

Smart Harbors



Winter 2024

Updates From Virginia Institute of Marine Science

Free CleanWay™ Fuel Fill Kits – Preventing Spills and Splashes



CleanWay™ devices are available to each certified Virginia Clean Marina at no cost to marinas. Full color laminated instructions will be provided, and a brief training will be conducted with marina operators and staff. Operators can then instruct their clients in the proper use of the units when refueling. Funding for this project was secured through the Chesapeake Bay Restoration Fund and sales of the “Friend of the Chesapeake” license plate. For more information about the CleanWay™ fuel fill kits, please email acclark@vims.edu or visit the website [here](http://vims.edu).



Interested in Recycling Boating Shrinkwrap?

VIMS is starting a recycling program for boating shrinkwrap. If your marina would like to serve on the working group as we plan collection activities or collect shrinkwrap at your marina, please email acclark@vims.edu or call (804) 684-7768.

Why Become a Virginia Clean Boater?

By adopting pollution prevention measures, Virginia Clean Boaters can take satisfaction in knowing they are doing their part to keep Virginia waterways clean, preserve our waterways for the future, and learn/teach clean boating habits. For more information visit the website [here](http://vims.edu).

CMP Highlighted Marina – Belmont Bay Marina

This quarter’s highlighted marina is Belmont Bay Marina in Woodbridge, Virginia! Belmont Bay Marina is a beautiful marina located at the mouth of the Occoquan River. They offer yearly and transient dockage, in a very secure, quiet neighborhood. With floating Brazilian walnut docks, tucked in the land by a surrounding rock jetty you won’t find a safer place to dock. With T-heads and a long fuel dock, they can accommodate limited slots of up to 80’ and wide beam slips. They offer Gas/Diesel, pump-outs, well maintained bathrooms, showers, and laundry. Just a short drive to Highway 1 offers lots of restaurants, grocery, west marine and other store options.



Photo credit: Belmont Bay Marina



Updates from External Partners

Chesapeake Bay Foundation – Oyster Gardening

Interested in Oyster Gardening at your marina? Please contact acclark@vims.edu or Jlutzow@cbf.org for more information if you would like to partner with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation.

Industry News

BoatUS/NWSA Seek Nominations for Leadership in Women's Sailing Award

From BoatUS, November 15, 2023



Photo credit: BoatUS

The National Women's Sailing Association (NWSA) and Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS) are seeking nominations for the 2024 BoatUS/NWSA Leadership in Women's Sailing Award. Since 1999, the national award has sought to recognize an individual with a record of achievement in inspiring, educating and enriching the lives of women through sailing. Past recipients have included sailing instructors, writers, sail-boat racers, and boating club leaders from a wide variety of professions.

Nominations are being accepted at the NWSA award [website](#) through February 1, 2024, while questions may be directed to Leadership@Women-Sailing.org. The 2024 recipient will be announced at the Annual National Women's Sailing Association Conference Luncheon in New Orleans, June 8.

"We are proud to recognize the contributions our recipients have made to teaching and encouraging participation in the sport," said NWSA president Debby Grimm.

Speaking to NWSA's partnership with BoatUS, Grimm added, "We seek to introduce more women to sailing, a lifetime sport and healthy lifestyle to share and enjoy with other people. Sailing teaches leadership skills, science, geography, technology and math, which are fun for all ages to learn together. Both of our organizations help nurture the skills and sense of community to help sailors grow through their boating lives."

Golden Opportunity Scholarship Program

From the Association of Marina Industries

The Golden Opportunity Scholarship Fund is dedicated to helping current and future marina industry professionals with financial assistance who wish to achieve the marina industries highest professional Certified Marina Manager (CMM) or Certified Marina Operator (CMO) designation. Golden Marine Systems LLC, is looking to help deserving individuals achieve their career goals, and become a part of an elite group of marina operators who value personal and professional excellence and strive to maintain the highest level of ethical and moral conduct in their commitment to the marina industry.

The fund welcomes all applicants that have:

- ≈ Financial needs
- ≈ Are an active marina professional
- ≈ Have strong educational & career goals
- ≈ Are self motivated
- ≈ Meet the Association of Marina Industries (AMI) application criteria
- ≈ Are current member of the Association of Marina Industries (AMI)

Scholarship applications will be received January through December of each calendar year. Funding for the scholarship will coincide with the dates of the AMI training courses. Duration of the award shall be two calendar years from the date received. Golden Marine Systems LLC will announce the scholarship recipient each year at AMI's annual conference, the International Marina & Boatyard Conference (IMBC). To apply click [here](#).

