

Another Special Boating Season At Belle Maer Draws to a Close

This was the kind of summer we boaters have been waiting for: balmy temperatures, clear skies and gentle breezes—even on the weekends. Fuel prices remained reasonable throughout the season and the water levels were good. All in all, we couldn't ask for much more.

From this reporter's perspective as a long-time boater on N Row, boaters at Belle Maer came out to the marina much more often this year; they seemed more active, took their boats out more, drove their golf carts and bikes, walked and ran around the marina, played basketball and tennis—and seemed to have even more fun than usual. But then again, once you're out at Belle Maer, it tends to lift your mood and make you smile anyway.

And at Belle Maer this year, there were some new events as well as favorite activities that helped us meet new friends and have fun with old ones. Saturday Night at the Movies was back for another season of family favorites. Belle Maer kicked off an annual "Fun Day" event complete with piñatas, balloon animals and tattoos for the kids, a fire truck on display, a police K-9 unit, a free barbecue and concert with live music to cap off the evening. More live music filled the air at other events, and the first "Decades Dance" was held with a DJ later in the season.

The Big Bash was held, as usual, on the 4th of July weekend that featured the 2nd Annual Cardboard Boat Regatta, Golf Cart Parade and another remarkable fireworks display. Awesome was the word most heard over the weekend—and over the summer.

So... we hope you have an equally awesome "off season" and that you come out and visit the grounds and the staff at Belle Maer once in a while over the fall and winter. It's truly a beautiful place year round, and the birds and animals you'll see in the snow and leafless trees may surprise you.

Get ready to plan your haul out; we'll look forward to seeing you for the rest of this season—and in the Spring for sure!

Fall and Winter Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 8:30am – 5:00pm

Saturday: 10:00am – 4:00pm

The office will be closed on Saturdays during November and December

Emergency Telephone Numbers

It might be a good idea to print, clip and save these emergency telephone numbers and keep them in a place where they're easy to find. Let family members know where they are so they can get to them quickly in case the need arises:

General Emergencies: 911

Belle Maer Security: (586) 465-4536

Marina Security Dispatch: (586) 803-0003

Sheriff's Marine Division: (586) 469-5803

Macomb County Sheriff: (586) 469-5151

Harrison Twp Fire Department: (586) 466-1450



A Little Advance Planning Assures a Smooth and Easy Haulout

October is by far the busiest month for the marina office staff and yard crew, as this is the month most of the boats are hauled out for winter storage. On top of everything else, the yard crew is busy cutting and custom fitting all the shoring timbers and cradles needed for shoring your boat. Since the yard crew is hauling out a boat every 30 minutes, your cooperation is greatly appreciated in helping to make things run smoothly. Please look over this check list and you'll be well prepared for your haulout appointment.

If you have not done so, please take time now to arrange for your winter haulout services for the 2010-2011 season. Complete and sign the Winter Storage Application and return the white copy to the office, keeping the yellow copy for your files. You may pay for these services at any time prior to haulout. You may phone the marina office to schedule your haulout date after we have received your application in the office.

The fastest and easiest way to schedule is to mail or fax (586-465-6956) your application to the marina office, then follow up by telephone to arrange your haul-out date. This will avoid a line-up at the marina office. Once the formal contract is ready for your signature, we will need you to come in to sign before your boat is hauled out.

Belle Maer is offering heated inside winter storage again this year. The showroom will be used and possibly two of the bays in building #2. The cost is \$6.95 per square foot including your hoist, shoring and power wash. The available space is very limited and Jim Krause must approve your boat for inside heated storage because of a door height restriction.

The office staff will schedule your haulout for Monday through Friday based upon the date and time you request. Please come to the marina office first, a half hour ahead of your scheduled haulout time.

Access into the marina will be controlled via security guard during the daylight hours and the gate will be locked at night. Condo owners and tenants will be allowed into the yard 8:30-5:00 Monday through Sunday. Contractors will be allowed entry only during normal office hours. Contractors will not be able to enter the marina on weekends when the office is not open unless arrangements have been made in advance.

Our crew will be hauling out boats rain or shine. Please keep your appointment—rain or shine!

