
Worton Creek Windbag

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Dec 1, 2022
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*Happy
Holidays!*

*Happy
New Year!*

MARINA WINTERIZING

In addition to winterizing the boats, we have completed the process of winterizing the marina facilities. All dock water is turned off and both the lower bathhouse and the heads behind the store are winterized and closed. The Wifi system is also not available over the winter. For your convenience the upper bath house near the pool will remain open all winter. The water supply in the dry storage lot remains on all winter, although we may turn off certain sections for maintenance work on occasion. If you will need water over the weekend call ahead during the week to check on availability. The dock electric and electric in the dry storage lot stay on all winter, but **you may not run any heaters (with the exception of engine block heaters) unless you are onboard your boat. This includes all boats, whether stored wet or dry.** According to our insurance agent, unattended heaters are one of the leading causes of boat fires.

We will turn on the bubbler system and/or ice eaters as needed during periods of hard freeze. Gas and diesel are available at the fuel dock all winter during business hours. The pump out system is not available in the winter. The upper gate to the dry storage lot is closed for the winter. Please be aware that the road from the marina office area to the dry storage lot can be very slippery when ice or snow occurs.

FROM THE ENGINE ROOM

Hello from Worton Creek where it is December and it looks like winter is getting ready to get underway. Up until this week we have had very mild weather and it has really helped with our work around here. Unfortunately, it is turning colder and the long range forecast is for more of the same. I'm still hopeful for a mild winter.

It has been an eventful year here at the marina. The facility improvements include the new floating A-Dock, repair of the bulkhead along the shore of the marina, upgrading the electric on A-Docks, purchase and total refit of a 75 metric ton travelift, installation of new fuel tanks, working on our new carpenter shop (not complete yet), and adding 3-phase power for the carpenter shop (also not complete yet). This winter we will be working on repairs to the marina gift shop and finishing the new carpenter shop.

We have a full schedule of work for the boatyard this winter, complete the Princess for sale in the spring, a 55' Symbol Motor Yacht in for a blister repair and a long list of repair and maintenance work. We also have a midsize sailboat in for collision repairs and a long list of smaller projects to be done on a variety of boats.

Work on the Burger continues, and the salon is still "close to being finished". I have made a lot of the components required to complete it and need to get them installed. There is a day head off the salon, and I've been working on it since it involves a lot of work that causes sanding dust. I

want to get it out of the way so I can do final varnish work and assembly in the salon. The next area I will work on is the starboard side entrance to the boat. This will involve primarily trim work around the entrance door and ceiling, installing the headliner and the deck. This is a relatively small area and should move along fairly quickly (famous last words).

As I mentioned above, we have replaced our 70 ton (short ton) travelift with a 75 metric ton unit that we purchased used in New Orleans. The new machine gives us a lifting capacity of 165,000 lbs., 25,000 pounds of additional capacity over the old machine, which has been sold.

When the lift arrived we totally rebuilt it, which included new tires, new slings, new cables, many new sheave bearings and hydraulic hoses, and a shiny new paint job. We also widened the width of the lift 13" to match our lift well. The lift is in like-new condition and should provide many years of service in the future.

December 19th will mark Libby and my 25th year here on Worton Creek. I'll repeat what I have said over the years when asked about owning the marina: "It's like any business and has it's moments, but I can't imagine going back to work". All in all it's been a grand adventure and quite a ride. What has made it all possible is our dedicated team of employees and a wonderful customer base that has supported the marina in so many ways. At this point I have no plans to retire and look forward to many more years here on the Eastern Shore of the Chesapeake Bay.

On a personal note, I am happy to report that our family is doing well and we have passed some significant milestones this year. Amy, Jonathan, and son Max welcomed their new baby Charles (Cal) into the world on October 26. Amy and Cal are doing fine and the entire family is thrilled with our new addition.

2022 also marked Libby and my fiftieth wedding anniversary. We celebrated the occasion at Bethany Beach, Delaware with many family members and friends.

Our grandchildren are hail and hardy and growing up. Our oldest Ellie and Max are now in 7th grade and will be teenagers next year with Justin and Lauren not far behind. Joe, Andrew and Cal have a little more to go before hitting their

teens. Time is definitely marching on and going faster and faster.

In about 2-1/2 months it will be March and the start of the 2023 boating season and Libby and I are looking forward to it!

Libby and I would like to extend our Christmas Greetings to everyone and hope you have a great holiday season!

Happy Boating!

John

WINTER STORAGE DO'S & DON'TS

DO:

- Check your boat regularly, if possible, through the winter. (We will monitor the exterior of your boat, but not the interior unless you specifically request it.)
- Remove charcoal, oily rags, or anything else that might be a fire hazard.
- Check your winterizing invoice to be sure we've done everything you wished. If it's not on your bill it may not have been done. Contact us immediately if in doubt.
- Be sure to remove valuables (electronics, small outboards, etc) and lock up your boat.

DON'T:

- Don't leave a heater running in your boat when you are not onboard!
- Don't tie your boat cover to the jackstands when dry stored!
- Don't leave your sails rigged! Please call if you would like us to remove them.
- Don't wait until March to order winter work you'd like done. Let us know as early as possible so we can have your boat ready for you in the spring.

MARINA WINTER HOURS

December 2022 through March 2023

8:00am – 4:30pm Monday - Friday

Marina Closed:

Weekends and

Dec. 24, 2022 – Jan. 2, 2023