



Little Things That Matter

WINTERIZE YOUR BOAT

- ✦ Clean your boat inside and out. Cover when stored and ventilate to prevent mildew. Consider using recyclable shrink wrap. Clean your dock box and properly dispose of products. Call 1-800-CLEANUP or visit www.earth911.com for hazardous waste disposal locations near you.
- ✦ Fill fuel tanks. Keeping your tank full lessens condensation. Change or install fuel/water separators and filtration systems or use nontoxic additives (i.e., magnetic fuel decontaminators that prevent condensation). Add fuel stabilizer.
- ✦ Clean and dry bilges. Dispose of used oil absorbents as hazardous waste at a hazardous waste disposal location. Remove boat drain plug if stored on a trailer.
- ✦ Empty holding tanks and port-a-potties. For pumpout locations visit www.dbw.parks.ca.gov/pumpouts. Use non-toxic antifreeze in holding tank systems and heads.
- ✦ Check and charge batteries. Clean terminals and use a terminal protector.
- ✦ Inboard Engines: Change oil and filters. Flush engine(s) with fresh water and drain if your boat is out of the water. Drain manifolds. Check coolant in closed cooling system.
- ✦ Outboard Engines: Change oil in lower unit. Flush engine with fresh water. Disconnect fuel hose and run engine until it stops. Store engine upright for proper water drainage.
- ✦ Inspect stern drive. Drain and refill lower unit. Check for leaking parts. Grease all fittings and check fluid levels in hydraulic steering and lift pumps.

Celebrating 2014's Dockwalkers



USCG Auxiliary and Dockwalker, Jim Minkel conducting face-to-face education during the Benicia Yacht Club's Opening Day on the Strait, Benicia Marina.
Photo: Jim Minkel



Boater in Sandy Beach
Photo: Deborah Bartens

The California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways and the California Coastal Commission's Boating Clean and Green Program, The Bay Foundation, and the Keep the Delta Clean Program (Program Partners) would like to express our deepest gratitude to all Dockwalker volunteers and organizations that supported the Dockwalker Program this year.

In 2014, the Program Partners worked together with the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, U.S. Power Squadron, Save Our Shores, Lake Berryessa Partnership, the City and County of San Francisco, Department of the Environment, Morro Bay Harbor and many more organizations. Partnering with these organizations made the program a great success.

Dockwalkers are trained to provide face-to-face boater education and distribute boater kits with educational information while visiting marinas, boat launch ramps, boat shows and events. Boaters receive a kit after completing a boater survey and pledge. This questionnaire helps to identify gaps in environmental services and improve future education efforts. Over 150 new volunteers participated in the 11 trainings conducted in 2014. These volunteers distributed 7,000 boater kits, and donated over 1,000 volunteer hours. Working together made this year another success!

Continued on back page.



US Power Squadron and Dockwalker, Rick Huffman celebrating clean boating at the Stockton Yacht Club
Photo: Rick Huffman





Present day Avalon Harbor

Photo: Michelle Staffield

Destination Series:

Santa Catalina Island

Due to Avalon's innovative water quality improvement strategies, this year Avalon received straight A's, including four A+'s, in Heal the Bay's Beach Grades.

In Southern California, boaters are fortunate to have an island destination right in their backyard, Santa Catalina Island. Catalina is a rocky island located 22 miles south-southwest of Los Angeles. The island is 22 miles long and 8 miles across at its greatest width and home to the famous Avalon Harbor. Beginning in 7,000 B.C., Native Americans of the Gabrielino/Tyongva tribes, who called themselves Pimignans, settled the island with their biggest villages being at the Isthmus and at present day Avalon, Shark/Little Harbor, and Emerald Bay. Pimignans often travelled back and forth from villages near present day San Pedro and Playa del Rey to Catalina for trade.

Today, 90% of the 5,000 island residents live in the island's only incorporated city, Avalon. The second center of population is in Two Harbors at the island's isthmus. Close to one million people travel to Catalina every year, not for trade, but to enjoy an island getaway. There's much to do: scuba dive and snorkel at the world famous Casino Point, zip line across the canyon, tour the sea aboard a glass bottom boat, and more.

