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Charlotte Harbor

Boating Safety Tips

Prudent boaters will prepare themselves considerably beyond the USCG bare minimum requirements. Here are some suggestions:

- 100' of anchor line
- First aid kit (bigger is better)
- Weather radio (WX-3 is local channel)
- VHF marine radiotelephone
- Foul weather clothing (rain-cold people can make poor decisions)
- Sunhats, sunscreen and sunburn creams
- Supply of drinking water
- Tool kit and engine manual
- Float plan left ashore with responsible person detailing boat description, itinerary, and expected return time

CAUTION: The OPERATOR of a boat (owned, rented or borrowed) is responsible for having all the USCG required items aboard in good working condition.

Help Preserve Our Waterways

There are over 22,000 boats registered in Charlotte County and the count is rising steadily. Boat operators use and take care of boats affects EVERYONE who uses public waters, whether for boating, swimming, or fishing. Here are some ways YOU can help preserve our waterways for the future:

1. Do NOT allow fuel to spill. Always leave about 5% empty space at the top of the tank for expansion
2. Discard trash on shore. It is illegal (a federal offense) to discard any trash overboard within three miles of shore. It is illegal to dump PLASTIC trash overboard anywhere. Transparent plastic bags monofilament fishing line and six-pack rings can be fatal to birds, turtles, dolphins and manatees.
3. Minimize use of soaps/detergents when cleaning a boat in the water. They encourage excessive algae growth.
4. Collect bottom paint scrapings and dispose of them with on-shore trash. Do not leave scrapings where they can wash into the water.
5. Never cut through seagrass beds with a propeller. The scars take YEARS to recover. Leave at least ONE FOOT of clearance above the grasses.
6. While underway use a holding tank or portable toilet until you can dispose of wastewater at a pump-out or dump station. It is illegal to discharge raw sewage overboard into Florida waters. Use an on-shore toilet whenever possible.
7. Watch your wake. Remember you are responsible for any damage caused by your vessel's wake.

The Monofilament Recovery and Recycling Program

The Monofilament Recovery and Recycling Program (MRRP) is a statewide effort to educate the public on the problems caused by monofilament line in the environment, to encourage recycling through a network of line-recycling bins and drop-off locations, and to conduct volunteer monofilament line cleanup events.

Outdoor recycling bins constructed of PVC are mounted at many piers, boat ramps, and marinas throughout the state. Indoor recycling bins are hosted by tackle shops and department stores.

Water Quality in Estuaries

The Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program is a partnership of citizens, elected officials, resource managers, and commercial and recreational resource users working to improve the water quality and ecological integrity of the greater Charlotte Harbor watershed. A cooperative decision-making process is used with the program to address diverse resource management concerns in the 4,400-square-mile study area. The three priority problems in Charlotte Harbor identified by this partnership are hydrological alterations, fish and wildlife habitat loss, and water quality degradation. For more information, call 239-338-2556 or visit the program Web site at www.charlotteharbornep.org.

Overall, water quality in Charlotte Harbor is considered to be fair or good, according to the State of Florida water quality assessment. Some areas have poor water quality or declining trends, while others are showing recent improvements. For more information on water quality in Charlotte Harbor, see the Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center Web site at www.charlotteharbor.org or on the status of water quality in the region according to Florida Standards, see the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Web site at http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/tmdl/stat_rep.htm and navigate to the Group 2 Basins reports. Charlotte Harbor and Lemon Bay are Group 2 Basins.

Aquatic Preserves

Lemon Bay Gasparilla Sound/Charlotte Harbor Cape Haze, Pine Island Sound, Matlacha Pass, and portions of their tributaries are coastal water bodies that have been designated as 5 of Florida's 11 Aquatic Preserves. These exceptional estuaries and state-owned submerged lands were set aside by the Legislature to be preserved in their essentially natural or existing condition.

Seagrass, mangroves, and salt marshes are biologically productive natural habitats that benefit from this designation. The Aquatic Preserves support a great diversity of fish, shellfish, birds, reptiles, and mammals. Landward of these Aquatic Preserves, the Charlotte Harbor Preserve State Park is comprised of public lands acquired by the State to buffer the Charlotte Harbor estuaries from pollution associated with urbanization.

These valuable Preserve resources are protected through resource management, research, monitoring, and education. Only through wise management, can these resources be preserved for the enjoyment of future generations in continuing fishing, boating, bird watching, and other recreational activities. For more information about the Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves, please call 941-575-5861.

Aquaculture Lease Areas

Aquaculture Lease Areas in Gasparilla Sound are privately operated clam rearing sites where anchoring is restricted and shellfish harvesting is prohibited except by leaseholder. These areas are marked with flags that indicate shellfish grower is using SCUBA to tend crops.

