

Green Boating Practices for Barnegat Bay's Ecologically Sensitive Areas

Ecologically Sensitive Areas are locations where unique wildlife and submerged aquatic vegetation, such as eel grass, is found. These areas provide shelter and feeding grounds for numerous fish and wildlife, including shellfish, crabs, fish and shorebirds.

Take these actions to help keep the Bay vibrant and healthy:

- Maintain 100' distance (approximately six car lengths) from natural shorelines, Bay islands and sensitive ecological areas.
- Do not chase, harass or disturb nesting birds and other animals with your vessel.
- Buoy mooring chains and lines to prevent them from scraping on the Bay bottom.
- Use pump-out boats and facilities to discharge wastewater from holding tanks.
- Reduce throttle to "no wake" speed when close to a shoreline or in small rivers to help prevent erosion.
- Do not operate in shallow water where your prop or pump intake can stir up bottom sediments and destroy aquatic plants.
- Reduce air pollution by cutting your engine and not idling in open water.



To learn more about the Governor's Action Plan for Barnegat Bay go to: www.barnegatbay.nj.gov