

Emailed April 15, 2011



Catawba Island Boat Show sold out!

The last few exhibitor spaces for the upcoming Catawba Island Boat Show were sold earlier this week, setting the 2011 event up to be the biggest in the show's seven-year history.

The sellout was achieved even after the host Catawba Island Club freed up space for 15 extra boats on the "D" dock in response to early exhibitor interest.

"I think value-wise, this show can't be beat," said show manager Ken Alvey. "We've kept prices low and the feedback has been great."

The boat show will be held April 29 through May 1 and feature boats in the water and on land.

Accessory booths will ring the harbor.

A wine tasting will be conducted by Firelands Winery Saturday afternoon and the club's golf course will host a Red Cross golf outing on Friday.

Show hours will be noon to 6 p.m. on Friday, April 29; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, April 30; and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday, May 1.

BAO conference May 11

Boating Associations of Ohio will hold its Legislative Conference on May 11 at the Hyatt on Capitol Square in Columbus.

Registration is free for all LEMTA members and strongly encouraged.

The day will include presentations from public and private boating industry leaders, face-to-face talks with state representatives and senators and roundtable discussions with fellow boating community members.

Presentations will start at 10:30 a.m. and the conference will adjourn at 3 p.m.

Please fill out the attached registration form and return it to the LEMTA office.



Scholarship applications due May 1

An application for scholarships or grants from the LEMTA Educational Foundation is attached to this email.

Anyone planning on enrolling at an extended education facility in the fall of 2011 may apply before the May 1 deadline.

Since 1998, the foundation has granted more than \$95,000 to local students.

If you have any questions about the application process, please contact the LEMTA office.

ODNR, city of Cleveland to build marina at North Coast Harbor

In March, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service awarded \$1,450,400 to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for construction of a transient marina in Cleveland's North Coast Harbor.

Work on the marina may begin later this year and will include the construction of floating docks for 53 boat slips (three of which will be Americans with Disabilities Act-accessible), a ramp, shower/restroom/laundry building and other amenities.

Money for the project will come from the service's Boating Infrastructure Grant Program and is part of a \$13.5 million distribution in 11 states this year.

ODNR will work with the city and other partners to provide a \$509,600 match to the grant.

Funding for the service's program comes from the Sport Fishing and Boating Trust Fund, which boaters and manufacturers support through excise and other taxes on certain equipment and fuel.

Grant funds must be used to construct, renovate or maintain facilities with features for transient boats that are 26-feet or longer and used for recreation, or to produce and distribute materials about recreational boating.

Designs for the marina have not been released, but LEMTA representatives may be consulted this summer.

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Shrink wrap recycling underway

The Ohio Clean Marinas Program has set up shrink wrap collection sites at Beaver Park Marina, Catawba Landing, Geneva State Park Marina and Spitzer Lakeside Marina that will be open through mid-June.

The annual recycling drive has kept more than 1.5 million pounds of shrink wrap out of landfills since 2006 and produced more than 200,000 plastic highway guardrail spacers.

All nylon strapping and other materials need to be removed from the shrink wrap before it is dropped off.

If you have any questions about this year's collection or the program, contact Colleen Wellington at (419) 609-4120.

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PUCO rescinds rules that would have affected boat transporters

After hearing input from LEMTA, BAO and other industry groups, the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio rescinded its new rules for private intrastate commercial motor vehicles with gross weights between 10,000 and 26,000 pounds.

The rules were introduced in 2008 and would have been enforced starting in 2012.

They would have required most boat transporters to issue certificates, keep log books, compile vehicle inspection reports and pay for driver medical exams.

BAO lobbied against the rules for several months late last year and early this year.

The commission will file a report containing analysis and recommendations for possible future rule amendments, taking into account Governor John Kasich's "Common Sense Initiative."

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Ohio joins RBFF lapsed boater recruitment program

This year, the ODNR Division of Watercraft will participate in the Recreational Boating & Fishing Foundation's Lapsed Boat Registration Pilot Program, which uses a direct-mail approach to lure lapsed boaters back to the water.

The program was developed in Oregon two years ago and Ohio will be the second state to participate.

"Working in partnership with RBFF on this direct mail initiative, we can remind boaters of the pleasures of the sport while promoting Ohio's vast opportunities for fishing and boating on Lake Erie, the Ohio River and our many inland waterways," said retiring Watercraft Chief Pam Dillon.

The direct mail pieces remind boaters about the importance of renewing their registrations and may include remittance forms tailored for both anglers and non-anglers.

The Oregon pilot program had an 8.5 percent response rate during the evaluation period and more than \$20,000 was generated in new revenue to the state.

The program will start in Ohio later this month.

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Feedback needed for Clean Boating Act practices

The Environmental Protection Agency is developing management practices for incidental discharges from recreational boats, as required under the Clean Boating Act of 2008, and is looking for feedback from boaters and anglers.

Webinars will be hosted on April 22 at 10 a.m. and April 25 at noon and the agency is encouraging people to send comments to cleanboatingact-hq@epa.gov.

To register for one of the webinars, visit water.epa.gov/lawsregs/lawsguidance/cwa/vessel/CBA/participate.cfm.

The EPA is looking for input about several vessel discharges, including antifouling paints and zincs, graywater, bilge water (with concern about oil and grease, which is already illegal to discharge), cleaning products/maintenance practices, disposal of garbage/fishing waste and transport of invasive species.

LEMTA encourages all members to submit feedback to strengthen the voice of the boating community.

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1099 requirement repealed

The Small Business Paperwork Elimination Act, which repeals the 1099 tax-reporting requirement, was signed by President Obama Thursday.

Businesses will no longer have to send 1099 tax forms or collect W-9 information from vendors supplying more than \$600 of goods or services each year.

According to the Small Business Administration, 97.4 percent of boat builders are considered small businesses and 94.8 percent of boat dealers have annual receipts of less than \$10 million.

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Upcoming industry events and deadlines

LEMTA General Membership Meeting
April 26
Ramada Elyria (formerly the Holiday Inn/Inn of Elyria)

[Catawba Island Boat Show](#)

April 29 - May 1
Catawba Island Club in Port Clinton

LEMTA Educational Foundation Scholarships and Grants
Application deadline: May 1
Award amount: up to \$1,000

Boat Ohio Magazine delivery
May 1
Sent to all Lake Erie Living subscribers and LEMTA members

[American Boating Congress](#)

May 4-5
Washington, DC

Boating Associations of Ohio Legislative Conference
May 11
Hyatt on Capitol Square in Columbus

[North Coast Harbor Boating & Fishing Fest](#)

June 11-12
Voinovich Park in Cleveland

Norm Schultz Open Golf Outing & Fishing Tournament
July 19
Catawba Island Club in Port Clinton

[North American In-Water Boat Show](#)

Sept. 14-18
Cedar Point in Sandusky

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