

Simplified overview of the discharge provisions of the revised MARPOL Annex V which entered into force on 1 January 2013

DISCLAIMER: Additional requirements may apply.

This simplified overview is for information or reference purposes only and is not meant as a substitute for the comprehensive provisions in the revised MARPOL Annex V (resolution MEPC.201(62)) or the 2012 Guidelines for the Implementation of MARPOL Annex V (resolution MEPC.219(63)).

Type of garbage	Ships outside special areas	Ships within special areas	Offshore platforms and all ships within 500 m of such platforms
Food waste comminuted or ground	Discharge permitted ≥3 nm from the nearest land and <i>en route</i>	Discharge permitted ≥12 nm from the nearest land and <i>en route</i>	Discharge permitted ≥12 nm from the nearest land
Food waste not comminuted or ground	Discharge permitted ≥12 nm from the nearest land and <i>en route</i>	Discharge prohibited	Discharge prohibited
Cargo residues ¹ not contained in wash water	Discharge permitted ≥12 nm from the nearest land and <i>en route</i>	Discharge prohibited	Discharge prohibited
Cargo residues ¹ contained in wash water		Discharge only permitted in specific circumstances ² and ≥12 nm from the nearest land and <i>en route</i>	Discharge prohibited
Cleaning agents and additives ¹ contained in cargo hold wash water	Discharge permitted	Discharge only permitted in specific circumstances ² and ≥12 nm from the nearest land and <i>en route</i>	Discharge prohibited
Cleaning agents and additives ¹ contained in deck and external surfaces wash water		Discharge permitted	Discharge prohibited
Carcasses of animals carried on board as cargo and which died during the voyage	Discharge permitted as far from the nearest land as possible and <i>en route</i>	Discharge prohibited	Discharge prohibited
All other garbage including plastics, domestic wastes, cooking oil, incinerator ashes, operational wastes and fishing gear	Discharge prohibited	Discharge prohibited	Discharge prohibited
Mixed garbage	When garbage is mixed with or contaminated by other substances prohibited from discharge or having different discharge requirements, the more stringent requirements shall apply		

1 These substances must not be harmful to the marine environment.

2 According to regulation 6.1.2 of MARPOL Annex V, the discharge shall only be allowed if: (a) both the port of departure and the next port of destination are within the special area and the ship will not transit outside the special area between these ports (regulation 6.1.2.2); and (b) if no adequate reception facilities are available at those ports (regulation 6.1.2.3).