



## HRSD NEWS RELEASE

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### **Boaters Can Call for Free Tank Pumpouts Through August**

#### **Summer Boater Education Program Encourages Boaters to *Pump It, Don't Dump It***

Boaters can call HRSD at **460-4253** to schedule free weekend pumpouts for recreational boats through August. The service is part of a summer boater education program sponsored by Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD) and the Virginia Department of Health (VDH).

The "Pump it, Don't Dump It" program encourages boaters to keep our waterways clean by using pumpout facilities at marinas. Specially trained college students provide pumpouts on a limited first-come, first-served basis. The students attend local water festivals, visit marinas and even go to homes or boat slips to provide this service.

The goal of the boater education program is to promote the proper disposal of wastewater from sanitary holding tanks to prevent dumping into waterways. Each summer, approximately 6,000 gallons of wastewater is collected from boats and transported to an HRSD plant for treatment.

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*HRSD, a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, was created by public referendum in 1940 and currently serves a combined population of 1.6 million in 17 cities and counties. Our mission is to prevent pollution, protect public health, and support community development by providing wastewater collection, treatment, and related services.*