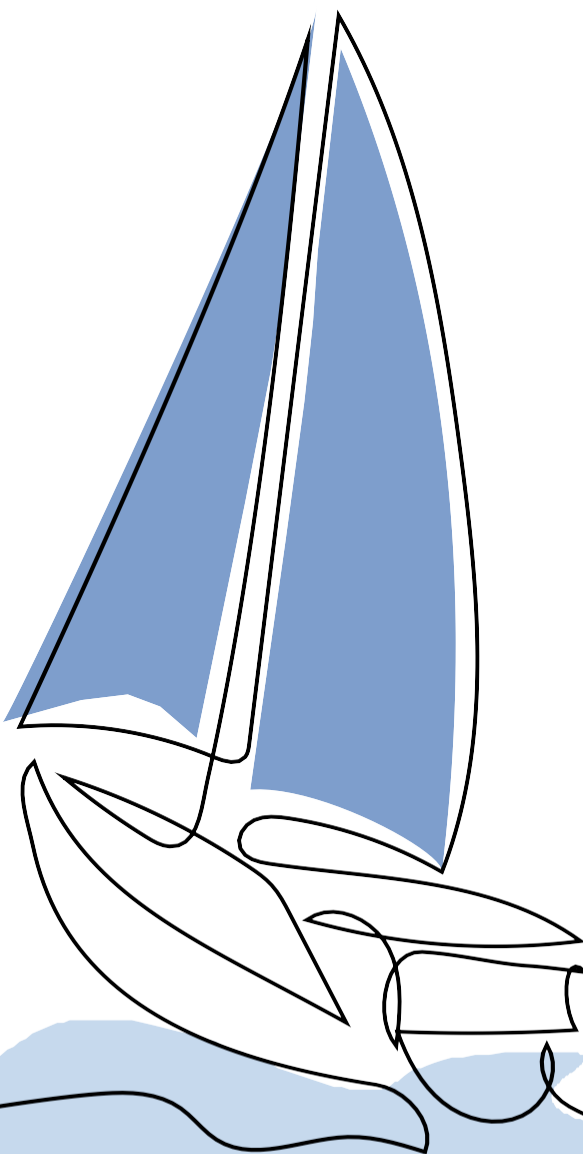
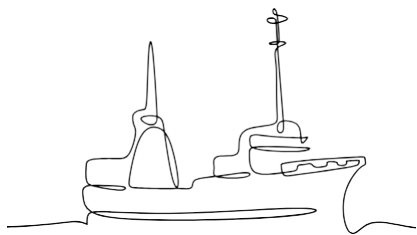


THE ECO-FRIENDLY SAILOR

MINI GUIDE TO SUSTAINABILITY:
EU ECOLABEL PRODUCTS





“E il naufragar m'è dolce in questo mare”

(Giacomo Leopardi)

A clean sea to navigate, swim and fish in.

A sea to love, protect and safeguard.

A sea rich in biodiversity to preserve and discover.

This mini guide is a drop in the ocean but with an intent as big as an ocean. It aims to promote simple and correct environmental behaviours that can contribute to reduce the pollution in the Mare Nostrum. Everyone can make a difference by adopting sustainable practices. Every daily act of those who live the sea is significant.

For sailor and yachtsman, the use of highly eco-friendly cleaning products is strongly recommended for personal hygiene, dishwashing, and galley, bathroom, deck, and cockpit cleaning. Unfortunately, on boats, normal detergents are often discharged directly into the sea without any treatment.

Environmentally friendly products carrying the EU Ecolabel, the European Union's ecological quality mark, are available in the market, even in large retail stores. These products are characterised by a reduced environmental impact throughout their life cycle.

The EU Ecolabel makes it easy for consumers to identify these products which are equals to others in terms of performance and quality.

The EU Ecolabel is a voluntary certification issued by an independent body, which in Italy is the Committee for Ecolabel and Ecoaudit, composed of representatives from the Ministries of the Environment and Energy Security, Enterprise and Made in Italy, Health, and Economy and Finance, to which ISPRA provides technical and administrative support in carrying out the preliminary investigations for the issue of Italian licences.

