



Old Boat Recycling & Disposal

Guidance Document

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Health
Solid Waste Program

June 2020

As a boat owner, you are responsible for the proper disposal of your vessel. Improper disposal or abandonment of your vessel is subject to possible fines of \$5,000 - \$10,000 (AS 30.30.010). However, there are options available to both recycle and dispose of your vessel.

Remove Fluids and Batteries

Prior to disposal, you must remove all batteries, fuel, oil, sewage, and other liquids from the boat. The fluids should be stored separately in leak-proof containers. Do not mix fluids together as this can cause unwanted chemical reactions and result in extra costs for testing, shipping, and disposal. Solid Waste Program staff can provide you with information on the options available in your area for recycling or disposing of these fluids.

The batteries from the boat can be recycled either through the local landfill or a local battery retailer.

Recycle or Salvage

Remember that some parts of the boat, including fuel tanks, engines, drives, instrumentation, and wiring may have recycling or salvage value. If you have an aluminum boat, don't forget that even the hull of the boat may be recyclable.

If there are used boat part dealers or salvage yards in your area, these businesses may be willing to take your old boat for the value of its parts. Some of these businesses may even be willing to pay you something for your boat. However, since each business may have limits on the length and type of boats it will accept, you should check that your boat is acceptable before you bring it in.

Disposal

The parts of your boat that cannot be recycled or re-used and that are not a hazardous material can be brought to the local landfill for disposal. Again, it's best to call the landfill first to check on the specific policies for boat disposal. The operator may want or need advance notice to prepare the disposal site or to ensure that staff and equipment are available to handle the boat when you bring it in.

The disposal of fiberglass boats is proving to be a challenge. Fiberglass boats should not be shredded or burned, and they have limited recycle value. The recommended approach is to crush and bury these boats after the fluids, batteries, and salvageable items have been removed. Due to handling requirements, disposal fees may be higher for fiberglass boats.



Remember

You're responsible!

***ALL** batteries and fluids must be removed!*

***Don't** mix fluids!*

***Recycle** what you can.*