Marina Safety Guidelines





Welcome to this City of New York marina. We want you to have a fun and safe time. Please review and follow these safety guidelines.

General Safety Guidelines

- □ Anyone onboard a boat 21 feet or less, operating from November 1st to May 1st, must be wearing a personal floatation device (PFD).
- □ Everyone under 12 years of age must wear a personal floatation device while onboard a boat underway. A PFD must be available for every individual onboard as well.
- □ Make sure no ropes get under your boat where they may be sucked into the pump intake.
- □ In shallow water, do not allow your boat motor to run more than a few seconds. If you do, the pump can draw sand and gravel into the intake and damage the pump and/or cooling lines.
- □ Carbon Monoxide detectors should be installed in enclosed spaces. Leaking exhaust from hoses or manifolds, from engines or generators, could be very dangerous.
- □ Never operate a boat while under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs.
- □ Leave your float plan with a friend or relative.
- □ Be mindful of Coast Guard security notices and how they may affect your plans. Always be prepared to be boarded.

Docking or Tying to Mooring

- □ When docking, use forward or reverse at idle speeds to maneuver the boat. Be careful not to over-accelerate the boat. This can cause personal injury and/or major damage to your boat or other vessels nearby.
- Don't be afraid to quit your landing attempt and come around for a second, third or fourth try as needed. Use wind and current to your advantage.
- □ Always approach mooring ball against the current to avoid being swept past.
- □ Put out fenders or bumpers, have mooring lines ready, and have a boat hook available.
- □ When tying your boat to a dock, always tie the forward cleat first, then the aft cleat. Remove the aft line first when getting underway.
- Keep hands and other body parts in boat until boat has come to complete rest.
- **□** Embark or disembark only when boat is secured.

Vessel Sinking Emergency

- Signal 5 short and rapid blasts of vessel horn or whistle, pause, and repeat 5-blast signal until signal is returned. Call 911. Notify Dockmaster or Watchperson immediately.
- □ Secure shore power.
- □ In case of fuel spillage, contact U.S. Coast Guard on VHF Channel 16.

Storm Emergency

- □ Secure all loose items.
- Double-up on dock lines.
- □ Contact Dockmaster if you are aboard a vessel. Avoid staying aboard.
- □ Keep a checklist with the correct radio distress signals and procedures.
- □ Maintain a radio watch on VHF Channel 16 and WX Channel.

For additional safety information, call the U.S. Coast Guard Infoline at (617) 223-8555. For Parks Marina Division, call (718) 478-0480 for World's Fair Marina and (212) 496-2105 for Boat Basin. Parks Central Communications is available 24-hours at (888) NYPARKS.

Prepared by Marina Operations, Feb. 2006 – Updated Nov. 2009 See reverse for further Safety Guidelines

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Be aware of the top five causes of flooding, which is the primary cause of boat loss:

- 1) Loose underwater hull fitting.
- 2) Rain water build-up.
- 3) Grounding or touching bottom.
- 4) Loose plank or seam.
- 5) Non-operational bilge pump.

Be aware of the top five causes of fires on vessels:

- 1) Do-it-yourself electrical wiring or using too many electrical appliances.
- 2) Fuel and pipelines, hot surfaces, and wiring in areas with poor ventilation.
- 3) Welding or cutting during alterations and repairs.
- 4) Gas, oil and petroleum appliances should always be handled with care.
- 5) Always dispose of smoking materials in a safe manner.

Fire Prevention and Preparation

- □ Make sure all fire extinguishers are inspected and in good working order.
- Check fuel hoses and containers periodically to prevent vapors from escaping into bilges.
- □ Wiring and electrical appliances should be checked regularly.
- □ Smoke detectors should be fitted in the cabin.
- □ Fire blankets should be sited near to, but not above, the cooker.
- □ Before starting up, ventilate the engine compartment.
- Before taking on fuel, stop engine and turn off all cooking and lighting appliances.
- Do not smoke while refueling. To prevent spillage, never top-off fuel tank.
- □ When changing LPG cylinders, ensure valve on cylinder is turned *OFF* before disconnecting.
- Do not leave a cooker unattended.
- Great care must be taken when smoking. Smoking materials should never be left in ashtrays.
- □ Avoid build-up of excessive trash and clutter.

Fire Emergency

- □ Signal 5 short and rapid blasts of vessel horn or whistle, pause, and repeat 5-blast signal.
- **u** Turn off electrical shore power.
- □ Exit the boat. Call 911. Notify Dockmaster or Watchperson immediately.
- Extinguish fire if it is safe to do so.
- □ Isolate petrol and gas if possible.
- □ Avoid other craft and alert them.

All marina patrons must keep docks and walkways free of obstruction and clutter, including dock boxes, bicycles, hoses and lines.

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