

April 17, 1970

SPECIAL NOTICE

"New York State's sewage regulation is now in effect. This prohibits anybody from flushing their toilets in marinas or the Off Soundings anchorage areas unless a 'pollution control device' is attached to the marine toilet system. The fine for violation of the law is a maximum of \$100 or 60 days imprisonment or both."

"We have been advised by counsel that if the marine toilet facilities are either (a) locked while in port, or (b) the outlets sealed by a plug, that the yacht owner will probably not be in violation of the law. Each yacht owner shall be responsible for the effective enforcement of the law, and in conformance with past policies, the Off Soundings Club accepts no legal responsibility for the action of its members or guests. We have requested increased shore facilities at 3 Mile Harbor and Deering Harbor."

We have been informed that enforcement of this law is in the hands of the Conservation Department and the local police.

The following is quoted from a letter written by Perry B. Duryea, Jr., Speaker of The Assembly, State of New York.

"Although we have been hoping that the law and the applicable department regulations could be amended to permit the use of equipment which would prevent the pollution of boating waters and at the same time meet the practical requirements of boat owners, it has been impossible to reach any agreement for legislation prior to March 1, 1970. It is apparent that many more months of experimentation and testing will be required, so that it is not reasonable to hope for any solution until the boating season of 1971."

"The state departments involved are fully aware of the problems facing the boat owners after March 1, 1970 and we have been assured that they will cooperate as fully as possible in assisting the boat owners in complying. It is to be hoped that by next year, at least, equipment will be available and approved which will permit normal use of marine toilets and protect the waters from pollution according to acceptable health standards. In the meantime, I am sure that all boat owners will cooperate to the best of their ability in all reasonable efforts to bring about an end to pollution and to achieve the desirable state of our environment which is so eagerly sought for by all of us."

"We had hoped to have better news for Suffolk's boat owners. However, everything has been done to ease the impact of the existing statutes."