Ar tificial Reefs

Public To wing

See also "Marinas" listing for marina customer towing

No.	Name	Address	Phone
1	The Fishery	Fishery Rd., Punta Gorda, FL 33956	941-697-2451
2	Casual Clam Cafe	5800 Gasparilla Rd., Punta Gorda, FL 33951	941-664-2300
3	The Pink Elephant	Bayou Ave., Punta Gorda, FL 33951	941-664-0100
4	Lighthouse Hole	220 Harbor Dr., Punta Gorda, FL 33951	941-664-0511
5	Nav-A-Gator Grill	(near Fort Ogden) 33950 SW Riverview Ck., Arcadia, FL 34269	941-627-3474
6	Best Western Punta Gorda	1200 W. Rietta Esplanade, Punta Gorda, FL 33950	941-639-1165
7	Fishermen's Village	(at E. Yacht Basin) 1200 W. Rietta Esplanade, Punta Gorda, FL 33950	941-575-4544
8	Bella Luna	3150 Matecumbe Key Rd., Punta Gorda, FL 33955	941-637-1177
9	Harpoon Ale House	3421 Stringfellow Rd., St. James City, FL 33956	941-505-8775
10	Village Fish Market	3421 Stringfellow Rd., St. James City, FL 33956	941-637-1177
11	Rivera Oyster Bar	5500 Deltona Dr., Punta Gorda, FL 33950	941-639-7959
12	Portobello	3150 Matecumbe Key Rd., Punta Gorda, FL 33955	941-637-1212
13	Bokeelia Crab Shack	KW Marker 60, Cabbage Key, Punta Gorda, FL 33954	239-283-2278

LEGEND

- Land
- Seagrass
- Mangroves
- Salt Marsh
- Aquaculture
- Preserve State Park
- Depth in feet
- Marinas - see listings
- Municipal Ramps - see listings
- Anchorage - see listings
- Dockside Restaurants - see listings
- Major Roads
- Bridge Marker
- Navigation Markers
- Artificial Reefs

Ar tificial Reefs

No.	Name	Material	Lat/Long
1	Palm Island Fgwr	Car ferry & steel barge	28°49'23" N 82°31'56" W
2	Tremblay Reef	Concrete bridge materials	28°48'35" N 82°22'70" W
3	Novak Reef	Concrete bridge materials	28°48'57" N 82°19'20" W
4	Maya Reef	Concrete culverts	26°46'18" N 82°18'35" W
5	Power Pole Reef	Barge steel	26°41'02" N 82°22'47" W
6	Heleth Reef	Concrete poles	26°38'02" N 82°17'01" W
7	Bokeelia Reef	Concrete rubble	26°42'15" N 82°09'08" W
8	The Tugboat	40' steel tip	26°45'50" N 82°11'21" W
9	Cape Haze Reef	Concrete culverts	26°46'40" N 82°09'08" W
10	Charlotte Harbor	Concrete culverts	26°50'50" N 82°05'32" W

Anchorage

No.	Name	Approach Depth, MBW	Anchorage Depth, MBW
5	Cape Haze Basin	13'	7'-9'
6	Boca Grande Basin	5'	6'-10'
7	Edgewater Lake	4'	6'
8	Charlotte Harbor	5'	5'-7'
9	Live Oak Point	6'	6'-8'
10	Punta Gorda	5'	5'-7'
11	Pelican Bay	5'	6'-9'
12	Punta Blanca Island	9'	7'-9'
13	Point Blanco Basin	4'	5'-9'
14	Ureopsis Island	8'	6'-12'

*Length of stay limited to 24 hours by city ordinance

All anchorages within Charlotte County require an anchor light to be displayed at night.

Dockside Restaurants

No.	Name	Address	Phone
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2. Discard trash on shore. It is illegal (a federal offense) to discard any trash overboard within three miles of shore. It is illegal to dump PLASTIC trash overboard anywhere. Transparent plastic bags, monofilament fishing line and six-pack rings can be fatal to birds, turtles, dolphins and manatees.
3. Minimize use of soaps/detergents when cleaning a boat in the water. They encourage excessive algae growth.
4. Collect bottom sand scrapings and dispose of them with on-shore trash. Do not leave scrapings where they can wash into the water.
5. Never cut through seagrass beds with a propeller. The scars take YEARS to recover. Leave at least ONE FOOT of clearance above the grasses.
6. While underway, use a holding tank or portable toilet until you can dispose of wastewater at a pump-out or dump station. It is illegal to discharge raw sewage overboard into Florida waters, as is an on-shore toilet whenever possible.

The Monofilament Recovery and Recycling Program (MRRP) is a statewide effort to educate the public on the problems caused by monofilament line left in the environment, to encourage recycling through a network of line-recycling bins and drop-off locations, and to conduct volunteer monofilament line cleanup events.