3 Best Practices to Follow for Your Boat's Long Winter's Nap

From BoatUS, December 11, 2023

Across much of America, millions of recreational boats have been laid up for winter storage. With the boating season officially over, some boat owners may think they are free and clear for the next six months. However, Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS) offers three best practices for winter storage to ensure the off-season goes smoothly and safely.

- 1. If you haven't done so yet, read your marina, boat club or storage facility contract.** Every page. Why? This document clearly specifies critical safety rules to live by over the winter. Don't assume that because you read one contract, they're all the same. Different contracts apply to the specific type of winter storage you might have, such as outdoor, indoor or boats stored on a rack. Contracts also include work rules. Some common ones may include no work of any kind (most often for boats in rack storage but also sometimes for indoor storage), prohibiting outside contractors, no heaters or portable generators, or batteries must



Photo credit: BoatUS

be disconnected. Why all the rules? There's no getting around the fact that vessels tightly stored together tee up an increased fire hazard. So, for the greater good of everyone in winter storage, follow these rules to the letter.

- 2. Say “no” to power cords.** While this best practice could have been included above, it deserves its own mention. Ask any marina owner what keeps them up at night over the long winter storage period and they will tell you one item at the top of the list is power cords. Under-sized and multiple cords connected together are not only a potential source of ignition but make whatever they are plugged into, such as a battery charger or heater, another fire issue. If you need power to the boat to do some off-season work, check with your marina first. Some marinas may also require notification of any work you wish to do.
- 3. Visit your boat – safely.** BoatUS recommends checking on your boat at least once during the off season, though more often is better. This will help ensure animals don't make a home and your cover or shrink wrap is still effectively shedding ice and snow. When visiting the boat, it's best to find a parking spot away from vessels on jackstands. Don't move or adjust jackstands, and never tie off a winter cover to them. If you need to use a ladder to climb aboard, tie it off at the top. If your boat is stored in the water, bring a friend with you so a slip off an icy dock doesn't go unnoticed.

Heather Lougheed Takes the Helm as President of BoatUS Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water

From BoatUS, November 21, 2023

Heather Lougheed, vice president of the nearly 800,000-member boating advocacy, services and safety group, Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS), is taking on a second organizational role with the appointment to president of the BoatUS Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water. The 501(c)(3) nonprofit foundation is the boating safety and clean water “sister” to BoatUS and a national leader in promoting safe, clean and responsible boating.

Lougheed takes over from departing foundation president Chris Edmonston. “Chris has been a boating safety and clean water advocate for America’s boat owners for more than 25 years,” said BoatUS chairman and president Tammy Moore. “We thank him for advancing BoatUS Foundation programs, services and educational efforts that have had a huge impact on anyone who spends time on the water.”

Lougheed, who began in the membership department at BoatUS in 2000, started boating as a youngster, learning how to waterski from an uncle. That uncle – a BoatUS member – shared with his young niece the importance of having BoatUS membership. “At an early age I became very aware of the strong connection between BoatUS and its members,” said Lougheed.



Photo credit: BoatUS

During her 23-year BoatUS career, the Virginia native has held several management roles in the membership department and was promoted to vice president of BoatUS in 2010, a role she will continue.

“I’m very excited about this opportunity and also humbled as I’ve had the pleasure to work with several BoatUS Foundation presidents,” said Loughheed. “We have many talented staff at both the association and foundation. I hope to support the team collectively as a group to get the best collaborative effort for our members, the boating public, and the boating safety and clean water arenas.”

Added Moore, “Heather’s appointment will help the foundation continue to offer innovative and impactful boating safety and clean water programs that resonate with boaters, address important needs, and help us grow into the future with our new work on removing abandoned and derelict vessels, fostering our NOAA partnership, adding on-water training locations, and more.”

Please Share Your News!

Do you have a new and exciting method for managing recyclables at your facility? Are there any regulatory items you would like addressed? Has your facility won an award or hired a new manager? If you have any news that you would like included in the Clean Marina Newsletter, Smart Harbors, please let us know! This is a quarterly newsletter with the next issue scheduled for Spring 2024 and we would like to include information from the marina community. If you have comments or questions, please email the Virginia Clean Marina Program: askVCMP@vims.edu or acclark@vims.edu or call (804) 684-7768.

