



AQUEDUCT MARINA'S ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Initial Environmental Review

About the marina

Aqueduct Marina is an inland waterways marina situated in the North-West of England on the Middlewich Branch of the Shropshire Union Canal. The marina was opened 2009, offering 147 berths which service narrowboats and has developed over the years to include a large dry storage facility for up to approximately 80 narrowboats and a series of workshops and maintenance facilities for both DIY and professional use. The marina site also includes a chandlery, café and meeting room.

About the natural environment

The UK inland waterways offer a diverse environment to a wide variety of fish, insect's, birds and mammals. The canals offer valuable green corridors, connecting various wildlife sites and habitats. Aqueduct Marina is situated along side one of these green corridors and also within a rural / agricultural setting.

Who will promote and lead good environmental practices?

Environmental Leads:

Nick Beech – Facilities Manager

Phil Langley – Marina & Operations Director

Identify Environmental Aspect

(Areas of the Business with Environmental Interactions)

The berths

The marina's berths are occupied by steel narrowboats used primarily for leisure; this includes overnight habitation, food preparation, personal hygiene, and cleaning of the boat. Grey water is discharged from the boats showers and sinks whilst black waste (sewage) is collected on board for safe disposal at a later date. Black waste cannot be discharged on the UK inland waterways and is prohibited here at Aqueduct Marina. The cabin of a boat may be washed by the owner whilst it is berthed within the marina.

Diesel pump

Diesel is supplied to boats by the marina at a designated location; this includes both berth holders and other passing trade. Diesel is supplied by a trained member of staff.

Black waste (sewage)

Both a pump-out and portable toilet disposal service is available at the marina. The waste is collected in a holding tank onsite and then taken away via HGV to a treatment facility. The main marina building is serviced by a biodigester sewage treatment plant.



Our Environmental Policy

Our policy describes how we respect and maintain the fantastic environment that Aqueduct Marina and the Middlewich branch of the Shropshire Union canal has to offer. You should also look at our Environmental Practice Statement which describes what you can do to help.

It is the intention of Aqueduct marina to...

- Assist the commercial prosperity of the area by offering sustainable development through the following environmental policy, with the aim of minimising the environmental impact of operations.
- Demonstrate a commitment to reducing the carbon footprint by, where possible, recycling or up-cycling waste products and using renewable or innovative energy reducing technology.
- Through the use of 'best practices' to drive standards and by creating new 'best practices' for process as and when technology is available.
- Adhere to the legal requirements regarding environmental issues and review the environmental objectives to set realistic targets.
- Provide staff training and information to staff that regularly updates and improves the environmental standards.
- Ensure the environmental policy is available and all staff, stakeholders and those working on behalf of the marina are aware of the policy.
- Develop a culture of environmental awareness that improves the work practices and encourages staff, visitors, contractors and other stakeholders to be aware of any environmental impact of their actions.
- Research and where practical use recycled products and environmentally friendly materials and reduce the number of chemical processes.
- Promote good waste management by providing information and receptacles that allow for waste to be segregated at the point of disposal.
- Develop a culture of reporting that encourages all staff to bring to the attention of the marina management anything that is, or may potentially be a threat to the environment.
- Review and audit the Environmental policy to maintain its relevance and effectiveness.



Our Environmental Targets & Objectives

As a business Aqueduct Marina is reliant upon the support of our clients to reach our environmental goals both behind the scenes and whilst engaging in day-to-day narrow boating activities.

With help we would now like to improve the following in the future...

Waste Management

All of the marinas general waste is currently collected and recycled offsite with minimal impact to the marina's user and we would like to take this one step further by encouraging our clients to make the most of the resources we have, this may be by;

- Up-cycling items that cannot be recycled
- Gifting unwanted items rather than disposing of them unnecessarily
- Buying products packaged with recycled, recyclable, re-usable or biodegradable packaging

In doing so we can both reduce the amount of waste we collectively produce and secondly we can reduce the amount of waste going to landfill.

Energy

Each year energy demands increase but as technology improves and more sustainable supplies of energy become available we can reduce this; for example the UK has reduced its use of the fossil fuel coal every year for many years now.

We can continue to follow this trend by reducing the demand for energy and by generating our own energy;

- Replace lamps for low usage equivalents such as LED throughout our facilities and our client's narrowboats.
- Turn off appliances and lights when they are not required and don't leave them on standby.
- Fit solar panels to generate power where it is stored in batteries rather than using mains electrical supplies, generators or engines.
- Replace inefficient equipment and appliances for modern more efficient appliances when the opportunity arises. E.g. Inverter and chargers.

Cleaning Products

Continue to market and advertise the benefits of using environmentally friendly cleaning products. Expanding the range of products to provide a solution for as many uses as possible.

Flora & Fauna

The marina is committed to the continued support of the environment around us and will continue to develop it by installing new woodland areas and green barriers when developing the site. This will improve our surrounding both visually and in terms of wildlife or biodiversity.



AQUEDUCT MARINA'S ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTICE STATEMENT

All employees, contractors and tenants of Aqueduct Marina together with our clients are encouraged to...

- Ensure that all hazardous wastes are disposed of correctly:
 - Dispose of all waste oils and oily water in the appropriate containers at the dedicated waste facility.
 - Ensure that all batteries deposited in the appropriate area the marina (If in doubt asks a member of staff).
- Minimise waste going to landfill and to recycle wherever possible:
 - Reduce, re-use and recycle.
 - Use the recycle facilities provided in the marina.
- Use resources sustainably:
 - Consider electric or bio-diesel engines, water lubricated stern glands.
 - Ensure solid fuels are sourced from responsibly managed resources.
 - Encourage the instillation and use of solar panels.
- Ensure that the waters are clean and healthy to sustain wildlife:
 - Detergents may disperse oil from the water surface and reduce the visual impact, but remember that they can be toxic to aquatic life in themselves.
 - Choose environmentally sensitive cleaning products and detergents which do not contain chlorine, bleach, ammonia and phosphates. These are all harmful to the environment. Use fresh water or non-toxic alternatives for you're on board sinks, showers and washing machines. Most heavy duty cleaning products contain chemicals which disrupt the natural reproduction cycle of fish.
 - Ensure loose items, packaging and waste are secure and cannot be blown or roll over the side. If items end up in the water, retrieve them.
- Regularly monitor water, electricity, and gas consumption with the aim of checking efficiency and reducing the consumption by using alternative methods.
- Review and audit our Environmental policy to maintain its relevance and effectiveness.

Minimise disturbance to wildlife and damage to habitats:

Use environmentally friendly anti-fouling products; avoid those which contain toxic copper compounds. Use water based paints wherever possible or those containing a low VOC (volatile organic compound)

Report any activity to the Marina Office that is causing pollution:

To report any activity that is causing pollution to the appropriate authority.