

SAFE TIPS FOR REFUELING YOUR BOAT

While out boating, it's important to ensure you have enough fuel for your planned trip. When you refuel follow the proper refueling procedures, and if you're at a local marina, cooperate with the staff. They're there to make sure all the safety requirements are being followed, along with all the necessary precautions.

BEFORE

- Tie your boat securely to the fuel dock, and ask all passengers to disembark the boat
- Turn off your engine, and close all hatches, doors and windows
- Turn off all electrical equipment, and extinguish all flames (propane equipment, diesel furnaces, etc.)
- Keep an absorbent rag, spill pad or fuel collar ready to catch any drips
- Locate and select your fuel fill port (versus others like water and waste)
- Double Check: the type of fuel you need, and the capacity of your boat.

DURING

- Start fueling slowly - fuel can dispense at rates too fast for your boat
- Keep the fuel nozzle in contact with the fill port (or risk a static spark)
- Listen: Once your fuel is near capacity, you will hear a change in sound, or a gurgling
- Do not "top off" the tank, or risk a spill
- Clean up any drops or spills immediately

AFTER

- Start your blower, open the engine hatch to sniff for fumes, and check the bilge
- Once the boat is safe and free of any explosive fumes, ask your passengers to reboard

CLEAN UP

When you do have a spill - even a dribble - clean it up immediately and thoroughly. Most marinas and gas docks have containment equipment such as absorbing spill pads. Make sure you dispose of any used spill materials as hazardous waste. Remember, never use soap to clean up a spill: it is illegal, doesn't work and is toxic to marine life.

