



**For Immediate Release:** 6/11/2015

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## **EFC Announces \$1.1 Million in New Grants Are Now Available for Boater Pumpout Stations**

### *CVAP-Funded Pumpout Stations Protect and Preserve New York's Navigable Waterways*

The Environmental Facilities Corporation today announced that a new round of funding for the Clean Vessel Assistance Program (CVAP) is making \$1.1 million available for new pumpout stations or the repair of existing facilities.

“Through EFC’s Clean Vessel Assistance Program approximately 1.5 million gallons of septic waste is collected each year from recreational boats for onshore disposal and treatment,” said EFC President and CEO Matthew J. Driscoll. “The result has been cleaner lakes and rivers throughout New York State and with these new grants, we can protect even more of our navigable waterways.”

CVAP is a federally funded program that provides grants to marinas and municipalities for the installation, renovation and replacement of pumpout stations for the removal and disposal of recreational boater septic waste. The grant program provides up to 75 percent of the eligible project costs up to \$60,000 for pumpout boats and up to \$35,000 for installing or upgrading stationary pumpout units or upgrading pumpout boats. Additional CVAP grants are available for the operation and maintenance of pumpout facilities, along with educational projects that address the benefits, use and availability of pumpout stations.

Applications for the new funding are available at [www.efc.ny.gov/CVAP](http://www.efc.ny.gov/CVAP) or by calling (518) 402-7461.

Funds for CVAP are provided annually from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The trust fund is supported through the collection of fishing tackle manufacturer excise taxes, boat and fishing import duties and fuel taxes. Since 1994, EFC has distributed more than \$8.5 million for boater pumpouts to more than 300 marinas, municipalities and other CVAP recipients.

“The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is pleased to partner with EFC to provide and improve pumpout services for recreational boaters in New York,” said Colleen Sculley, Chief of Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Northeast Region. “Clean Vessel Act grants help ensure that clean drinking water, sustainable ecosystems and healthy recreational areas are accessible to the American people, and are a great example of the Service’s commitment to ensuring our natural resources are conserved and protected for future generations.”

EFC’s success in managing the CVAP has played a vital role in the development of No Discharge Zone (NDZ) designations along the majority of New York waterways. The NDZ designation prohibits boaters from discharging both treated and untreated sewage into the water. A NDZ can only be declared when a waterway has enough pumpout facilities to serve recreational boaters.

“The beneficial results of this CVAP can be seen on waterways all across New York State,” said EFC President Driscoll. “CVAP funded pumpout stations are now available on every navigable waterway in New York, along with pumpout boats and portable disposal units, serving more than 100,000 recreational vessels each boating season.”

The States Organization for Boating Access (SOBA) awarded EFC’s CVAP with a national award of excellence in 2011 for “excellence, outstanding service and the development of innovative programs and projects.”