

Smart Harbors

Raising the Standard

Fall 2015

Funding Available for Sanitary Pump-out Station Repairs and Replacements

The Virginia Department of Health has funding available for the installation and maintenance of sanitary pump-out stations. The funds provide an annual maintenance reimbursement to marinas (up to \$1,000 or 75% of the cost, whichever is less) for anything from emptying the holding tank associated with the sanitary pump-out station, to replacing hoses and winterization. Marinas that find themselves with increasingly higher maintenance costs should consider applying for funding to replace their pump-out stations. Please contact Scott Vogel, ScottM.Vogel@vdh.virginia.gov or 804-864-7467, for more information on the Clean Vessel Act program and participation for Virginia marinas.

Welcome New Clean Marinas

Congratulations to Bethpage Camp-Resort Marina and Grey's Point Camp Marina on their recent clean marina certifications! Both facilities are located in Middlesex County and include award winning camping accommodations in addition to their clean marina facilities.



Top: Bethpage Camp-Resort Marina. Bottom: Grey's Point Camp Marina

Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries Boating Access Program Receives Prestigious Awards

With contributions from James Adams

The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF) won two prestigious national awards at the 2015 States Organization for Boating Access (SOBA) Annual Conference in Lake Champlain, Vermont. The first, in the category for Outstanding Project, Large Access, recognizes a day-use boat launch facility of more than 75 car-and-trailer parking capacity and multiple-lane launch ramp. The second, also in the category for Outstanding Project, Small Access, recognizes a day-use boating access facility of less than 25 cars and trailers or single-car parking capacity, with single lane launch ramp or "carry-down" launching.

Steve Kesler with the VDGIF and Kenneth Morrison with Appalachian Power Company accepted the joint award for the Large Access Category for Oak Grove Boating Access Facility. Oak Grove Boating Access Facility, a partnership between Appalachian Power Company and the VDGIF is on Smith Mountain Lake, a 20,600 acre lake located in Bedford, Franklin and Pittsylvania counties. The completed project incorporates a two lane boat ramp, two courtesy docks, American's with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant male and female vaulted restrooms, paved parking with lighting and landscaping, and stormwater management in the form of a rain garden and a bioretention pond. VDGIF contributed \$750,000 from the Sport Fish Restoration Trust Fund to the \$1,276,215 project total and Appalachian Power Company provided the remaining match to the project. There are over 26,500 registered boaters living within 50 miles of Smith Mountain Lake and the Oak Grove Boating Access Facility provides much needed access to a section of the lake where previously, there was none.



Oak Grove Boating Access Facility

Allen Dressler, with the City of Covington, accepted the award for the Small Access Category for the Covington Boating Access Facility. The Covington Boating Access Facility was the first public access project completed through the VDGIF's Grants to Localities for Public Boating Access Facilities Program. The Program, first offered in June 2012 to localities, aids local governments in developing public access. The completion of this project provides the public with much needed public access to the Jackson River in Covington for 25 years at no additional cost to the users. The Covington Boating Access Facility consists of a concrete ramp/slide with a timber cradle to slide boats onto the river, a paved parking lot with three ADA compliant parking spaces and future plans for ADA compliant restrooms.



Covington Boating Access Facility

James Adams, Facilities Director with VDGIF notes that "VDGIF is honored to have these partnerships with Appalachian Power Company and the City of Covington. We are very pleased to have these Outstanding Project awards and the recognition of hard work

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Virginia Clean Marina Wins Global Boater's Choice Award from Marinas.com

Norview Marina in Deltaville, Virginia, was named one of the top five family-oriented marinas in the world by the members and visitors of Marinas.com, one of the world's largest websites dedicated to marinas. More than 700 marinas were ranked but awards were given to only 40 facilities. "We are absolutely thrilled to be named one of the best marinas in the world and particularly in the family-oriented category", said Ernie Asaff owner/manager of Norview. "Families are the future of boating and we work hard to create and maintain a comfortable and welcoming environment at Norview. Our amazing staff-Ted, Bonita, Terry, Charlene, Robbie, Shaw and all of our outstanding dockhands are the reason we won this award. All thanks and credit to them," Asaff continued. The competition for this award included marinas from Finland to Greece to Turkey to Canada. Details of the award winners and runners up can be found at Marinas.com under Boater's Choice Awards.



