

A GUIDE TO Managing Marine Flares

About Flares

Shipping laws require that boat owners have pyrotechnic visual distress signal flares on board if their vessels are longer than 16-feet and/or if operating the vessel between sunset and sunrise.

Flare Facts

- Flares contain toxic and reactive materials, including fuel oil, magnesium and potassium chlorate.
- **NEVER soak flares in water.** Some flares react when exposed to water.
- If you keep your outdated flares on board as "extras" for emergencies, you must keep current flares on board as well.
- It is against the law to ignite flares in non-emergency situations.



See other side for disposal options ►



**BUSINESS WASTE
ASSESSMENTS**

**SMALL QUANTITY
GENERATOR PROGRAM**

FLARE DISPOSAL

For Residents

Residents can drop off expired or unneeded flares at a mobile collection or the Household Electronics & Chemical Collections Center (HEC₃) for disposal at no cost. Flare guns are not accepted.



For Businesses

Some, but not all, marine flares are accepted from businesses at Pinellas County Business Day events at the HEC₃ facility on the second Wednesday of each month between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Call ahead to our contractor, **US Ecology**, at **(813) 319-3400** for pre-approval.



2857 110th Avenue N., St. Petersburg



Small Quantity Generator Program

(727) 464-7500

www.pinellascounty.org/solidwaste

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