

CRUISE POLLUTION 101

What the cruise industry isn't telling

Did you know...

..... Cruise ships have committed more than 300 acts of dumping oil, garbage, hazardous waste, sewage and graywater in the past ten years, paying more than \$80 million in fines and restitution. Fifty-five of these incidents occurred in California.

..... A typical cruise ship generates 30,000 gallons of sewage and 250,000 gallons of graywater (wastewater from galleys, showers, sinks and laundry) every day.

..... Under current laws, cruise ship sewage and graywater can legally be dumped anywhere, including in our ports and bays and adjacent to our beaches.

..... Cruise ship graywater and *treated* sewage has proven to contain extremely high concentrations of fecal coliform, ammonia, chlorine, copper, nickel, zinc, and nutrients, based on extensive sampling in Alaska.

..... Even cruise ships using experimental "advanced" wastewater treatment systems are producing (and dumping) wastewater that contains excessively high levels of heavy metals and nutrients.

..... Cruise ships claim to follow a voluntary policy of zero discharge in California state waters, but this policy has been violated at least 42 times in the past three years.

..... The number of cruise ship calls at California ports has increased by 50 percent from 2002-2004.

What can be done to control the growing cruise ship pollution problem?

- ☞ The California legislature is currently considering two bills to prohibit cruise ships from dumping sewage and graywater into state waters, and another bill to prohibit the use of onboard incinerators near our shores.
- ☞ A bi-partisan group of Congresspeople has recently introduced federal legislation, the Clean Cruise Ship Act, to prohibit cruise ships from discharging sewage, sewage sludge, graywater and oily bilge water within 12 miles of our coasts, and to implement a monitoring and enforcement program to ensure compliance.

Please visit our website for more information and ways you can help protect our oceans from unnecessary cruise ship pollution. www.bluewaternetwork.org.