

# STORMWATER

Tip of the Week

Week 19: May 11, 2021

## BOATING TIPS TO PROTECT OUR WATER

Memorial weekend is coming up and that is the kick off to the 'summer' season and all water activities! In West Virginia boating and fishing are a few of the most popular activities we have but did you know you could be harming our waterways if you aren't careful? Here are some tips to help keep our waterways less polluted while out enjoying the water!

### TIPS:

Maintain your motor. Poorly maintained motors leak oil and gas.

Don't try to squeeze that little bit of extra gas in your gas tank when refueling – it may spill and contaminate the water.

Observe "no-wake" zones, which are designed to reduce shoreline erosion.

Recycle used motor oil; never pour it down a storm drain or in the water.

Switch to non-toxic boat paints and anti-fouling compounds.

Make sure your boat is fully rinsed of cleaners before dropping it into the water.

Never throw trash overboard or 'sink' trash in the water and never use the river to dump trash like tires. Take a trash bag with you.

Don't ignore litter. You can always come back with more than you left with. Cleaning up others litter isn't glamorous but it will help water pollution.

Don't sand your hull near water. Use a drop cloth to capture old paint chips.

