Marine Sanitation Devices

Marine sanitation device laws apply to boats with installed heads (commodes). Sanitation devices are classified by types. Types I & II treat sewage and then discharge it into the water. A Type III is a holding tank which retains the waste until it is pumped out at a marina or other facility. The following is a summary of the M.S.D. laws:

- Discharging untreated sewage into public water is prohibited. It is illegal to use a vessel which is capable of discharging untreated sewage.
- Public waters are classified as either **discharge** (capable of accepting treated sewage) or **no discharge** (waste must be retained in a holding tank until properly removed).
- Discharge into public waters is restricted to a Type I or II U.S. Coast Guard approved marine sanitation device on those waters classified as **discharge**.
- Marinas and docks operating on public water must provide a sewage removal service.

Discharge Reservoirs	No Discharge Reservoirs
Barkley Calderwood Cheatham Chickamauga Cordell Hull Cumberland River Ft. Loudon Kentucky McKellar Melton Hill Mississippi River Nickajack Old Hlckory Pickwick Reelfoot South Holston Tellico Tennessee River Watts Barr	Beech River Lakes Boone Center Hill Cherokee Chilhowee Dale Hollow Douglas Ft. Patrick Henry Great Falls J. Percy Priest Lake Graham Nolichucky Normandy Norris Ocoee 1,2,3 Tims Ford Watauga Wilbur Woods