Belle Maer is not staffed to drive your boat to the hoist. If you cannot take the time to bring your boat to the hoist, you can contract with Sommer's Marine to act as your agent and drive your boat to the hoist.

The Fire Department requires adequate aisle space to be left for fire lanes inside the marina, so we cannot guarantee that any boat owner will have their boat placed in front of their well. Your winter storage location will be determined not only on a first come, first served basis, but also on the size of your boat. That is, if your boat has a length that is longer than your catwalk, it may not fit in the space in front of your well.

The front gate will be locked throughout the non-daylight hours of the winter. Tenants will be allowed access to the yard from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Contractors will only be permitted access during the hours the marina office is open (or with advance authorization from the marina office).

Please remember that no winterizing is allowed inside any of Belle Maer's storage buildings. Also, excessive and improperly stored equipment and belongings cause safety and navigational hazards in front of your wells.

While no one looks forward to the end of the boating season, some advance planning and cooperation will help us work together to get your boat hauled out and stored safely on level pavement—and minimize any inconvenience to you.

Rack Building Hours & Winterization

Forklift in & out operations at the rack building are now 8:15 am to 6:00 pm each day until September 30. Any customers wishing to use their boats evenings need only call 586-465-7416 (or Bob Mieszanek at 586-484-1346 if there is no answer at the rack building) before 6:00 pm and ask that their boat be launched. Your boat will be returned to the rack the next morning.

Forklift operations will cease after September 30th with the exception of moves to the side racks for winterization. If you would still like to use your boat from October 1st to October 14th, please call the office and request that your boat be launched September 30th and schedule your side rack for October 15th. Your boat will be left in the water in front of the rack building until it is moved to the side rack for winterization. The number of side racks is limited so please schedule in advance.

For safety reasons, you must comply with the following winter restrictions:

- * All batteries must be removed.
- * Do not overfill your gas tanks. Allow room for expansion.
- * Duct tape a garbage bag around your outdrives after winterization to prevent dripping of antifreeze onto other boats in the rack.

There will be no access to boats from October 16, 2010 to April 15, 2011 and the Marina is not responsible for any damages to boats not winterized prior to October 16th.

Putting a Boat Away for the Winter? What You Need to Know About E-10 Gas

Boaters and anglers will soon be putting away their boats for the season. But before they do, Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS) has some tips learned from fuel industry insiders on how to store a boat with E-10 gasoline (containing 10% ethanol) over the winter.

The Octane issue:

Over long winter storage periods, E-10 gasoline loses octane at about the same rate as non-ethanol gasoline. So leaving the gas tank mostly empty - and then refilling in the spring in the hopes of "refreshing" the fuel to regain any octane loss - is not necessary. However, a nearly empty gas tank introduces another problem: the strong possibility of phase separation.

Ethanol (an alcohol) attracts water. It also absorbs water - about 10 times more than regular gasoline. When ethanol can no longer absorb the water, it will "phase separate" from the gasoline. Should phase separation occur, the (water soaked) ethanol will settle to the bottom of the tank, which is where the engine's fuel system pick-up is located.

The problem with leaving a tank mostly empty is that it increases the tank's "lung capacity" to breath in moist air (water) through the vent. If the tank is mostly empty over the winter, there will also be less E-10 gas in the tank to absorb the moisture. This combination of more water and less absorption greatly increases the chances of phase separation. Adding fresh gasoline in the spring would not remedy the problem - the phase-separated ethanol would remain separated at the bottom of the tank.

The Water Separator issue:

Any moisture in a tank will be readily absorbed by the ethanol. E-10 can hold up to 1/2 percent of water by volume and up to that concentration the water molecules will dissolve in the gasoline forming a soluble mixture that will pass through a water separator and burn harmlessly in your engine.

The only time water will collect in a tank and not be absorbed is if phase separation has occurred, and by then it will be too late. A water separator is not a solution to the phase separation problem.

The Fuel Additive issue:

Fuel additives are good for many reasons and should be used when laying up a boat for winter, but no additive will stand up to a good-sized slug of water. And once too much water has entered the tank and the gas has begun to phase separate, no additive will return the fuel to its original state. The only solution to phase-separated gas is to have a professional drain the tank and start anew.

