



# GREEN FINS

# ENVIRONMENTAL BEST PRACTICE FOR CHEMICAL DISPOSAL



Many chemical cleaning agents used for equipment, showers, sinks or toilets contain hazardous substances. These must not enter the aquatic environment as they can pose a significant threat to the ecosystem.

## WHERE TO DISPOSE OF CHEMICAL CLEANING AGENTS AND WASTEWATER:

- A **sewage treatment system** that does not enter the water directly
- A **septic system** where liquid cannot enter the environment via the water table / groundwater
- **Facilities on land** for emptying marine vessel's holding tanks
- If you must empty the holding tank at sea, do so while moving in an open, deep body of water to ensure the highest possible dilution. **NEVER** empty a holding tank in shallow water, bays, lagoons, harbours, piers, marinas or other areas with limited water circulation

## NEUTRALISING CHEMICAL CLEANING AGENTS

You can neutralise many chemicals if a sewage treatment system or septic tank is unavailable. Always do this **away from water** to reduce the risk of chemical spills.



Cleaning agents such as **sodium hypochlorite (bleach)**, **hydrogen peroxide** and **chlorine dioxide break down when exposed to the sun**. Leave them in the sun for 24 hours before safely disposing.

**WARNING:** Quaternary ammonia (e.g. Dettol, Steramine) and hydrochloric acid (muriatic acid) **DO NOT** have proven methods for neutralising. Use different chemicals or biodegradable products for cleaning where possible.

NOTE: Stronger solutions will have a greater impact on the environment. Follow the correct dilution ratios as per the product instructions.