

# Special Winterization Bulletin



Winter is coming...Be prepared!

## Special Winterizing Bulletin



## A Word From The Harbormaster

Hello Everyone!

This is just a quick Winterizing Bulletin. Soon the dock will be winterized and I just want to get this information out to you in hopes that it may help you to be better prepared for the pending cold weather ahead.

Please call the office if you have any questions! Also, remember the new gate code goes into effect on December 1st. Call the office to get the new code so you are not locked out!

Have a Safe Winter and a Great Holiday Season! -Rob

## Marina Winterization Schedule

Please be advised that by Mid-November all summer water and the dockside pump-out-system will be winterized. This means you will still have year-round water availability through the winter water lines and red/blue handled dock-side spigots. Remember to use a water filter before drinking. These red/blue units are designed not to freeze (when off), but may allow lake water to enter the line.

Please be sure you are NOT connected to those spigots when freezing occurs as you will damage the water lines if left on. Thank you!



For any Pump Out needs the Main Fuel Dock pump out will remain operational during business hours only as the system must be drained

and re-winterized after each use daily to prevent the pipes from freezing.

During this time we highly recommend that you do not use your vessel heads and to utilize the marina member-only restrooms. If you still have not picked up your key, please stop by the office.

The Marina hours will also be winterized. November we will be open Wednesday thru Sunday, 12PM-5PM and December-February hours will be 2PM-5PM Closed Monday & Tuesday.

## Marina Restroom Heaters

For your convenience, we have turned on the heat to the marina member only restrooms. Please be sure to keep the restroom heaters turned on level 2 or 3 maximum. Any higher could cause harm to the unit by overheating the room.

We are counting on our members to help us. Thank you

## Winterizing Tips

- **When using Boat Safe Heaters, stuff your vents with foam or other material to keep the warmth in, otherwise your just contributing to Global Warming and wait until you get the bill! Just don't forget to remove them before you start your boat!**
- **To prevent damage from Freezing Water inside your lower units, especially for those with outboards be sure to leave them in the full "down" position during periods of freezing weather.**
- **By topping off your tank and using a Fuel Preservative you can preserve and keep your fuel fresh up to a year.**

## Winterize or not to Winterize?...That is a Good Question!

First you must decide if you are going to winterize or not. Either way you'll need to take some action to prepare for it. For Boats it will depend on the type you have as that will make a difference in technique at least.

If you decide to winterize you may need to seek the help of a professional to do this. If you do it yourself consult a professional on best practices and supplies for the job.

If you don't winterize your boat, and you have anything other than a pontoon, than you'll need to install a boat safe bilge and cabin heater if

you don't already have one. The model & size of your boat will determine the size and types of heaters you will need. The Marina sells the Xtreme bilge safe heater with a 10% discount for marina members.

In winter, your water lines and holding tanks are at risk and must be protected from freezing. Tanks must be emptied and you **MUST** wrap your water hose with a Heat Strip, readily available at most hardware and home improvement stores.

The benefit of placing heaters in your boat is its always ready to go

when you are. If you're an advocate of year-long boating than the decision is easy. If you are not, than winterizing may be the obvious choice for you.

Either way be sure to keep your boat clean and visit it often during the winter months. This helps to ensure the safety of your property and that of the marina.

We carry a line of heating and winterization products. If we don't have it we can probably order it for you.

Please take the time needed to safely prepare for the winter.

## Cabin & Bilge Heater's serve different roles

It is important to know what types of heaters are approved to use on your boat. First and foremost it must be approved for Marine Use. Boat Safe Heaters provide additional protection that your typical store-brand heater does not. These heaters should be automatic and used only to prevent freezing. Many even have a setting for de-icing which turns the unit on at 38 degrees and off at 43. This prevents

overheating while protecting your boat.

Bilge Heaters are literally placed into your engine compartment and provide heat through a non-sparking element. This is the **ONLY** type of heater to be placed into a bilge compartment. Note: a light bulb will not provide enough heat to prevent freezing. Furthermore, a broken bulb can cause your boat to

explode due to the possibility of an electric spark.

After much research the Marina has found two types of heaters that do the job nicely. A cabin heater can be purchased for around \$75 while a good bilge heater will cost you between \$300-\$500. It nearly pays for itself after your first winterization.

Stop by the Marina office for more details or to place an order.

## Heater Purchase Tips

Caney Creek Marina now sells the Xtreme Boat Safe Heater. All Xtreme Boat Safe Heaters offer:

- passed: USCG Electrical System Standard Test Procedure:
- non-sparking elements.
- use forced hot air in engine compartments.
- have built in thermostat.

- will cost you approx. between 6-8 cents per hour to run.
- cost \$350-\$465 per unit. (bilge), \$75 (cabin).
- convenience... Just unplug and go boating.

Another option is the Engine Block Heaters. This unit actually circulates hot water throughout your engine block to prevent freezing.

Both options are in use by your fellow boaters on our docks. So ask your neighbor to give you a tour and learn how to protect your investment the safe way.

Important:  
Never use a heater with damaged plugs or exposed wires!