Since 2006, Avalon Harbor has had intermittent water quality problems, receiving nothing higher than a C in Heal the Bay's Beach Report Card. However, today, due to some very ingenious and effective ways to reduce bacteria levels in the water, Avalon received all straight A's. In 1988, the City of Avalon introduced a dye-tablet program where officers board recreational vessels entering the Harbor and flush a dye tablet down the holding tank. Any sign of dye coming from a vessel equates to fines, removal of the boat from the harbor, and 12-month prohibition from returning. In addition to the dye tablet program, other bacteria abatement programs include a \$6 million retrofit of the sewage system infrastructure and hiring a master falconer to release "Larry" the hawk, "Chin" the falcon, and "Big Al" the owl to drive away pest birds.

People have enjoyed the benefits of Catalina for 8,000 years and continue to today. Catalina is a beautiful place with waters so clear (and A+ water quality); you can see where the kelp forest attaches to the sea floor and watch bright orange Garibaldi swimming in and out of the kelp. Boaters are fortunate to have such a destination, but even more fortunate to have people who take care of this precious resource for all to enjoy.



Tourists enjoying the waters in 1889.



Paddling for Clean Waters

On September 20th, The Bay Foundation celebrated its 10th Annual Coastal Cleanup Day in Marina del Rey. Nearly 70 volunteers came out to clean up ocean bound debris from the marina. Kayakers and Stand Up Paddle Boarders helped collect and prevent 79 pounds of trash and 71 pounds of recyclables from entering the Pacific Ocean. A staggering 271 food wrappers, 141 plastic bags, 127 bottle caps, and even a construction cone were collected!

County coordinator Heal the Bay reported that for all of Los Angeles County, a total of 11,155 volunteers covered over 42.5 miles and collected a grand total of 30,480 pounds of marine debris!

This year, we encourage everyone to treat each day like it's Coastal Cleanup Day. Whether you use reusable bottles and bags, pumpout your holding tank and properly dispose of oil absorbents, or organize your own on-the-water cleanup; we can all do our part as members of the boating community to help keep our waters clean.



Volunteers bring in their trash after a cool morning paddle.
Photo: Julie DuBrow



Sorting and counting trash.
Photo: Julie DuBrow

Thank you to our sponsors! This event was made possible thanks to generous donations from Arbor Collective, Bristol Farms, The Cheesecake Factory, ChicoBags, Chipotle, The Counter Burger, Crossroads School, Islands Fine Burgers, Killer Shrimp, Klean Kanteen, Kurmalliance, Patagonia, Pro SUP Shop, Starbucks, UCLA Marina Aquatic Center, and ZJ's Boarding House.

Rainforests of the Sea

Contributing Author: Ariadne Reynolds

Known as the tropical rainforests of the sea, kelp forests provide food, habitat, and nutrients for thousands of coastal and marine species. They are among the most diverse and productive ecosystems on earth, occurring worldwide in a variety of climates. Historically, Southern California was home to hundreds of acres of healthy kelp forests. Urban runoff, sedimentation, and an increase in recreational and commercial fishing have since contributed to their decline. Areas off the coast of the Santa Monica Bay that were once healthy kelp forests have become barrens dominated by purple urchins. With very few predators left to control their populations, purple urchins cover rocky reefs, feed on available kelp, and prevent new kelp from growing. Because these urchins have little to feed on after decimating the kelp, they are starving, diseased, and worth nothing on the commercial urchin market. It's a vicious cycle that several organizations are dedicating their time to reverse.

The Bay Foundation and its partners are restoring kelp forests in the Santa Monica Bay by reducing the density of urchins that dominate the rocky reefs from over 100 per square meter to 2 per square meter- a density similar to healthy kelp forest systems. Since the Southern California Kelp Forest Habitat Restoration project began in 2013, over 2 million purple sea urchins have been removed from 15 acres of kelp forest. In these restored areas, giant kelp is repopulating in as little as a few months, the density of important fish species such as Kelp Bass is increasing dramatically, and the urchins that are left behind are growing healthier and larger. This is good news for the ecosystem, for people who depend on kelp forests, and for those of us who enjoy time on healthy waters. Follow the project's progress at www.santamonicabay.org.



