Boater's Pledge

As a boater, I have a stake in protecting New Jersey's water resources, enhancing fish and wildlife habitat, and promoting environmentally sound boating practices. As the owner / operator of this vessel, my actions demonstrate my commitment to effect positive change in my boating activities including a reduction in the sources and impacts of nonpoint source pollution by agreeing to the following:

1. **I will use environmentally safe anti-fouling paints.**
2. **I will keep garbage and recycling receptacles covered on-board and make sure everyone uses them. When disposing of these items onshore, I will abide by the recycling rules at my marina or home.**
3. **I will never discard fishing line or disposable plastic items, such as plastic bags and six pack rings overboard.**
4. **I will fuel spills during refueling by installing a fuel air separator, placing a device designed to capture fuel on the fuel vent, not topping off the tank or using other means of reducing overflows.**
5. **I will not throw cigarette butts overboard and dispose of them properly when I return to land.**
6. **I will never discharge raw sewage into the water.**
7. **I will avoid using disposable plastic boat covers or shrink wrap.**
8. **I will keep my engine leak-free and well tuned to minimize the discharge of gas and oil in the water.**
9. **I will place a "bilge" pillow or pad in my bilge to absorb oil and dispose of my used bilge properly.**
10. **I will use non-phosphate (environmentally safe) detergent and a scrub brush when cleaning my boat.**

I pledge my commitment to keeping New Jersey's water and air free of harmful chemicals, excess nutrients and debris. I will identify opportunities and implement practices to control pollution associated with activities occurring on or around my boat while enhancing the surrounding environment.

_____ _____

(Boater's Signature) (Date)

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