Norview Marina staff: Front row, left to right: Christian Hensley, Bonita Leeks, Robbie Mathews. Middle row: Elliott Redmon, Joe Anderson, Charlene Jacobs. Back row: Terry Lundy, Ted Kearney, Shaw Newman. Not pictured: Josh Wennin.

Upcoming Events

Please save the dates for several upcoming events!

November 10 - Virginia Marine Trades Association Annual Meeting, Virginia Institute of Marine Science

November 16-19 - National Working Waterfronts and Waterways Symposium, Tampa, Florida

and quality products we and our partners put into these public boating access sites."

The Outstanding Project Awards are all judged on similar criteria. The judging criteria for the Large Access and Small Access awards are:

1. Utilization of sound engineering principles which have proven effective in boating access development.
2. Innovative designs which may incorporate new materials, cost effective design, or that overcome site design issues including resolving environmental quality issues at the site.
3. Projects that result in a long life span and reduced maintenance needs.
4. Incorporation of up-to-date safety and accessibility standards and materials¹.

Steve Kesler was also awarded the 2015 William H. Ivers Award which is presented to an individual who has contributed significantly over at least 15 years to the design, construction, management or administration of boat access facilities or programs and exemplifies high standards of professionalism and outstanding achievement. This award is the highest honor that SOBA can bestow upon an individual for their work in boating access.

In 2014 the VDGIF was awarded the SOBA State Boating Access Program Excellence Award for the development of their "Grants to Localities for Public Boating Access Facilities Program." The VDGIF was the recipient of the SOBA Medium Access award in 2009 for the Gloucester Point Boat Landing on the York River in Gloucester Point, and again in 2010 for the Lawnes Creek Boating Access Facility in Surry County. All projects are funded in part with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Sport Fish Restoration Trust Fund grant monies.

"VDGIF is honored to have these partnerships with Appalachian Power Company and the City of Covington. We are very pleased to have these Outstanding Project awards and the recognition of hard work and quality products we and our partners put into these public boating access sites."

—James Adams, Facilities Director,
VDGIF

Virginia Marine Trades Association Annual Conference

The Virginia Institute of Marine Science is hosting the Virginia Marine Trades Association Annual Conference on Tuesday, November 10, 2015 at the Gloucester Point campus. Please join us for this opportunity to network with your fellow marine trades industry peers from across the state. The agenda is diverse with topics that include Vessel Wash Wastewater Management at marinas and boatyards and the State of the Industry. Here is a sneak peek:

Annual Conference Agenda

- 8:00-8:30 Registration and visit with exhibitors**
- 8:30-9:00 Opening Remarks/Election**
Presented by: VMTA Board of Directors
- 9:00-9:45 Keynote-State of the Industry.**
Presented by: Thom Dammrich, President, National Marine Manufacturers Association
- 9:45-10:30 The Value of Certification.**
Presented by: John Adey, President, American Boat & Yacht Council (ABYC)

10:30-10:45 BREAK

10:45-11:30 Your Most Important Asset.
Presented by: Marine Retailers Association of America (MRAA)

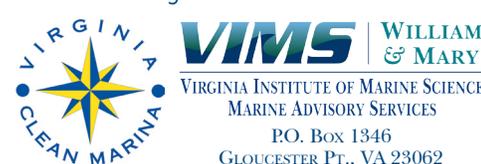
11:30-12:15 Vessel Wash Wastewater Management – Options for Marinas.
Presented by: Mike Danko, NJ Sea Grant

12:15-1:15 LUNCH and visit with exhibitors

1:15-2:00 The Rise of OSHA Enforcement in Marinas and Boatyards.
Presented by: Robert Smith, MYMIC Training Technologies

Please don't miss this opportunity to learn from some of the leading experts in the marine industry. We hope to see you in November!

For additional information on the Virginia Clean Marina program please click on the logo to visit our website.



¹States Organization for Boating Access, 2015 Awards Criteria, www.sobaus.org/awards/awards2.html