Healthy kelp regrowth
Photo: The Bay Foundation



Urchin barren
Photo: The Bay Foundation



Photo: Pittsburg Marina

Delta Destination Series: Pittsburg Marina

The Pittsburg Marina is a 575 slip municipal marina, located at the confluence of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers. Often called the “Gateway to the Delta”. This strategic location offers boaters easy access to the upper delta region and to the San Francisco Bay. Just a few yards from open water the Pittsburg Marina offers a quick getaway as well as a safe haven for those caught in the perennial delta winds, and rough water.

The marina has 274 covered berths, a 24 hour public launch ramp, extensive waterfront access for bicycling, jogging, and walking, along with a dockside market complete with live and frozen bait. The Pittsburg Yacht Club also makes its home here.

Pittsburg Marina is located within Pittsburg’s beautiful new Old Town and Marina district, the jewel in the crown of East Contra Costa County. Old Town has much to offer to residents and visitors alike. Recently rebuilt after years of neglect, Pittsburg’s Old Town has become the place to find fine food and beverages, unique shopping, and professional services in the east county area.

Visit the Pittsburg Marina website at www.pittsburgmarina.com for more information.



Photo: Pittsburg Marina

Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Fee



Quagga Mussel
Both photos: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Dreissena bugensis (Quagga) and *Dreissena polymorpha* (Zebra) are destructive invasive aquatic species that grow to about an inch in diameter. Sometimes they are larger, sometimes they are microscopic. The small, freshwater bivalve mollusks are triangular with a ridge between the side and bottom. They have black, cream, or white bands, and often features dark rings on its shell almost like stripes.

They reproduce quickly and in large numbers. Once established, eradication is extremely difficult though new technologies are becoming available. Their establishment in California waters could result in an environmental and economic disaster.

Continued on next page.



Coastal Cleanup Day in the Delta

Contributing Author: Diane Burgis, Friends of Marsh Creek Watershed

Friends of Marsh Creek Watershed (FOMCW) celebrated their tenth year of Coastal Cleanup Day this year. They have worked with many partners to develop a community service day that brings out hundreds of people at numerous sites to help remove trash from local water ways.

FOMCW is a grassroots nonprofit organization whose mission is to protect, conserve, and restore Marsh Creek and its tributaries, and to inspire appreciation and conservation of the Marsh Creek Watershed, which drains to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

The 2014 cleanup involved over 500 volunteers picking up over five tons of trash at 8 sites across the cities of Oakley, Brentwood, Discovery Bay, and in unincorporated Contra Costa County. Approximately 20 miles of Marsh Creek and the San Joaquin Delta were cleaned up.

For a second year, FOMCW was excited to add Discovery Bay to their cleanup in partnership with the Delta Protection Commission and the statewide leader the California Coastal Commission. Volunteers cleaned up approximately 2 miles of coast and picked up 2 tons of trash.

For more information, please visit www.fomcw.org.



Photo: Diane Burgis, Friends of Marsh Creek Watershed



Photo: Diane Burgis, Friends of Marsh Creek Watershed

Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Fee

Continued

In order to help prevent these problems, California registered boat owners renewal notices now include a Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Fee (Mussel Fee). The \$16 Mussel Fee aids fresh water infestation prevention and education efforts through grant funding administered by California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways.

After paying the Mussel Fee, registered boat owners receive a set of identifying stickers to be placed on the vessel in line with the CF numbers. Boats used only in salt water are exempt from the Mussel fee; however, Delta boaters cannot claim this exemption.

