



Orange County Health Care Agency  
Environmental Health  
1241 E. Dyer Rd, Ste. 120  
Santa Ana, CA 92705  
Contact: Pearl Boelter  
(714) 433-6240 phone  
(714) 754-1768 fax  
[www.occupainfo.com](http://www.occupainfo.com)

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **OIL SPILL! OIL SPILL! ... IN NEWPORT HARBOR?**

#### ***Free Bilge Pad Exchange Program Helps Boaters To Properly Dispose Of Used Pads***

**Orange County, CA (May 3, 2006)** – Often times, people associate the occurrence of an “oil spill” with images such as a large tanker, millions of gallons of spilled oil, and thousands of miles of shoreline destroyed. Although this is true, the National Academy of Sciences has found that tanker and pipeline spills only account for about 8% of the oil spilled in the ocean every year. 85% of this “oil spill” actually comes from human activities from boats, jet skis, land based runoff, etc. Some individuals believe, as one person amongst a community of many people, that their negligence will not make a big impact. But the fact of the matter is, each person’s activities can quickly add up to a big problem or, in this case, an “oil spill.”

To help minimize this “oil spill,” the Orange County Health Care Agency, in partnership with the City of Newport Beach, proudly announces the expansion of their **Free Bilge Pad Exchange Program**. There are now six locations near the Newport Harbor where boaters can properly dispose of their used bilge pads and/or receive new pads **FREE**:

- o Newport Landing Fuel Dock, 503 E. Edgewater Ave.
- o Hill’s Boat Service, 814 E. Bay Ave.
- o Island Marine Fuel, 406 South Bay Front
- o Newport Dunes Resort Launch Ramp, 1131 Back Bay Dr.
- o Newport Dunes Resort Marina Office, 101 N. Bayside Dr.
- o Newport Dunes Marina Yard A-Lot Storage, 101 N. Bayside Dr.

Boaters can help keep Newport Harbor clean by using bilge pads. Bilge pads can be used for the continuous absorption of oil and other petroleum products that may leak into the bilge or for cleaning up and containing small, accidental spills in harbor waters. It is important to keep a bilge clean during and after an oil change.

## **FREE BILGE PAD EXCHANGE PROGRAM – Page Two**

A lot of boating enthusiasts don't realize just how damaging dirty bilge water can be on the ocean and on the harbor environment. Oily water from a bilge can leave lingering toxins in the harbor's marine environment, which not only creates an unsightly and unsafe condition for boaters but can also adversely affect the marine wildlife.

Remember, change begins with one person. With everyone pitching in, we'll be able to make Newport Harbor and our waterways safe, clean, and enjoyable for generations to come.

For more information on used oil recycling, call the California Integrated Waste Management Board at (800) CLEAN UP. For information on the bilge pad exchange program, contact the Orange County Health Care Agency at (714) 433-6240.

### **Orange County Used Oil Recycling Program**

The Orange County Used Oil Recycling Program is a multi-tiered outreach effort, designed to reach used oil do-it-yourself oil changers through a variety of outlets with the same message – to ensure exposure and increase behavior change. Within this integrated outreach program, each outreach activity supports the others, building a web of public education that reaches do-it-yourself oil changers. For information on used oil recycling collection centers, call (800) CLEAN UP or visit [www.1800CLEANUP.org](http://www.1800CLEANUP.org).

####