

Coastal Cleanup Day and the Boating Community

Coastal Cleanup Day (CCD) is the premier volunteer event in the country, focused on the marine environment. The event has been so successful that it has been hailed by the Guinness Book of World Records as "the largest garbage collection" (1993). When combined with the Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup, (takes place the same day), California's CCD becomes part of one of the largest volunteer events of the year. Since the program started in 1985, more than 800,000 Californians have removed more than 15 million pounds of debris from our state's coast.

In 2011, California's boating community contributed more to the cleanup efforts. The California Coastal Commission and the California Department of Boating and Waterways' Boating Clean and Green Program coordinated the participation of two yacht clubs in order to collect information on how a program can be established in the future to involve more of the boating community during Coastal Cleanup Day. Port Royal (Los Angeles County) and Sequoia Yacht Club (San Mateo County) are the two yacht clubs that took part in this effort. With their help, along with Heal the Bay and the San Mateo County Water Pollution Prevention Program **63 enthusiastic volunteers** collected **1,267 pounds of trash and recyclables from the shoreline, and on the water with dinghies and kayaks.**

This year and based on the lessons learned from the pilot project, the California Coastal Commission and the Boating Clean and Green Program are planning on expanding this effort to other yacht clubs, boating facilities and marinas in California.

- We created a special section in our CCD page only for marinas and yacht clubs http://www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/ccd/ccd_marina.html
- We developed a Toolkit for marinas and yacht clubs. This toolkit will help the boating facilities to learn how to organize and conduct CCD http://www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/ccd/SiteCaptainGuide_Boaters.pdf (also found in our new website)
- We also developed a flier http://www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/ccd/marinas_flyer.pdf to publicize the event among the boating facilities.
- We are organizing several presentations to promote this program among the boating community including:
 - March 19th Pacific-Inter Yacht Club Association (PICYA) Board meeting
 - March 24th, PICYA presentation – Management Conference
 - April and May Clean Boating presentation at 4 yacht clubs
 - Emails to marinas and yacht club associations