

# Safe and Clean Fueling

## **Before Fueling:**

- Make sure the boat is securely tied to the dock.
- Remind the boater to close all windows, doors and hatches and send passengers ashore.
- Make sure that all sources of ignition are off (engine, galley, cigarettes).
- Ask the boater if they need Gasoline or Diesel Fuel. Confirm their choice of fuel again when handing them the nozzle.
- When handing the nozzle keep the tip up and also hand the boater an absorbent pad at the same time. Tell them to place it around the deck fill to catch any backsplash.
- If filling a portable tank, always remove the tank from the boat and place it on the ground or dock. Use funnels to help prevent spills.

## **During Fueling:**

- Look to see that they are inserting the nozzle into the correct deck opening.
- Provide an absorbent pad or donut to use around the nozzle and deck fill to help catch any spills.
- Watch to be sure they stay with the boat. Do not allow the use of hand free clips or other devices that prop the nozzle in place.
- Encourage them to keep contact between the nozzle and the deck fill to prevent sparking.
- Don't rely on the automatic shutoff device. Marina fuel pumps often fuel at a faster rate than land-based pumps and often don't cut off in time.
- Discourage customers from topping off. As the temperature rises fuel expands and this, combined with waves, can lead to vent spills.

## **After Fueling:**

- Make sure if the boat has a blower that it is run for 4 minutes. If the fuel dock is crowded move them down without starting the engine.
- Wipe up spills and drips on the deck and dispose of used pads properly.
- Do not use detergents to disperse a sheen or spill on the water.
- Remind them to open all ports, hatches and doors and to sniff the bilge compartment for any fumes.
- Hang the nozzle with the tip up to prevent fuel from draining out.