



# Docklines

DockLines Vol. XVIII, No. 3 Summer 2019 [www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Waterfront](http://www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Waterfront)

City of Santa Barbara Waterfront Department  
132-A Harbor Way, Santa Barbara, CA 93109

## FREE OIL-ABSORBENT BILGE PADS

Help prevent bilge-oil leaks, discharges, and spills in the harbor. Stop by the Harbormaster's Office and pick up your **free** oil-absorbent bilge pads, funded by a grant from CalRecycle.

## GOT USED OIL?

Find a certified Used Oil Recycling Center\* near you. A list of harbor dump station locations is also available at the Harbormaster's Office.



\*For a complete list of certified used-oil collection centers, visit [www.calrecycle.ca.gov/usedoil/certcenters/](http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/usedoil/certcenters/)

DockLines is funded in part by a grant from the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle).

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# Docklines

Vol. XVIII, No. 3

SANTA BARBARA WATERFRONT DEPARTMENT

Summer 2019

Editor: Mick Kronman  
Art Director: Chris Bell

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## MARINA ELECTRIC SUBMETERING PROGRAM

### Frequently Asked Questions

Karl Treiberg, Waterfront Facilities Manager

**Question:** What is the submetering program?

**Answer:** Electricity is provided to each of the four marinas through a single master meter. To measure electrical use at each slip, installation of submeters began in 2011 and was completed last year. The submeters allow the Waterfront Department to charge each slip permittee for their individual electrical use.



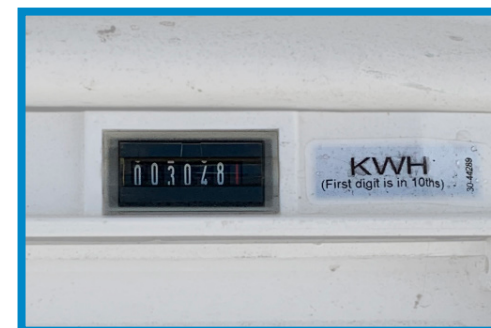
**Question:** I'm a Live Aboard and I already pay a fee for utilities. Will I be paying double?

**Answer:** Live Aboards paid a monthly permit fee of \$150 last fiscal year. Preliminary meter reading indicated that the average Live Aboard uses approximately \$30 of electricity each month. Accordingly, the Live Aboard fee was reduced to \$120 per month for the current fiscal year.



**Question:** Why is the submetering program starting now?

**Answer:** Electricity use in the marinas is the third highest of all City facilities, behind the El Estero Water Resource Center and the airport terminal. Submeters were installed to provide an incentive to conserve energy, and to properly allocate electrical costs to those who use it. Now that all slips have submeters, billing for electricity can begin.



**Question:** How will submetering affect my bill?

**Answer:** Your monthly slip bill will include an additional charge for electricity used (measured in kilowatt hours—kWh), as recorded by the submeter at your slip. The use is multiplied by a SCE rate identified on the bills for the master meters at each marina. SCE rates vary from approximately \$0.11/kWh in the winter to \$0.18/kWh in the summer. For example, if you use 100 kWh in a month your charge would be: 100 kWh x \$0.11 = \$11.00 for that month (or \$18 during summer months).

**Question:** I plan to go on Temporary Cancellation status this year. How will I be billed then?

**Answer:** You will not be charged for electricity during any month in which your boat is used by the Waterfront Department to accommodate a visiting boater, even if it's only used for one day.

**Question:** If I have a dispute with my bill, what can I do?

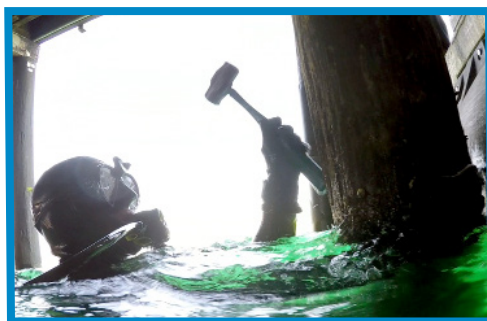
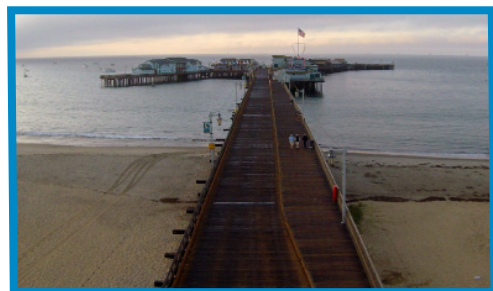
**Answer:** Any billing disputes can be directed to the Waterfront Department at (805) 564-5530.

## STEARNS WHARF INSPECTIONS

### A Diver's Perspective of the Harsh Marine Environment

Karl Treiberg, Waterfront Facilities Manager

Stearns Wharf remains the poster child for effects of a harsh marine environment on Waterfront facilities. It's not so much the knobby deck boards that rattle your fillings while driving on the Wharf, but deterioration that only a scuba diver can see.