The Mussel Fee stickers do not pay for individual boat inspections that may be required by local water agencies. For more information visit: www.dbw.parks.ca.gov/boaterinfo/quaggaloc.aspx



Zebra Mussel

Another Great Year for Coastal Cleanup Day and the Boating Community

On September 20, California's recreational boating community continued participating in Coastal Cleanup Day (CCD). This year, 815 volunteers cleaned 48 miles and collected 7,032 pounds of trash and recyclables on land and from 154 vessels (kayaks, canoes and dinghies). Forty-three percent of the volunteers brought their own reusable cleanup supplies. Dana Point Harbor in partnership with Dana Point Yacht Club conducted a very comprehensive cleanup not only on the shoreline but also underwater and on-the-water.



Cleanup at Ballena Isle Marina and Ballena Bay Yacht Club.
Photo: Vivian Matuk, DBW/CCC

Statewide, more than 66,000 volunteers participated in CCD this year. Those volunteers collected more than 1.1 million pounds of trash and recyclable materials and cleaned 1,679 miles of shorelines.



Boaters help during Coastal Cleanup Day at Owl Harbor Marina.
Photo: Owl Harbor Marina

The California's Coastal Commission and State Park's Division of Boating and Waterways would like to thank the following boating facilities, coordinators, and partners for their participation:

MARINAS, YACHT CLUBS, AND OTHER FACILITIES:

- Aquatic Park and Pier 39
- Aeolian Yacht Club
- Ballena Bay Yacht Club
- Ballena Isle Marina
- Dana Point Harbor
- Dana Point Yacht Club
- Del Rey Yacht Club
- Eureka Marina
- Emeryville Yacht Club
- Grand Marina
- Half Moon Bay Yacht Club
- Humboldt Aquatic Center
- Humboldt Yacht Club
- Lake Merritt Institute
- Lake Merritt Boating Center
- Mare Island Rowing Club
- Oakland Yacht Club
- Oakland Marinas
- Owl Harbor Marina
- UCLA Marina Aquatic Center, Kurmalliance/Santa Monica Windjammers Yacht Club, ProSUP Shop
- Peter's Landing Marina
- Pillar Point Harbor
- Port Royal Yacht Club
- Port Royal Marina
- Redondo Beach Yacht Club
- Santa Cruz Wharf and Harbor
- Seal Beach Yacht Club
- Sequoia Yacht Club
- Shoreline Yacht Club
- Sun Harbor Marina
- Vallejo Marina



On the water cleanup at Dana Point Yacht Club.
Photo: Dana Point Yacht Club

COUNTY COORDINATORS/PARTNERS:

These organizations lent invaluable support to the boating facilities and the on-the water cleanups

- Alameda County Industries
- American River Parkway Foundation
- Aqua Safari
- Aquarium of The Bay
- Avila Kayaks
- California Canoe and Kayak
- City of Alameda
- City of Long Beach El Dorado Nature Center
- Delta Kayak Adventures
- ECOSLO
- Heal the Bay
- I love A Clean San Diego
- Kayak Connection
- Monterey Bay Kayaks
- Monterey Bay Sea Otters Dive Club
- Northcoast Environmental Center
- Orange County Dana Point Harbor
- Orange County Parks Volunteer Services
- Pacific Inter-Club Yacht Association
- Pacifica Beach Coalition
- Pier 39
- San Mateo County Water Pollution Prevention Program
- Save Our Shores
- Solano Resource Conservation District
- SUP Shack
- The Bay Foundation
- The Clean Ocean's Project
- US Coast Guard Auxiliary
- Venture Quest Kayaks

If you aren't already part of this effort, we invite you to join us in 2015. For information on how to participate, visit www.coast4u.org or contact the coordinators: Vivian Matuk, (415) 904-6905 or Shannon Waters, (415) 904-5214. We hope your boating facility can be part of this worthwhile event.



Northern California Chapter

Get Onboard with the Onboard Fishing Line Recycling Program

Contributing Authors: Mick Kronman, Harbor Operations Manager, City of Santa Barbara and Vivian Matuk

Where do you find the most monofilament fishing line? On fishing boats! In fact, often times (and unfortunately), the line is “spool off”, clip, and left behind creating a huge environmental impact on our waterways which may pose a serious hazard to wildlife and human safety.

