



## Shotley Point Yacht Club

Shotley Marina, Shotley Gate, Ipswich, IP9 1QJ

Email: [commodore@shotleypointyc.org](mailto:commodore@shotleypointyc.org)

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# ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

## 1. Introduction

The SPYC Environmental Policy is a statement of objectives defining a commitment to minimise any negative effects of the Club's sailing activities on the environment. All Club members are encouraged to include these as part of their routine day to day boating practises.

## 2. The Policy

**2.1. Compliance with legislation** - SPYC will comply with all environmental legislation that relates to the operation of the Club, and where possible identify opportunities to adopt best practice over and above the minimum legislative requirements.

**2.2. Energy efficiency** - We will minimise the use of electricity and gas in our activities, for example by turning off lights, replacing old light bulbs with energy efficient models, and by lowering or turning off heating as appropriate.

With respect to boat heating Members are encouraged to consider the relative merits and drawbacks of using shore power electricity (when available) versus diesel or paraffin heating. In addition to considering relative costs, shore power electricity is likely to be more environmentally friendly than onboard diesel or paraffin.

**2.3. Water efficiency** - We will minimise the use of water in our activities for example, by encouraging Members to use hose trigger nozzles and turning off taps when not in use.

**2.4. Waste, Recycling and Hazardous Waste** - We will minimise the creation of waste. We will only print and photocopy documents if essential and will print double-sided.

Where possible, we will use email, text, social media and our website instead of printed materials to communicate and promote our activities.

We will recycle as much waste as possible and encourage our Members to do the same.

Members are expected to use the appropriate facilities for the disposal of hazardous wastes such as used engine oil, contaminated fuel, paint, old batteries etc.

**2.5. Pollution control including, oil, fuel, anti-foul and cleaning products** - Members are expected to:

- scrub down their boats and apply anti-fouling in a designated area, collect scrapings and dispose of them as hazardous waste.
- be careful to prevent fuel spills when refuelling, to use spill kits and to report any inadvertent spillages to the appropriate authority.
- not throw litter into the sea or along the coast.
- use pump-out facilities for holding tank contents (black water) or when not available to discharge black water at the specified distance out to sea.



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- report pollution or other violations of environmental regulations to the appropriate authorities.
- In addition we recommend Members use environmentally friendly anti-foul and boat cleaning products.

### 2.6. **Biodiversity including invasive non-native species prevention, wildlife and habitat protection** - Members are expected to:

- not engage in forbidden fishing practices and to respect periods when fishing is prohibited.
- protect animals and plants in the sea or on the shore, including not disturbing breeding birds, seals or other marine mammals.
- take appropriate steps to minimise the carriage of invasive non-native species to new water bodies.
- respect vulnerable and nature-protected areas.
- avoid damaging the sea floor in the way that they anchor and to comply with voluntary no-anchor zones.
- not use objects made from protected species or from archaeological underwater findings.

### 2.7. **Hosting events including cruises and social events** - SPYC will endeavour to take a sustainable approach to running events.

- The Club will promulgate relevant local environmental information to our Members such as the location of mandatory and voluntary no-anchor zones and sensitive habitats or species.
- SPYC will avoid the use of single use plastic glasses, crockery and cutlery at Club events and minimise the use of paper and cardboard products where possible. Members are requested to assist by bringing their own reusable items to Drinks & Nibbles and barbecues etc. In the case of glasses, polycarbonate or similar is preferable to glass for safety reasons.
- Event Organisers are encouraged to source products with less packaging to prevent waste at Drinks and Nibbles.
- Cruises will be planned at fuel-efficient/economical speeds for boats using engine power.

## 3. Reference

*The Green Blue* – Sustainable Boating for Cleaner, Healthier Waters: <https://thegreenblue.org.uk/>