



SHIP SAFETY BULLETIN

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Subject: **New environmental measures for cruise ships in waters under Canadian jurisdiction – 2022 season**

Purpose

This bulletin outlines new measures to strengthen Canadian discharge requirements for cruise ships operating in waters under Canadian jurisdiction during the 2022 cruise season. This approach has been developed in cooperation with industry. These measures will help restore marine habitats, further protect Canadian waters, and set the foundation for a regulatory posture in 2023.

Scope

This bulletin applies to the authorized representatives of cruise ships (certified to carry more than 100 persons and equipped with overnight accommodations) that are Canadian vessels or foreign vessels operating in waters under Canadian jurisdiction during the 2022 cruise season.

What you need to know

For the 2022 cruise ship season, cruise ships will be subject to new non-mandatory environmental measures. These are:

1. Prohibiting the discharge of greywater and sewage within three nautical miles from shore where geographically possible;
2. Treating greywater together with sewage before it is discharged between three and twelve nautical miles from shore to the greatest extent possible;

Keywords:

1. Cruise Ships
2. Sewage
3. Greywater

Questions concerning this Bulletin should be addressed to:

AMSEE
 Transport Canada
 Marine Safety and Security
 Tower C, Place de Ville
 330 Sparks Street, 11th Floor
 Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0N8

Contact us at: marinesafety-securitemaritime@tc.gc.ca or 1-855-859-3123 (Toll Free).

3. Strengthening the treatment of sewage between three and twelve nautical miles from shore using an approved treatment device.

Reporting

The authorized representative of a cruise ship operating in waters under Canadian jurisdiction must also provide periodic reports outlining their compliance to Transport Canada. Reports are due on the following dates:

- June 5, August 5, October 5, and December 5, 2022

Reports should be sent to the following email address: PollPrevCanada-PrevPollCanada@tc.gc.ca

Transport Canada will continue to inspect cruise ships during the 2022 season. It will check the level of implementation of the new environmental measures and compliance with existing regulatory requirements. This information will support future regulations to control discharges from cruise ships in waters under Canadian jurisdiction.

The authorized representative of a cruise ship operating in waters under Canadian jurisdiction should implement the new environmental measures where safely, technically, and geographically possible. When a cruise ship is unable to implement the new environmental measures, the authorized representative must make sure to meet current regulatory requirements (Annex 1). Cruise ships must make all relevant discharge information available to Transport Canada.

Annex 1

Current Regulatory and New Environmental Discharge Measures

For the purpose of this document the term ‘sewage’ and ‘greywater’ have the same definition as in the *Vessel Pollution and Dangerous Chemicals Regulations*:

sewage means

- (a) human body wastes and wastes from other living animals;
- (b) drainage and other wastes from toilets and other receptacles intended to receive or retain human body wastes;
- (c) drainage from medical premises such as a dispensary or a sick bay via wash basins, wash tubs and scuppers located in such premises;
- (d) drainage from spaces containing living animals; and
- (e) other drainage or wastes when mixed with the drainage or other wastes referred to in paragraph (a), (b), (c) or (d).

greywater means drainage from sinks, laundry machines, bath tubs, shower-stalls or dishwashers. It does not include sewage, or drainage from machinery spaces or workshop areas.

Substance and distance from shore	Current Regulatory Measures¹	New Environmental Measures – 2022 Season
Discharge of treated sewage within 3 nautical miles from shore	Cruise ships must treat sewage to fecal coliform counts equal to or less than 250/100 ml within 3 nm from shore. The discharge must not contain any visible solids and must not cause a sheen on the water, discoloration of the water or its shorelines or sewage sludge or an emulsion to be deposited beneath the surface of the water or on its shorelines.	Cruise ships certified to carry more than 100 persons and equipped with overnight accommodations must not discharge treated sewage within 3 nm from shore where safely, technically, and geographically possible.
Discharge of treated sewage between 3 and	Cruise ships must ensure sewage is comminuted and disinfected before discharging between 3 and 12 nm from	Cruise ships certified to carry more than 100 persons and equipped with overnight accommodations should

¹ This table includes a summary of applicable requirements. For detailed information please refer to the *Vessel Pollution and Dangerous chemicals Regulation* [Vessel Pollution and Dangerous Chemicals Regulations \(justice.gc.ca\)](https://www.justice.gc.ca)

<p>12 nautical miles from shore</p>	<p>shore. The discharge must not contain any visible solids and must not cause a film or sheen on the water, discoloration of the water or its shorelines or sewage sludge or an emulsion to be deposited beneath the surface of the water or on its shorelines.</p>	<p>endeavor to utilize an approved sewage treatment device capable of treatment to fecal coliform counts equal to or less than 14/100 ml before discharging between 3 and 12 nm from shore. The discharge must not contain any visible solids and must not cause a film or sheen on the water, discoloration of the water or its shorelines or sewage sludge or an emulsion to be deposited beneath the surface of the water or on its shorelines.</p>
<p>Discharge of greywater within 3 nautical miles from shore</p>	<p>Cruise ships built after 2013 and certified to carry more than 500 passengers must treat greywater within 3 nm from shore. Any release of greywater must not result in the deposit of solids in the water or leave a sheen on the water.</p>	<p>Cruise ships certified to carry more than 100 persons and equipped with overnight accommodations must not discharge greywater within 3 nm from shore where safely, technically, and geographically possible.</p>
<p>Discharge of greywater between 3 and 12 nautical miles from shore</p>	<p>No specific treatment requirements in place. Any release of greywater must not result in the deposit of solids in the water or leave a sheen on the water.</p>	<p>Cruise ships certified to carry more than 100 persons and equipped with overnight accommodations must treat greywater together with sewage before discharging between 3 and 12 nm from shore to the greatest extent possible. Any release of greywater must not result in the deposit of solids in the water or leave a sheen on the water.</p>