This year, The Santa Barbara Harbor staff (Harbor staff) came up with a great idea based on its participation in the California Monofilament Fishing Line Recycling Program led by the California State Parks Division of Boating & Waterways and the California Coastal Commission’s Boating Clean and Green Program (the Program). The Harbor decided to relocate a fishing line recycling container to the charter boat Stardust. The installation and service provided by this container was a big hit with fishermen and Stardust owner Jason Diamond. The main idea behind this project was to make the onboard recycling process easy and convenient.

Harbor staff learned that each potential installation site onboard for a recycling container may be different. What work for their project was the use of a stainless steel mounted restroom disposal container (W: 7 1/2”; D: 3 13/16” and H: 10”) you can easily find at any janitorial supply shop, home or office improvement store (\$20-\$50). Bottom line: Be creative! Select a weather proof mounted container that fits the onboard location for which it is intended. Place your fishing-line recycling container where it does the most good, and include the proper monofilament fishing line recycling program stickers identifying the purpose of the container. Based on this project and the feedback received from the harbor staff, Program staff developed new stickers for this project.

If you want to learn more about how to implement this program in your harbor and receive our stickers, call or email Vivian Matuk at (415) 904-6905; vmatuk@coastal.ca.gov.

Visit the New Oil Absorbent Exchange Programs in Marin County

Contributing Author: Kile Gillis, Marin County Hazardous & Solid Waste Management Joint Powers Authority Staff.

Thanks to the partnership between Zero Waste Marin (ZWM) and local boating facilities, boaters in Marin County now have access to more pollution prevention services that will support their clean boating practices.

In 2013, ZWM received a used oil grant from California State Department of Recycling, Resource and Recovery (CalRecycle) to prevent potential oily discharges into the water and to increase boater awareness. One of the most important components of this grant was to install oil absorbent exchange centers (OAEC) at boating facilities in the County. ZWM received technical assistance from the Division of Boating and Waterways and the California Coastal Commission’s Boating Clean and Green Program to implement this grant.

The OAEC offer a safe, legal and convenient method for boat owners to reduce oil pollution in local waterways by simply following these steps:

1. Visit one of the 2 participating marinas:
 - ⚓ Clipper Yacht Harbor 310 Harbor Drive, Sausalito (Get oil absorbent sheets from the yellow newspaper stand dispenser or can, request pillows from harbor staff at the fuel dock).
 - ⚓ San Rafael Yacht Harbor 557 Francisco Boulevard East (Get oil absorbent sheets from the newspaper stand found near the harbor master’s office).
2. Look for the yellow newspaper stand or ask marina staff for its location (check the photo).
3. Pick up your free oil absorbent. Please only take what you need.
4. Place the oil absorbent in the bilge to capture oil and prevent it from getting discharge overboard. They can also be used when refueling or to wipe minor spills.
5. Check saturation of absorbent periodically. When fully saturated, remove the absorbent and put it in a leak-proof bag or container and bring it to one of the participating marinas mentioned above. Remove the absorbent from the bag and place it in the red step on can conveniently found in either facility (check the photo). Remember used oil absorbents are HAZARDOUS WASTE and cannot be thrown in the trash.
6. If you are not near one of these marinas, call 800-CLEANUP or www.earth911.org for hazardous waste disposal locations near you. Marin County hazardous waste disposal information 415-485-6806 or www.ZeroWasteMarin.org/HazMat.

ZWM is interested in partnering with other Marin County marinas to expand coverage. This program is limited to absorbents and does not include oil collection or recycling. For more information about this program visit www.ZeroWasteMarin.Org/Contact.



New sticker for the onboard fishing line recycling containers



Oil absorbent exchange center at Clipper Yacht Harbor
Photo: Brad Damitz

United States Power Squadron 100 Year Anniversary

Organized in 1914, the United States Power Squadrons (USPS) is a nonprofit, educational organization dedicated to making boating safer and more enjoyable by teaching classes in seamanship, navigation and related subjects. USPS has nearly 40,000 members organized into over 400 squadrons across the country and in some US territories.



