Port of Melbourne Corporation

The Port of Melbourne Corporation (PoMC) is the strategic manager of the Port of Melbourne. It is responsible for the safe and efficient movement of commercial shipping in port waters, which run from the Heads in the south of Port Phillip Bay to the north of the Port of Melbourne. PoMC is also responsible for the Port gantry and quays, and your call. We provide a simple guide to each of the State Governments key departments or agencies who have responsibilities on Port Phillip, Western Port and the Yarra, looking after both you and the waters you enjoy.

Who Do You Call?

For more information contact PoMC on 1300 857 662 and ask

For more information contact VRCA on 03 5225 3500 for general information.

This brochure provides a simple guide to each of the State Governments key departments or agencies who have responsibilities on Port Phillip, Western Port and the Yarra, looking after both you and the waters you enjoy.

The Victorian Regional Channels Authority (VRCA) was established under the Port Services Act 1995 (PSA) to manage channels and maintain the channels in port waters and to provide technical advice and support to port managers. It is responsible for enforcing the Marine Safety Act 1995 (the Act), as provided in Section 21 of the PSA.

The principal functions of the VRCA, as provided in Section 21 of the Act, are to:

- Promote, design and maintain the channels in port waters and provide advice to port managers on the safe and efficient movement of commercial shipping in port waters;
- Provide general direction and control of the movement of vessels in port waters and provide and maintain navigation aids in port waters in accordance with the Marine Safety Act 1995;
- Provide technical advice and support to port managers about the management and operation of port waters and channel user permits and monitoring of the operation of the channels in port waters; and
- Assist port managers at their request and with the approval of the Minister, with integrated planning, development and management of port services.

The VRCA reports to the Minister for Roads and Ports with respect to industry policy and regulation and the Treasurer with respect to shareholder and governance matters. The VRCA has a three-member Board of Directors and an establishment of six employees.

For more information contact VRCA on 1800 870 442 or visit www.victorianchannels.vic.gov.au

Environment Protection Authority

EPA Victoria’s purpose is to protect, care for and improve the environment.

The EPA has an ongoing and rewarding task that requires us to work with the community, industry and other groups to build a sustainable, healthy future.

On the ground every day our teams deliver on our statutory and non-statutory roles and responsibilities. In the past 15 years, we have grown in response to the increasing urbanisation and growing population of Victoria, the ever-greater demands on our environment and the need to manage those demands. We have developed an increasingly sophisticated suite of programs to improve air and water quality and to manage other key environmental issues.

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For more information contact EPA on 03 9695 2722 or visit www.epa.vic.gov.au

Water Police

The Water Police have the primary role of coordinating all marine incidents involving recreational vessels, yachts and commercial vessels within Victorian Coastal and Inland waters. They also respond to environmental crimes such as pollution, vessel and fuel thefts, and illegal fishing. They ensure that the road to the water is safe for everyone.

The Water Police receive over 1000 callouts for assistance each year. Many of these are for broken down boats. Please ensure you and your boat are PREPARED to go boating.

- Fully charge your batteries
- Ensure you have sufficient fuel
- Carry the required safety equipment
- We are also responsible for law enforcement, marine collision investigation, boating safety education and operational support to other Police units.

For more information contact Water Police on 03 9399 7500

Different organisations have different responsibilities around our waterways.

This booklet identifies who you call in an emergency or special situation.

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