



PEVENSEY SAILING CLUB BAY

FUEL STORE RISK ASSESSMENT

This risk assessment relates specifically to the fuel store at Pevensey Bay Sailing Club.

Club Name: Pevensey Bay Sailing Club

Location: Grounds and clubhouse at Pevensey Bay Sailing Club, Old Martello Road,
Pevensey Bay, East Sussex, BN24 6DX

Date of Assessment: 5th July 2026

Assessed by: Vice Commodore, Duncan Tanner.

Checked by: Commodore, Justin Pollard.

Review Date: 5th July 2029

Purpose

To identify potential risks from storing fuel at the club and put in place measures to reduce the risks to an acceptable level.

It is necessary to store liquid fuel, i.e. unleaded petrol, at the club in order to fuel the club safety boats. The fuel store structure comprises a metal box, approximately 1.5 m cubed, clad in concrete blockwork with a concrete slab over the top of it. The fuel store is ventilated with a vent in each side. The fuel is stored within the store in plastic fuel containers ("jerry cans") and plastic safety boat fuel tanks which are removed from the boats when not in use. Nothing else is stored in the fuel store, other than an oil spill kit and funnels to assist with decanting fuel from jerry cans to boat fuel tanks. The nearest building is the club house, approximately 8 metres away at the nearest point. The second nearest building is the nearest dwelling, approximately 300 metres away. Typically, there is around 100 litres of fuel stored in the fuel store at any one time. The maximum capacity with every jerry can and boat tank full is 240 litres.

1. Risk: Fire and Explosion.
2. Hazard: Unleaded petrol is a highly volatile and flammable liquid containing hydrocarbons such as benzene.
3. Who is at risk: Everyone in the vicinity.

Risk level: High

Control Measures:

- The fuel store is well ventilated through its built in vent on each side.
- Boat tanks must have their vents closed before being placed in the fuel store.
- There is a “no smoking / highly flammable” hazard sign on the door.
- Any fuel spills must be cleaned up immediately.
- Only the amount of fuel expected to be needed for activities for the following week should be purchased and stored.
- Other than plastic jerry cans, boat fuel tanks and funnels and an oil spill kit, nothing else is to be kept within the fuel store.

Risk level: Low

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1. Risk: Health Risk
 2. Hazard: Handling unleaded petrol can have health risks. There is a long term risk from prolonged exposure. There is a short term risk if swallowed or if there is skin or eye contact.

3. Who is at risk: Anyone who handles unleaded petrol.

Risk level: Medium

Control Measures:

- The door is kept locked to limit access to club officials and key holders with the appropriate level of authority.
- Filling the boat fuel tanks should only take place once a day, after which the fuel store is locked. Other than exceptional circumstances, such as “sea week” and other large events, it is only expected to have to fill the boat tanks a maximum of three times a week.
- Power boat courses run by the club include training on filling the boat tanks with fuel.

- Anyone who has come into physical contact with the fuel, i.e. spilt it onto their skin, in their eyes, or ingested it should seek immediate medical assistance, calling an ambulance if appropriate. In such circumstances, this is to be reported in the club accident book and discussed at the next committee meeting.

Risk level: Low

1. Risk: Theft
2. Hazard: Fuel is a valuable commodity and it is possible that it may be stolen.
3. Who is at risk: Club finances.

Risk level: Medium

Control Measures:

- The fuel store door has two locks, both of which must be kept locked at all times. Only authorised club officials and key holders with the appropriate level of authority have keys. The keys, like all locks at the club, are “security keys” from a lock smith and cannot be readily copied.
- The structure of the store, i.e. a metal box within block walls and a concrete roof would make it difficult to break into by force.
- Other than a “no smoking” sign on the door, there is no indication of what is within the store to the general public.

Risk level: Low

1. Risk: Environment.
2. Hazard: Unleaded petrol is highly toxic and has long term damaging effects to wildlife and aquatic life alike.
3. Who is at risk: Wildlife.

Risk level: High

Control Measures:

- Only appropriately trained authorised adults are to decant fuel from jerry cans to boat fuel tanks.
- Any spills are to be cleared up immediately.
- Any spills are to be reported in the club accident book and will be discussed at the next executive committee meeting.

- The fuel store is located approximately 100 m from the high tide mark so the risk of spilt fuel reaching the sea is minimal.

Risk level: Low