Each squadron's activities involve the three primary objectives of USPS: community service, continuing education, and enjoying the friendship and camaraderie of our fellow members. Congratulations USPS on your 100th Anniversary! For more information: <http://www.usps.org/>.

Coast Guard Auxiliary 75 Year Anniversary

Congress founded the US Coast Guard Auxiliary (CGAux) in 1939 as an organization of volunteers to promote boating safety and to augment the United States Coast Guard. On June 23rd, 2014 they celebrated their 75th anniversary of dedicated service to our Nation.



The Auxiliary provides sustained mission excellence to the Nation and the Coast Guard. This year alone, Auxiliary instructors spent over 96,000 hours teaching boating safety classes, and its vessel examiners performed over 130,000 recreational and fishing vessel safety checks. Congratulations to the Coast Guard Auxiliary for 75 years of service. For more information: <http://www.cgaux.org/>.

Celebrating 2014's Dockwalkers

The following Dockwalkers administered and returned the highest number of surveys and will join the ranks in the Dockwalker Hall of Fame: *Continued from front page.*

- + Chris Okeefe
Lake Berryessa Watershed Partnership, Solano County
- + Abbee Guzman
Lake Berryessa Watershed Partnership, Solano County
- + Gabby Hernandez
Lake Berryessa Watershed Partnership, Solano County
- + Arturo Castillo
Lake Berryessa Watershed Partnership, Solano County
- + Joe Glossop
Lake Berryessa Watershed Partnership, Solano County
- + Anna Kluge
Lake Berryessa Watershed Partnership, Solano County
- + Charlie Duncan
US Coast Guard Auxiliary, Shasta County
- + Deborah Bartens
Rio Vista Boating Program, Solano County
- + Jim Minkel
US Coast Guard Auxiliary, Solano County
- + Lauren G. Dockendorf
Save Our Shores, Santa Cruz County
- + Louis Baskin
"Adopt-A-Park" Volunteer, Orange County
- + Vickie Bauman
Willow Berm Marina, Sacramento County
- + Kohl Schlunegger
Capistrano Valley High School, Orange County
- + Richard Huffman
US Power Squadrons, San Joaquin County
- + Jim Goff
US Coast Guard Auxiliary, Sacramento County

Awards included:

- + Fleece jackets from West Marine
- + Starbucks Gift baskets
- + Trader Joes products
- + Gift certificates to Whole Foods Market La Boulange
- + Tickets to Aquarium of the Pacific, Long Beach State Parks tickets
- + Hornblower Yacht Cruise brunch for two people

To learn more about the Dockwalker Program, upcoming trainings, or to schedule a training class, visit www.BoatingCleanandGreen.com (click on "Dockwalkers") or contact the program coordinator, Vivian Matuk, at (415) 904-6905 or vmatuk@coastal.ca.gov.

The Changing Tide newsletter is a great resource for you to get California's latest clean boating information. Help to reduce our carbon footprint and the amount of trash added to the waste stream by going paperless.



To go paperless, contact Victoria Gambale at vgambale@santamonibabay.org or 213-620-2271

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Changing Tide Staff:
 Southern California Chapter
 The Bay Foundation
 www.santamonibabay.org
 Grace Lee ☎ gllee@santamonibabay.org ☎ (213) 576-6757
Delta Chapter
 Contra Costa County
 www.KeepTheDeltaClean.org
 Dan Jordan ☎ djordan@pw.cccounty.us ☎ (925) 313-2023
Northern California Chapter
 Division of Boating And Waterways, California Coastal Commission
 www.dbw.parks.ca.gov, www.coastal.ca.gov
 Vivian Matuk ☎ vmatuk@coastal.ca.gov ☎ (415) 904-6905

The Bay Foundation
 320 W. 4th Street, Suite 200
 Los Angeles, CA 90013