This certification ensures the conformity of these products to European criteria on important aspects related to consumer health and safety, as well as the main social and ethical aspects of production processes.

Product groups that are most frequently used in recreational boating, have been selected providing characteristics and references for choice and purchase.

SOME REGULATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE SEA

Many legislative initiatives at National, European, and global level have been implemented to protect the sea. Safeguarding the marine environment and ensuring the sustainability of human activities related to the sea are among the objectives of the EU Framework Directive on Marine Strategy. Spreading the culture of the sea as a resource of great cultural, scientific, recreational, and economic value is one of the outreach and awareness initiatives aimed at young people mentioned in the Code of Recreational Boating (Legislative Decree July 18, 2005, n. 171). The United Nations Barcelona Convention involves coastal states of the Mediterranean Sea in actions aimed at protecting the marine environment from pollution.





CLEANING PRODUCTS

The EU Ecolabel group of **Detergent products** includes a wide range of detergents that meet the binding criteria defined by the EU (criteria periodically reviewed in an international participatory process) whereby, by respecting the right dosage, the environmental impact is reduced in terms of lower toxicity to aquatic organisms and increased biodegradability.

For these products, certain hazardous substances are excluded or permitted within strict limits.

Companies pay attention to the sustainable origin of palm oil in formulation and use recyclable packaging, providing information on recycling methods and environmental sustainability on labels.

Amongst the Ecolabel criteria are parameters guaranteeing "use effectiveness", ensuring the buyer a high-quality performance comparable to similar non-Ecolabel EU products.

Amongst these products, those that could be used on board fall into 4 categories:

- **Dishwashing detergents**
- **Hand dishwasher detergents**
- **Hard surfaces cleaning products:**
include multipurpose detergents for kitchen, glasses, polished surfaces and bathroom facilities
- **Laundry detergents**



PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS

The EU Ecolabel certification guarantees for cosmetic products a limited content of hazardous substances without compromising their high performance standards, which are verified through laboratory tests or consumer testing. Furthermore, these cosmetics are characterised by a reduced environmental impact throughout their life cycle.

This products group includes **cosmetics** and **soaps**: creams, shower gels, and all cosmetics carrying the EU Ecolabel are characterised by a complete ban on the use of substances that have carcinogenic, mutagenic or reproductive adverse effects. Restrictions on allergens and certain substances of concern are adopted for these products.

Preservatives and colorants in products intended for children or classified as delicate/sensitive are prohibited. Special attention is paid to substances considered hazardous to the aquatic environment, whose concentration is set at a very low percentage.



PAPER

In addition to detergents, attention is also drawn to certain tissue paper and tissue products which, although not intended for immediate release into the sea because their dispersion in the toilet is prohibited, may unintentionally end up in the water, and are therefore deserving of preference based on their composition and reduced permanence in the environment. **Paper Fabric products, such as toilet paper, napkins, paper rolls, etc.**, comply with stringent criteria to reduce the release of toxic or eutrophying substances into the water. They minimise the environmental damage or risks associated with the use of hazardous chemicals, promote the use of sustainable fibres (50 % of virgin fibre must come from sustainable forests) and contribute to forests conservation through the application of sustainable management practices. Furthermore, in the manufacturing process, they adhere to stringent criteria regarding energy efficiency to reduce emissions into the air and water.



“Necesito del mar porque me enseña”
(Pablo Neruda)

In the awareness that individual actions are essential and with the hope that correct behaviours adopted at sea can become a habit even once ashore, we wish everyone:

Fair winds... of change!

Look for the EU Ecolabel in your trusted supermarket.

Scan the QR Code
and access the register of EU
Ecolabel certified products in Italy or click

[HERE](#)



Scan the QR code and access ECAT,
the catalogue of EU Ecolabel certified
products in Europe or click [HERE](#)



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www.isprambiente.gov.it/it/attivita/certificazioni/ecolabel-ue

Scan the QR Code and
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