The best advice for storing E-10 in your boat's gas tank over winter:

Keep the tank nearly full. This greatly reduces the volume of moist air that can enter the tank via the fuel tank vent when temperatures fluctuate in the fall and spring. With any fuel, an antioxidant will help keep it fresh during lay-up. Finally, never plug up a fuel tank vent - it creates pressure that could cause dangerous leaks in the fuel system.

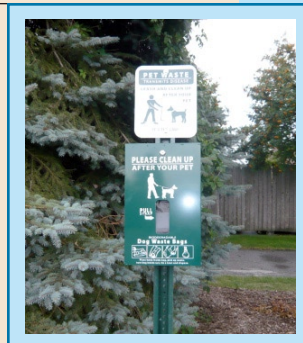
For more information including free downloadable winterizing checklists, go to www.BoatUS.com/winter. To watch a short video on ethanol and winterization, click here.

BoatUS - Boat Owners Association of The United States - is the nation's leading advocate for recreational boaters providing over half a million members with government representation, programs and money saving services. For membership information visit www.BoatUS.com or call 800-395-2628.



Dog Waste Dispensers Installed Around Marina

To make it easier and more convenient to pick up your dog waste, Belle Maer has installed a number of dog waste dispensers with "poop bags" around the marina. Please be sure to clean up after your pet... now there's really no excuse!!



Sponsor a New Boater at Belle Maer in 2011, and Enjoy Savings of \$250 on Your Well

Belle Maer is continuing to offer a sponsorship credit to current customers for each new boater they sponsor who leases a Belle Maer Harbor rental well for the 2011 season. (This offer excludes the lease of condominium wells which are not owned by Belle Maer Harbor.) The BMH sponsoring boater will receive a \$250 credit, and the new boater will receive a first season \$500 credit. This program will also be offered to new boaters renting racks in the in and out storage building.

Most of you have friends who keep their boats in other marinas. Why not make a phone call and suggest they check out Belle Maer Harbor before they make their 2011 slip deposit? After you have called your friend and asked them to consider Belle Maer Harbor, simply call our office at (586) 465-4534 or email me at ecfoster@bellemaer.com and register their name as your contact. We would like to send them a brochure and informational packet if you would kindly supply us with a mailing address and phone number.

With high gas prices and fewer boating trips, Belle Maer Harbor offers resort-style amenities (including the new Cable TV and WiFi service), giving you an even better value for your boating dollar. Please take this opportunity to recruit your boating friends to join you at the best marina on Lake St. Clair while reducing your 2011 marina dockage costs!

Advertising Programs Available on Website for BMH Events

Most of the boaters at Belle Maer have expressed strong interest in participating in exciting family events like Belle Maer Fun Day held in June. More events like BMH Fun Day are being considered and planned. Events like these give sponsoring organizations and charities a great opportunity to become involved in the boating community, showcase their products and services and gain exposure. And it can be a surprisingly affordable alternative to conventional advertising. If you're interested, contact Eric Foster in the Marina office.

Belle Maer Harbor also offers individuals and businesses marketing opportunities through promotion on the Belle Maer web site.

Classified Ads are posted on the web site, providing each advertiser the opportunity to reach some 6,500 prospects who hit the site per month. Here are the details:

Classified Ad Program (for Individuals):

- * We have created a prominent Personal Classified Ad click-on section on our home page.
- * The ads will be placed as they come into our office and run for a specified time frame. Donna Kempt of the marina office will collect the ad fee.
- * The charge will be \$20 for two months and \$35 for a four month term. There is no refund if the item sells early.
- * Classified Ads in this section should all be personal ads of 35 words or less.
- * Photos can be included with your ad for an additional charge.

Banner Ad Program (for Businesses):

- * Businesses can purchase Banner Ads which will be run on a calendar year basis. We can accommodate a new banner ad at any time of the year. Animated, custom designed Banner Ads rotate throughout the BMH web site and the e-newsletter, providing optimum exposure to approximately 6,500 hits the web site receives per month.
- * In addition, advertisers receive bonus exposure on the Belle Maer Cable TV network on Belle Maer's own Channel 13.
- * Cost for the Annual Banner Ad is only \$500 for the entire year.

Please call Donna Kempt at the Belle Maer marina office for more information or to run your ad.

