

The Longbranch Improvement Club

MARINA COMMITTEE SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Only American Boat and Yacht Council (“ABYC”) marine grade cords and plugs should be used to connect vessels equipped with factory or professionally installed shore power receptacles to dock power.
 - a. If a boat is not equipped with a shore power connection, an appropriate marine grade 30 Amp Male adapter with a female shore power pigtail receptacle with an extension cord rated for the expected power demands should be used. This will allow a marine/outdoor grade 3 prong extension cords to be connected to the dock power.
 - b. A marine/outdoor rated 12 gauge or better extension cord with molded factory ends no longer than 50 feet is recommended. In no event will cords of less than 14 gauge with molded ends and 50’ in length be allowed (this cord can safely support a 500 watt heater, but nothing else of greater wattage draw).
 - c. When connecting a vessel to shore power, the cord *should always* be connected to the vessel first - then connected to the shore power electrical box. When disconnecting a vessel from shore power, the cord *should always* be disconnected from the shore power electrical box first - then disconnected from the vessel. Also, NEVER coil a power cord around the shore power box pedestal.
 - d. All electrical cords should be secured to prevent them from entering the water with plastic conduit clamps. *Owners must submit a request in writing to the Marina Committee before securing their shore power or extension cords to the dock.*
2. Shore power cords should be inspected frequently for overall condition and signs of overheating or arcing at the male and female receptacles. The boat wiring behind the shore power receptacle should also be inspected at this time for signs of overheating or damage.
3. Non-radiant heaters (such as oil filled heaters) equipped with a power cutout, tip over switch and thermal overheat protection are recommended. Radiant heaters are not recommended due to the high risk of fire they pose. Extension cords should be avoided if at all possible, but if used, they must be of an amperage capability that exceeds the appliance maximum load amp rating.
4. All boat batteries should be checked regularly and serviced with water, if appropriate, as needed. A battery low on water can be a potential fire hazard.

5. If left unattended, only ABYC Marine grade battery chargers should be used to charge your boat's battery. Automotive chargers are not recommended, but if used, should be monitored by the boat owner at all times while in use.
6. All bilges should be checked often for signs of water intrusion into the boat. Additionally, bilge pumps and high water alarms, if so equipped, should also be checked to ensure proper operation.
7. On board fire extinguishers should be inspected quarterly and serviced as needed. All boat owners should ensure that the minimum number and type of fully charged extinguishers, as specified by Coast Guard rules, are on board at all times. **Please note that over 40 million Kidde Fire Extinguishers have been recalled - specific models can be checked online at www.kidde.com or by calling their toll-free number 1-855-880-6788. Affected models will be replaced free of charge.**
8. Confirm operation of engine room blowers, if installed. This is especially critical for gasoline powered boats. Gasoline fumes can lead to fire and explosion.
9. If installed, tarps and/or canvas should be properly secured and maintained. If a tarp or canvas comes loose, the Marina Chairman or Dock Master will contact the owner and advise them of this condition.
10. LIC personnel will only board a vessel without prior owner approval in the case of an obvious emergency or hazard to the marina or other vessels moored in the marina.
11. In addition to the above recommendations, all boat owners are encouraged to have an annual Coast Guard vessel safety check performed, free of charge, by either US Coast Guard Auxiliary or US Power Squadron volunteers.
12. The marina committee has volunteers that will assist any owner with these inspections. Simply contact the Marina Committee Chairman to request assistance.