ONLINE CLASSROOM**

The online Clean Marina Classroom is the primary training for the program. The course helps marina operators reach certification in a self-paced, convenient way. Examples of best practices for every aspect of marina businesses — from vendor contracts to cost-saving measures — are included throughout the Classroom.

**ENROLL ONLINE**

Go to the Clean Marina Classroom website and enroll using the short form. Many marina operators have successfully completed the training within two to three weeks and accomplished the other steps to certification within two to three months.

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THE COURSE OFFERS:
- Self-paced modules, available at any time.
- 10 units, state and federal laws and recommended best practices.
- Case studies, videos and photos of best management practices.
- Linked glossaries of key terms.

TRAINING UNITS:
- Siting Considerations and Marina Design
- Marina Facilities and Habitat
- Stormwater Management
- Boat Maintenance and Repair
- Petroleum Control
- Sewage Handling
- Waste Management and Recycling
- Marina Management and Boater Education
- Aquatic Invasive Species Education
- Increasing Resilience

MORE ABOUT THE PROGRAM
The Michigan Clean Marina Program was developed through a public-private partnership involving the marine industry, academic institutions and state government in an effort to sustain and improve water quality in Michigan and the Great Lakes. It is a voluntary stewardship program open to all public and private marinas in Michigan.

PROGRAM RESOURCES
The Michigan Clean Marina website is a one-stop shop for more detailed information. The web resources include the program pledge, Classroom registration form and certification checklist. Also included is a clickable map and list of certified Clean Marinas, boater tip sheets, fact sheets that address common marina issues (like pump out procedures) and more.

OBJECTIVES
- Promote voluntary implementation of pollution prevention strategies, environmental risk reduction, and fish and wildlife habitat enhancement.
- Encourage industry compliance with environmental laws and regulations.
- Develop economic incentives and recognition for environmentally proactive marina operations.
- Foster communication among marina operators, state government, universities and the boating industry.

The Michigan Clean Marina Program is also part of the Great Lakes Clean Marina Network, a regional effort to promote marina and boater Best Management Practices throughout the Great Lakes.

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