Starting at the seafloor, divers pound Wharf piles with small sledge hammers, working their way up to the waterline, listening for a dull "thud" that usually indicates rotten or missing wood. They then cut away the coating to confirm how much of a pile's cross-section has rotted away, usually courtesy of shipworms (Teredo navalis). The pile is graded on how much of the cross-section is gone. Piles identified as having major or severe deterioration are typically included in the Department's annual pile-driving project. Fortunately, the City has highly qualified marine contractors routinely bidding on the work.

This year's work was completed in early April, keeping Stearns Wharf structurally sound for another year. And then we'll do it again. . .

With over 1,500 wooden piles supporting the Wharf, the only way to inspect them is with SCUBA gear. The Waterfront's experienced dive crew inspects 500 piles each year, from the seafloor to supporting timbers just below the Wharf deck. The piles have a specialized wrap or coating that minimizes water intrusion, but it's not impermeable. Water, with its attendant wood-eating organisms, eventually gets in and deterioration begins.

## 2019 EVENTS SCHEDULE

October 12 Harbor & Seafood Festival  
December 8 Parade of Lights

Visit  
[www.SantaBarbaraCa.gov/Waterfront](http://www.SantaBarbaraCa.gov/Waterfront)  
for more details

## 2019 REGULAR HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING SCHEDULE

January 17	July 18
February 21	August 15
March 21	September 19
April 18	October 17
May 16	November 21
June 20	December 19

Harbor Commission regularly meets on the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in City Council Chambers

## DockLines

City of Santa Barbara  
Waterfront Department

### Office Hours

Monday through Friday  
8:00 a.m. to noon  
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Business Office: 564-5531  
Harbor Patrol: 564-5530  
Maintenance: 564-5522  
Parking Services: 564-5523  
Office Fax: 560-7580

Local area code (805)



## WATERFRONT EVENTS RECAP

### ANOTHER YEAR OF GREAT FINDS AT THE HARBOR NAUTICAL SWAP MEET

*Mick Kronman, Harbor Operations Manager*

Vendors occupied a record 77 stalls at the 10th annual Nautical Swap Meet on May 25th, dishing out bargain deals for fishing rods and reels, kayaks, paddle boards, surfboards, anchors, chain, nautical art, dive gear, shark teeth, ship's compasses, sailboat rigging, and more.



The event was sponsored by Waterfront Department and Harbor Merchants Association, the latter supplying free donuts, coffee, bagels, and fruit.

### WATERFRONT WELCOMES THOUSANDS FOR FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION

Santa Barbara's Fourth of July celebration brought thousands of people to the Waterfront to enjoy a family-friendly day and night. Amid ideal weather conditions, visitors enjoyed live music on Stearns Wharf and West Beach from noon until the 9 p.m. fireworks display.



Three bounce houses entertained children next to the West Beach music stage, and vendors served a variety of wares and fare to the public along Cabrillo Boulevard throughout the day.

While the beach was packed, the crowd was well behaved and the atmosphere distinctly mellow. The spectacular fireworks show, care of Garden State Fireworks, was simulcast on KJEE 92.9 FM and streamed live on KEYT.com. Many attendees said it was the best show they'd ever seen.

Waterfront staff worked with several City



*Photo Courtesy Ron Williams*

## HARBOR NEWS

### FISCAL YEAR 2020 BUDGET & FEE CHANGES

*Brian Bosse, Waterfront Business Manager*

Waterfront revenues for Fiscal Year 2019 (July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019) are expected to meet budget projections. The Department continues to maintain 100% occupancy in slip and lease rentals, and Stearns Wharf and the Harbor continue to grow in popularity as visitor destinations.



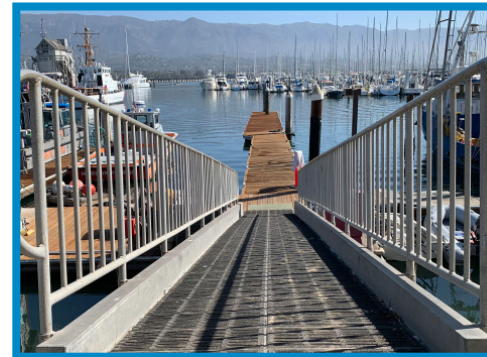
*Photo Courtesy Salubrious Pictures*

During Fiscal Year 2020 (July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020), the Department expects to fund approximately \$2.2M in capital improvements. Existing projects that will continue in FY 2020 include: the Parking Lot Maintenance Program (\$70,000), which will focus on the Cabrillo East and West parking lots; the Marina Renovation Program (\$275,000), which includes replacing dock fingers, dock boxes, power centers, and utilities in various marinas; and the Stearns Wharf Heavy Timber and Pile Replacement Program (\$475,000).