Boating and Outdoor Recreation Festival Sept 22-26 • Metro Beach

The first annual Boating & Outdoor Recreation Festival at Metro Beach Metropark, coming September 22-26, is taking shape as new promotions are announced by show producer, Michigan Boating Industries Association.

Come meet Neal Hillstrand and Mike Fournier from the Time Bandit on Discovery Channel's Deadliest Catch – Fri. - Sun., Sept. 24-26. On board, Hillstrand is known as the "king of one-liners" with his quick-witted sense of humor and Fournier is a skilled skipper deckhand and engineer. These two famous fishermen will be located in the "Fishing Village" during the festival, where tackle, gear, fishing destinations and other exhibits will hook in the fishing attendees.

Other areas of interest will be outdoor recreation exhibits (camping, hiking, biking, etc.), an art walk, live music, marketplace, food & beverage and of course the South Marina basin full of boating exhibits ranging from powerboats, fishing boats, sailboats and more.

The Boating & Outdoor Recreation Festival is an all-new event produced by the experienced show producer, the Michigan Boating Industries Association (MBIA). The festival, located at Metro Beach Metropark, will be held September 22-26, 2010.

Hours are Wed., Thurs., Fri.: Noon – 8 pm, Sat.: 11 am – 8 pm and Sun.: 11 am – 6 pm. For more information, current promotions and contest information, visit boatingandoutdoorfest.com. Admission: \$9 for adults, children 12 and under free with an adult. A Metroparks vehicle entry permit is required to enter any Metropark, which is only \$25 annually for regular admission, \$15 annually for seniors, or \$5 daily. General information can be found at www.metroparks.com or by calling 1-800-47-PARKS.



Special Attractions

Come meet Neal Hillstrand and Mike Fournier from the Time Bandit on Discovery Channel's Deadliest Catch!

Friday: 4 - 6 pm; Saturday: 11 am - 1 pm and 4 - 6 pm;
Sunday: 11 am - 1 pm

Music Line-up Announced!

Friday, September 24

3:30 - 5 pm Whitney Morgan & the '78s

5:30 - 7 pm Brenda Loomis & Blue Coyote Band

Saturday, September 25

1:30 - 3 pm Impact 7

3:30 - 5 pm Howling Diablos

5:30 - 7 pm The Reefermen

Sunday, September 26

1:30 - 3 pm Straight Ahead

3:30 - 5 pm The Macpodz

Enjoy Fine Art along the Art Walk

This special artists market features a variety of art exhibits from water colors to metal craft and much more. Shop for a one-of-a-kind piece to take home or a unique gift. Both nautical and not, this inspiring art exhibit area will have something for everyone.

Kids! Come hi-five SpongeBob Squarepants as he roams around this all new Boat Show at Metro Beach. SpongeBob will be at the show Saturday and Sunday from Noon - 4 pm

Taste-Fest

Enjoy food and fun in a great outdoor environment. You're sure to leave this area FULL and happy!

Jump into the excitement of Lawn Olympics!

Participate in the DNRE's Lawn Olympics and discover new and fun ways to have fun outside. Ladderball, Disc Golf, Bean Bay Toss and much more!

Geocaching!

If you've never been geocaching before, you're in for a real treat. Find our Boat Michigan GeoCache - and you could win free tickets to the Show! Click Here to visit GeoCaching.com to get the coordinates of the Boat Michigan Cache and use a GPS and your detective skills to search find the cache. When you find it, sign the Logbook in order to enter to win free tickets!

Margaritaville with WRIF & WCSX

Enjoy a cool beverage along the water's edge and experience festive decorations, bikini-clad waitresses and an island-vibe at WRIF's Margaritaville, Saturday from 11 - 2 pm. Play in the Boater Olympic games and enter to win a \$100 gift certificate to a fun waterfront restaurant and to see Jimmy Buffett in concert. Margaritaville continues from 2 - 6 pm with WCSX and Jimmy Buffett Karaoke plus another chance to register for Jimmy Buffett concert tickets.

WDRQ - DOUG FM Street Team

Join the Street Team fun at the all new Boat Show at Metro Beach on Friday from 4 - 6 pm and register to win a grand prize of a Family Four Pack of tickets for the Detroit Tiger's final home game on Sunday 9/26.

