



National Park Service Commercial Services Program Fuel Storage Management *Marine Fueling Areas*



Fuel Storage Management

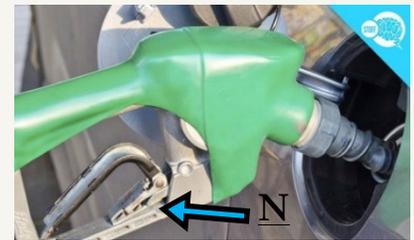
Fuel dispensing systems are common at marinas and other docking facilities, and their proximity to water pose a risk of fuel discharge to waters. These fueling areas can be supplied by underground storage tanks or aboveground storage tanks (ASTs) and are subject to regulation by the Environmental Protection Agency, National Fire Protection Administration, and Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

Marine Dispensing System Construction

- Piping systems must be supported and protected against physical damage.
- Piping must be grounded when handling flammable liquids.
- Clearly identified emergency shut off switches must be readily accessible on each marine fueling wharf.
- A shut off valve for the fuel supply from shore is required to be provided in each pipeline at or near the approach to the pier and at the shore end of each marine pipeline.

Fuel Dispensing Activities

- An attendant or supervisor must be on duty whenever the marine motor fuel dispensing facility is used.
- Only designated persons may conduct fueling operations at marine terminals.
- Operators must not be on vessels during refueling operations.
- Equipment may only be fueled:
 - At designated fueling locations
 - During the day or in well-lit conditions
 - When engines are off
- Filling of portable containers that are 12-gallons or less is prohibited on a marine craft.
- Smoking and open flames are prohibited in fueling areas. Precautions must be taken to prevent ignition near fuel storage areas, such as “No smoking” signs, policies, or physical controls.
- If there is a spill, filler caps must be replaced, and spillage must be cleaned before engines are started.



Fuel Dispensing Systems

- The dispensing area must be sited such that they provide room for safe ingress and egress of craft to be fueled.
- The dispensers must be located 20+ feet from fixed ignition sources.
- Dispensing nozzles are required to be the automatic closing type and **may not** have a hold open latch.
- Dispensing hoses must be less than 50 feet long.
- There is a maximum of 1,100 gallons of fuel storage capacity for ASTs on piers.
- There must be overfill prevention methods in place.



Signage

A sign with red capital letters on a white background must be posted in the marine fuel dispensing area with wording that includes the following:

Before Fueling:

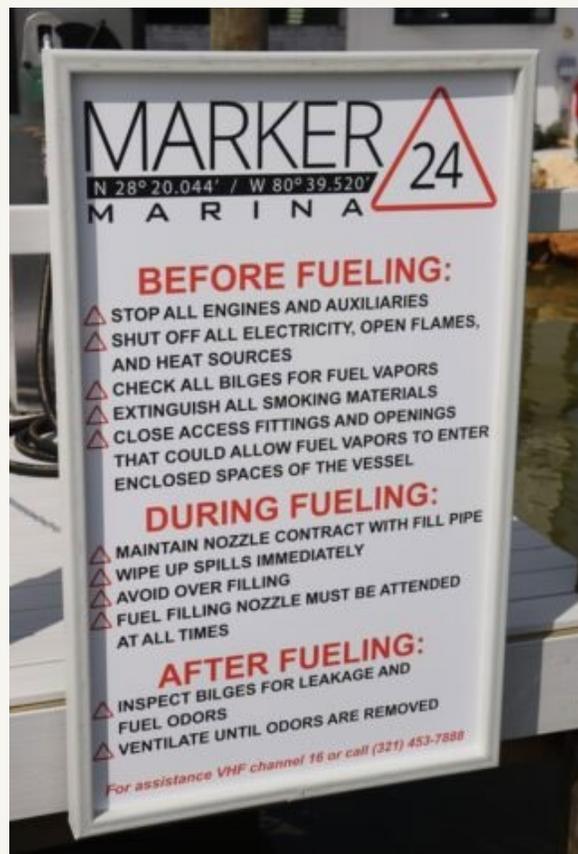
- 1) Stop all engines and auxiliaries.
- 2) Shut off all electricity, open flames, and heat sources.
- 3) Check all bilges for fuel vapors.
- 4) Extinguish all smoking materials.
- 5) Close access fittings and openings that could allow fuel vapors to enter enclosed spaces of the vessel.

During Fueling:

- 1) Maintain nozzle contact with fill pipe.
- 2) Wipe up spills immediately.
- 3) Avoid overfilling.
- 4) Fuel filling nozzle must be attended at all times.

After Fueling:

- 1) Inspect bilges for leakage and fuel odors.
- 2) Ventilate until odors are removed.



Please note, this fact sheet does not cover all requirements and situations related to marine fueling. In addition to checking federal regulations, be sure to check your state and local regulations. For any operational questions or emergency situations, please contact your park concession specialist. For more information pertaining to compliance with marine fueling requirements, please email cs_envaudits@nps.gov or contact the applicable regulatory authority.