New projects for FY 2020 include: Replacing the 117 Alley Trench Drain (\$125,000); replacing Hoists #1 and #2 on the City Pier (\$125,000); interior remodel of 132-A offices (\$125,000); updating the Department's Security Camera System (\$150,000); installing an ADA-compliant gangway at the Accommodation Dock for visiting boaters (\$225,000); and complete replacement of the Ice House on the City Pier (\$600,000).



As in prior years, fee increases are necessary to complete these projects, maintain the Harbor, Stearns Wharf, and other Waterfront facilities, and keep the Department's emergency and construction reserves at required levels.



Fee adjustments beginning July 1, 2019:

1. Slip Permit fee increase of 1%
2. Live Aboard Permit monthly fee reduction of \$30, to a new rate of \$120
3. A monthly fee for electricity used at each slip, pursuant to the Marina Electric Submetering Program
4. Slip Permit transfer fee increase of \$25 per foot for slips above 30 feet in length. This increase does not include 20, 25, 28 or 30-foot slips, or designated Commercial Fishing Slips
5. Annual West Beach Rack Permit fee increase from \$1,100 to \$1,150



Waterfront staff reviewed the proposed Fiscal Year 2020 budget, including proposed fee changes, with the Harbor Commission in February and March 2019. City Council reviewed the Waterfront Department's proposed budget at a May 6<sup>th</sup> work session, and the City's Finance Committee reviewed the proposed fee adjustments on May 14<sup>th</sup>. City Council adopted the City's overall budget on June 18<sup>th</sup>. The entire City budget can be found on the City of Santa Barbara's Finance Department homepage at: [www.santabarbaraca.gov/gov/depts/finance/budget](http://www.santabarbaraca.gov/gov/depts/finance/budget).

### DECONSTRUCTING OBSTRUCTIONS

*Monica Broumand, Harbor Patrol Officer*

Harbor boat owners know space is limited. Maximum vessel lengths, for example, help maintain navigable fairways between fingers and keep walkways clear. Fairways narrow when skiffs and kayaks are stored behind boats and on the ends of fingers. The same is true for adding outboards, tilting an outboard or outdrive propeller up, or adding a swim step. Dock obstructions can also present frustrating obstacles and trip hazards, besides compromising emergency access.



Here are some things to remember, for your safety, your neighbors' safety, and ease of access:

1. Only a dock step of approved size and weight is allowed (see #8 in Marina Rules and Regulations attached to your slip permit). They are not intended for storage—that's what the dock box is for (provided free at each slip).

2. Attachments like hose reels, compressors, or hose hangers, can damage docks and/or dock boxes, and block access to utilities running beneath. Contact the Waterfront Department for inquiries into particular needs (like additional cleats) or any proposed dock addition.
3. Please do not hang lines from hose spigots or dock boxes.
4. Please be considerate of other boaters and comply with marina regulations:
  - ❖ Store your skiff or kayak within your assigned slip space.
  - ❖ Secure your boat so that no part blocks any portion of the walkway, and no part extends more than the allowable overhang into the fairway.
  - ❖ Maintain your boat as it was presented for official measurement. Please don't add to its length without consulting the Waterfront Department first.
  - ❖ Keep the dock around your vessel free of debris and obstructions.

Complying with these rules will help enhance dock safety, make good neighbors, and ensure emergency access. Thanks in advance for your teamwork on these fronts!

### USED OIL PAYMENT PROGRAM

*Chris Bell, Waterfront Public Information Officer*

Maintaining a clean harbor environment for people, aquatic life, and seabirds has long been a priority for the Waterfront Department. In fact, back in 2002, our harbor was one of the first in California to adopt a Clean Marina Program.

A key element of the Clean Marina Program is pollution prevention. To help achieve that goal, the Department operates waste-oil disposal stations at the Fuel Dock, Marina 2, and Marina 4. These free facilities also accept oil filters, anti-freeze, and oil-absorbent bilge pads. The idea is to offer boaters an easy and convenient way to properly dispose of hazardous waste and keep it out of the water. Judging by results, the system works. Last year, 5,700 gallons of used oil was collected at the stations and the total from 2011 to 2018 was over 45,000 gallons.

To further facilitate the proper disposal of waste oil, the Waterfront also holds a special Hazardous Waste Collection event concurrently with its Nautical Swap Meet every year. But hazardous waste disposal is expensive. To help with the costs of these important services the Waterfront Department has participated in the California Department of Resources' Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) Used Oil Payment Program since 2010. Program payments can be used for



collection, education, and outreach. A portion of the money even supports the publication of *Docklines*. Last year, the Program awarded the Department \$25,967. Future plans for OPP money include updating and improving the used-oil collection facility at the Fuel Dock.

While the Department works to make the proper disposal of used oil easy, boaters need to do their part. Recently, the collection facilities have been messier than usual, with boaters leaving used filters on top of drums or simply leaving buckets of oil on the floor inside the facilities. Questions about the proper way to dispose of used oil in our facilities? Call Harbor Maintenance at 564-5522.

## WATCHLOG

News from Harbor Patrol