

Poster: MARPOL Annex V discharge provisions placard, 2017

SIMPLIFIED OVERVIEW OF THE DISCHARGE PROVISIONS OF THE REVISED MARPOL ANNEX V

IMO INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION

Garbage type ¹	All ships except platforms ⁴		Offshore platforms located more than 12 nautical miles from the nearest land and ships when alongside or within 500 metres of such platforms ⁵
	Outside special areas and Arctic waters Regulation 4 (Distances are from the nearest land)	Within special areas and Arctic waters Regulation 6 (Distances are from the nearest land, nearest ice-shelf or nearest fast ice)	Regulation 5
Food waste comminuted or ground ²	≥ 3 nautical miles, en route and as far as practicable	≥ 12 nautical miles, en route and as far as practicable ³	Discharge permitted
Food waste not comminuted or ground	≥ 12 nautical miles, en route and as far as practicable	Discharge prohibited	Discharge prohibited
Cargo residues ⁶ not contained in wastewater	Discharge permitted	Discharge prohibited	Discharge prohibited
Cargo residues ⁶ contained in wastewater	≥ 12 nautical miles, en route and as far as practicable	≥ 12 nautical miles, en route and as far as practicable (subject to conditions in regulation 5.2.1.5 of part II-A of the Polar Code)	Discharge prohibited
Cleaning agents and additives ⁷ contained in cargo hold wastewater	Discharge permitted	≥ 12 nautical miles, en route and as far as practicable (subject to conditions in regulation 5.2.1.5 of part II-A of the Polar Code)	Discharge prohibited
Cleaning agents and additives ⁷ in deck and external surfaces wastewater	Discharge permitted	Discharge permitted	Discharge prohibited
Animal carcasses (should be split or otherwise treated to ensure the carcasses will sink immediately)	Must be en route and as far from the nearest land as possible. Should be > 100 nautical miles and maximum water depth	Discharge prohibited	Discharge prohibited
All other garbage including plastics, synthetic ropes, fishing gear, plastic garbage bags, incinerator ashes, clinkers, cooking oil, floating damage, lining and packing materials, paper, rags, glass, metal, bottles, crockery and similar refuse	Discharge prohibited	Discharge prohibited	Discharge prohibited

Discharge of all garbage into the sea is prohibited except provided otherwise. Violation of these requirements may result in penalties.

1. When garbage is mixed with or contaminated by other harmful substances prohibited from discharge or having different discharge requirements, the more stringent requirements shall apply.
2. Comminuted or ground food wastes must be able to pass through a screen with mesh no larger than 25 mm.
3. The discharge of unminced oven products in the Arctic area is not permitted unless incinerated, subjected or otherwise treated to be made sterile. In polar waters, discharge shall be made as far as practicable from areas of ice concentration exceeding 1/10. In any case food wastes shall not be discharged onto the ice.
4. Offshore platforms located 12 nautical miles from nearest land and associated ships include all fixed or floating platforms engaged in exploration or exploitation or associated processing of seabed mineral resources, and all ships alongside or within 500 m of such platforms.
5. Cargo residues means only those cargo residues that cannot be recovered using customarily available methods for unloading.
6. These substances need not be harmful to the marine environment.
7. For the full text of the respective discharge requirements, please refer to the text of the revised MARPOL Annex V and the Polar Code, and for more detailed guidance please consult the 2017 Guidelines for the Implementation of MARPOL Annex V (MPC/2017/1).

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This updated A3 (297 mm x 420 mm) poster provides a useful and simplified overview of the discharge provisions of MARPOL V.