Plus!! "DOUG FM is giving you TWO chances to win a round of Shipwreck Mini-Golf w/Neal & Mike from the hit tv show "Deadliest Catch"! Listen to DOUG FM for all the details!"

Adopt - A - Pet at the Boating & Outdoor Recreation Festival!

Dogs Love Boating Too! Home Fur-ever and Pet Angels for Life Volunteers Adoption Centers will be at the show on Friday, Saturday and Sunday with Pets that are available for Adoption. Sponsoring vendors will be displaying here as well.

BoatUS Foundation's Top Picks For On-the-Water Weather Services

A Look at Cell Phone, Smart Phone, Chartplotter, and Computer-based Weather Services

On the afternoon of July 25th, a fast moving storm packing 70 mph winds, rain and lightning swept across the Chesapeake Bay. Over the next two hours, US Coast Guard Sector Baltimore, MD, received 37 calls from mariners in distress. Unfortunately many boaters and anglers, unaware of the supercell's fury, were caught unprepared. But it didn't have to be this way.

Today there are dozens of hi-tech ways to receive up-to-the-minute weather information aboard your boat. The BoatUS Foundation recently reviewed 28 products and services to see which provided mariners with the best information and has issued its recommendations for its top "picks."

"Sometimes bad weather can approach with few visual signs," said Program Manager David Carter. "Having these resources available can complement your VHF radio's weather broadcast."

The review, which covered satellite and phone-based weather services for the coastal inshore and inland boater, included free cellular phone text messaging services to fee-based subscription services that display weather information on a chartplotter. Each weather service includes hardware, such as a standard flip phone, smart phone, computer or chartplotter, as well as the software designed to present the information.

Foundation staff limited their focus to the actual content and depth of weather information provided. This included the ability to deliver local, land-based weather information (current conditions such as temperature, wind or barometric readings), hazardous weather warnings, radar imagery, land and marine forecasts, and NOAA buoy reports.

The BoatUS Foundation's weather service "picks" are:

Best Free Flip Phone Option: NOAA's mobile.weather.gov

Best iPhone App: MarineCast

Best Blackberry App: Mobile Mariner

Best Free App: WeatherBug

Satellite Weather: XM WX Weather



We want you to know...

Water Shut-Off is Saturday, October 23rd

- * Water to all boat wells will be turned off on that day.
- * Freezing weather may force shut-off sooner.
- * Please prepare for your haulout accordingly.

Harbormaster's Winterization, Storage Hints

- * Boats stored on land for winter storage must have the batteries and electric shore power cords disconnected while the boats are left unattended.
- * Anchors that extend past the bow pulpit must be removed.
- * All outside contractors must have proof of insurance filed with the Marina office and the Condo Owner or Tenant must call the Marina office to authorize entry.
- * Please do not dispose of motor oil or any other lubricating, cooling or fluid substances on the Marina grounds or in Marina dumpsters or waters. Used engine oil and oil filters must be removed from the Marina or taken to the oil pick-up location at the Marina service building next to the hoist area.
- * Also, please not dispose of old batteries in the Marina dumpsters. Please remove them from the Marina or drop them off at the Marina oil pick-up location at the Marina service building next to the hoist area.
- * The use of ethylene glycol-based antifreeze for winterization is strictly prohibited. You must use a non-toxic antifreeze. Please make provision to collect any antifreeze runoff from your exhaust ports while winterizing. Even non-toxic antifreeze will kill the grass. You are responsible for any damage to the Marina grounds.
- * Everyone using new or re-used shrink wrap must pay the environmental surcharge. The users as a group must bear the costs of proper handling and cleanup of this material. Plastic is hazardous when introduced into the water as it can cause harm to marine life and cause mechanical damage to boat engines. Even though we have lost our recycle source for the shrink wrap, we have maintained the reduced surcharge of 85 cents per linear foot this year.
- * As a general rule, we do not allow trailers to enter the Marina. We ask that all boats being brought in for winter storage on a trailer be parked in the front lot and our yard crew will tow the boat into the Marina. Any special arrangements to enter the Marina with a trailer should be made in advance with the Marina office.

Thank you for your cooperation during the busy haul-out season!

