

Cleaning Dive Gear

- 1. Check all gear that could potentially hide any water (veligers)** (include regulators, buoyancy compensation device, wetsuits, masks, gloves, boots, snorkels, and any other dive gear).
- 2. Thoroughly clean all regulators, BCDs, wetsuits, masks, snorkels, and any other dive gear**, making sure to clean both the inside and outside of the BCD to ensure that no mud or organic matter is present – use a brush to scrub if necessary.
- 3. After cleaning, rinse your suit, equipment and inside of BCD with hot (<math><40^{\circ}\text{C}</math> or 104°F) or salt water (1/2 cup salt/gallon).** Note, if you use the salt-water solution, it is very important to thoroughly rinse the equipment in freshwater after your cleaning because the salt crystals can harm your equipment. Divers can also use potassium at 100mg/liter at a temperature of >30° C, or using commercially available dive equipment cleaning compound that contains ammonia, vinegar, or chlorine. Dispose of cleaning solution properly.
- 4. Allow gear, suit, and other equipment to dry** before diving in different waters. Veligers can survive on a wetsuit if left damp.
- 5. If feasible, consider freezing** your equipment overnight to kill any veligers.



REMEMBER: Most storm drains flow directly into rivers and other waters. Do not wash your gear or drain it near a storm drain.