

The Shoreline

www.holidayharbor.com

February 2009

Holiday Harbor-Wilmington

310-835-3952

Hello all,

If anyone on the East coast ever heard anyone on the West coast complaining about the weather, they'd flip! Truth of the matter is, we don't have blizzards, freezing rain, snow storms, hurricanes or any such weather issues. They would say "come on you guys, you've got it made in Southern California." There is one time of year however, when the local water-way, the San Pedro Channel, can be as vicious as most any other water-way. I'm referring to the month of February. If we are going to experience something of what others experience, it will probably happen in February.

This is why February/March is such a good time to catch up on maintenance. Also, many boat yards run specials for bottom work, through hulls, bottom paint, etc. Furthermore, if your boat bottom is like many and in need of blister repair, etc., it's a perfect time to epoxy. The following is a short list of things worth checking: A-Fuel tanks and fuel shut off valve, B-Holding tanks and valves at through hull, C-Bilge pumps, both manual and automatic, D- Electrical systems, i.e. batteries properly boxed, secured and ventilated & navigation lights in good order, E- Safety gear i.e. fire extinguishers, PFD's, horn, flares kit & throw able lifesaving devices.

SEWAGE CONTAINMENT & DISCHARGE

Use of marine sanitation holding tanks in an improper manner can result in sewage entering the water. Both improperly installed marine sanitation devices (MSDs) and improper disposal practices are illegal. Sewage from boats is more concentrated than from either combined sewer overflows of sewage treatment plants because MSDs use little water for flushing. The livelihood of marinas and the recreational benefits boater derive from use of the harbor are clearly linked to clean water.

Mobile pump out service at a reasonable cost is also available in Los Angeles Harbor; the marina office can provide contact information. Illegal dumping in the harbor is viewed as a serious infraction of boating law. Holiday Harbor marina enforces city, county, and state and federal law dealing with illegal dumping and any observed violations should be reported to the Port Police immediately.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

1. Make sure holding tanks and every component of the MSD system operate properly.
2. Encourage others to pump out holding tanks on a regular basis. Never let the tank over-fill.
3. Any illegal discharge should be reported to the U.S. Coast Guard or Port Police with all available details immediately upon observation. Sewage discharge leaves no telltale evidence like an oil spill or fuel spill, so call quickly and they will respond quickly.

Free Household Hazardous and E-Waste Roundup in Hawthorne on Feb. 14. 800 230-0172

Until next time,

Jerry, HHW Marina Manager