Outdoor recycling bins constructed of PVC are mounted at many piers, boat ramps, and marinas throughout the state. Indoor recycling bins are hosted by tackle shops and department stores.

1. Be alert to signs of manatee presence (swirls, tip of snout breaking the water when surfacing to breathe).
2. Obey posted speed and manatee caution signs. Manatees move slowly and have difficulty avoiding boats operating planing speeds. Even slow-moving boats can crush manatees when clearance is inadequate.
3. Avoid or idle slowly across shallow areas where manatees are abundant. Lift your engine to avoid prop dredging if you get caught by the stern in an area too shallow for your draft.
4. Pole or use a trolling motor to fish the "flats" (seagrass meadows).
5. Stow your trash, and retrieve any snagged monofilament fishing line. Dispose of these items on shore. Manatees can be injured or even killed by swallowing plastic coming entangled in abandoned monofilament or trap line.
6. Report injured, dead, or tagged manatees to the FWCC (1-800-404-FWCC).
7. For more information about manatees and their protection, go to <http://www.MyFWC.com>.

- Land
- Seagrass
- Mangroves
- Salt Marsh
- Aquaculture
- Preserve State Park
- Depth in feet
- Marinas - *see listings*
- Municipal Ramps - *see listings*
- Anchorages - *see listings*
- Dockside Restaurants - *see listings*
- Major Roads
- Bridge Marker
- Navigation Markers
- Artificial Reefs

No.	Name	Material	Lat/Lon
1	Palms Island Fgrr	Car ferry & steel barge	28°49'23"
2	Teembyl Rife	Concrete bridge materials	28°48'35"
3	Novak Rife	steel barge	28°22'20"
		Concrete bridge materials	28°45'57"
4	Marsh Reef	Concrete culverts	28°19'08"
5	Power Pole Reef	Barge steel	28°18'35"
			26°41'02"
6	Helels Reef	Concrete poles	28°22'47"
7	Bokelsa Reef	Concrete rubble	28°22'22"
			28°17'01"
8	TheLightboat Dangar Rife	40' steel tlg	26°42'15"
9	cape Haze Rife	Concrete culverts	28°09'08"
			26°45'40"
10	Charlotte Harbor	concrete & steel model	28°11'21"
		piling & silt	26°40'25"
			28°03'32"

No.	Name	Approach Depth, M/V	Anchorage Depth, M/V		
2	Tembalay Ree			Concrete bridge materials	\$8-73.30
5	Cape Haze Basin	13'	7'-10"	steel beam	\$2-70.25
9	Boca Grande Bay	4'	6'	Concrete bridge materials	\$2-179.97
7	Edgewater Lake	4'	6'	Concrete culverts	\$2-246.18
8	Charlotte Harbor	6'	6'-8"		\$2-183.37
9	Live Oak Point	5'	5'-8"	Power Pole Reef	Barge steel
10	Punta Gorda	5'	5'-7"		\$2-224.27
11	Pelican Bay	5'	6'	Heels Reef	Concrete poles
12	Punta Blanca Island	9'	7-9'		\$2-171.05
13	Point Blanco Basin	4'	5'-9"	Boknesia Reef	Concrete rubble
14	Ureghal Bay	8'	8'-12"		\$2-240.21
				The Lighthouse	40' steel tip
				Danger Reef	
				Cape Haze Basin	Concrete culverts
				Charlotte Harbor	concrete & steel module
					\$2-70.50
					\$2-293.25

*Length of stay limited to 24 hours by city ordinance

All anchorages within Charlotte County require an anchor light to be displayed at night.

Location	Name	Phone	No.	Name	Address	Phone
Cape Haze	Marine Services	941-697-349	7	The Fishery	Fishery Rd. 33946 Placida, FL	941-697-2451
Boca Grande	Boat US/Relief towing	941-964-203	8	Casual Camp Clam	5800 Gasparilla Rd. Boca Grande, FL 33921	941-964-2300
Charlotte Harbor	Sea tow	941-625-508	9	The Pink Elephant	Bayou Ave. Boca Grande, FL 33921	941-964-0100
Punta Gorda	Riviera Marina	941-639-008				941-964-0250
Pine Island	SeaTow of Pine Island	239-945-480	10	Lighthouse Hole	220 Harbor Dr. Boca Grande, FL 33921	941-964-0511
Port Charlotte	Port Charlotte Marina	941-625-545				

No.	Name	Address	Phone
7	The Fishery	Fishery Rd. Placida, FL 33946	441-697-2451
8	Casual Clam Cafe	3500 Gulf Rd. Boca Grande, FL 33921	941-964-2000
9	The Pink Elephant	Bayou Area Punta Gorda, FL 33921	941-964-0100
10	Lighthouse Hole	220 Harbor Dr. