

Constitution Marina Safety Meeting
Monday March 11, 2019
(Unofficial notes by the community)

- Tom and Peter welcomed the group. Their goal is not to police us but to provide guidelines to help us remain safe. “Prepare for the worst and hope for the best.”
- The marina sends emails out frequently to update the community on important issues and dates. Please read those emails! In the email dated 2/28/19, they included 5 attachments with marina guidelines. Please take a few minutes to download them and read them. Also, watch for an email in the next few weeks asking for updated contact information.
- Fire extinguishers, smoke alarms, CO2 detectors (marine grade if possible) and air horns are all required on your boat. Take the time to make sure all are in good working condition and they are not expired or recalled.
- In an emergency, use 5 blasts of your air horn to alert your neighbors that you need help. If you hear a neighbor blast their horn, it could be helpful for you to also blast yours to help spread the word.
- Insurance: Everyone with a boat at the marina is required to have at minimum \$1M in insurance. If you are unable to acquire that amount for any reason, please have your insurance company write a letter to the marina explaining why. In most cases, the marina will be able to accept that on your behalf.
- The Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary provide FREE boat inspections for boat owners. Take advantage of this service to help you keep your boat up to date and safe.
- The Lynn Coast Guard Auxiliary has a boater safety course in June. Contact them if you’d like to participate. \$60 (Community member suggested)
- MIT also offers a 2-day safety course and is highly recommended by an experienced liveaboard couple.
- The Fire Squadron also has a free course, contact Betty if you have questions.
- The marina is not responsible for the weather! Please stay up to date on the weather yourself and watch the tides. In extreme cases, the parking lot can and will flood. It is your responsibility to know when this could happen and to move your vehicles to higher ground.

- Propane/Charcoal Grilling is not allowed on the docks or on boats. ELECTRIC grills are allowed but please be mindful of your neighbors. We live inches apart; pay attention to the smoke you're creating. Also, please utilize the grills provided on the pool deck of the marina.
- Power cords: keep the coiled neatly. They should not be lying on the docks. They should not be wrapped around a cleat or being pulled by a rocking boat.
- Snow and ice: Be careful on the docks. The crew does a great job of clearing the snow but docks can and will be icy! There is salt at the end of the gangways and sporadically around the marina. Use it! Also make sure you clear off your own finger dock. (Marina will not clear it for you.) If it's not cleared and the pump out boat can't get to your tank, you won't be pumped out.
- Have a plan for storms. What will each member of your crew do when a storm hits? The marina will put up extra storm lines and may ask us to evacuate. They may shut off power, etc.
- As a community we can turn to channel 16 or better yet, 69, during a storm to stay connected. The marina monitors channel 69.
- All dogs must be on a leash!
- All children under 12 must wear a life jacket when walking on the dock. That goes for guests as well. If you don't own a child vest, call the marina office and you can borrow one. (Also, many members of the community may be able to lend you one as well.)
- When you are putting up your own shrinkwrap it is mandatory to have a fire extinguisher on hand at all times. This also applies for marina contractors.
- Lock your boats at night and when you are away.
- Access winter water properly. (As a community we've done a great job this year!) Also shut off all water when you are leaving your boat for a long period of time.
- Shore power cords must be replaced every 5 years for sure, perhaps sooner (3-4 years). Check your cords weekly by feeling them or using a heat gun to see if they are warm. If so, it's time to replace them. Use dielectric grease to act as an insulator and protect from corrosion.
- It's a good idea to have your electrical system inspected. Call Rick Johnson for an appointment.

- Propane tanks should always be kept outside of your boat, in a locker. Use solenoid switches as safety shut offs for when you aren't using your heat. Gas alarms are also a good idea.
- The marina staff walks the docks to check for safety hazards but they can't see everything. Keep your eyes open, watch out for your neighbors. If you see a loose line, tighten it. If you hear an alarm, knock or call your neighbor or call the office main number. **DO NOT POST IT ON THE FRIENDS OF FACEBOOK SITE** as this is an informal community page (not official).
- Do not ever willingly get into the water at or around the marina. If you do fall in, grab a line and yell for help until someone comes. It's a good idea to carry a whistle in case you fall in.
- Gates: make sure they close after you and don't let people in if you don't know them. If someone is trying to get in and you don't know them send them to the office to check in.
- The marina hosts a spring CPR and first aid class that is open to the marina community. Ask the office for details.
- Bottom line: If you see something, say something. If you need assistance, call the MAIN MARINA LINE (even after hours). In an emergency situation only, you can knock on the marina staff's boat. (not if you need ice or dropped your keys)
- The marina will be sending out an email in the next couple of weeks asking for your updated contact information. Please fill it out so they have accurate information in case of emergencies.

Community Q&A

- Will ladders ever be placed around the docks in case people fall in? (No because it's not practical and wouldn't help much as it's hard to climb) You also are not allowed to place one on your own dock. What you can do is keep your swim ladders down at all times.
- Know your neighbors. A mentorship program for new liveboards was mentioned as well as having a few key senior members of the community serve as "experts" on certain guidelines and procedures.
- Gates-construction crew has kept them open and Tom will speak with them about that.

- Keep your eyes up when walking on the dock. Avoid looking at your phone so you don't bump into people or fall in!
- Suggestion: Write your name and phone number on your shrinkwrap or somewhere on your boat so neighbors can contact you if something's not right.
- Get a label for your dinghy and kayak so they can be identified easily if they drift away from your boat.
- Has the marina considered a signaling system or fire alarms to alert the community when there's an emergency? (They are willing to look at the information if it's sent to him.)
- How many heaters can a 30-amp plug accommodate? How about a 50 amp? (Depends on the heaters. Don't go over 27 amps for a 30-amp plug or 45 amps for a 50-amp plug. Basically 2 big devices that draw heat for a 30 and 3 for a 50.)
- Suggestion: During shrinkwrap season, tape a knife somewhere so you can cut a hole to get out if you need one. (Near an exit hatch in your cabin, for instance.)
- Offer/Suggestion: If you find that you need a new power cord but can't afford one, please ask your neighbors. Many would be happy to lend you an extra until you can get a new one. We'd rather that than come help you put out a fire.

*These notes were compiled by two community members. We apologize if we left anyone out or misquoted anything.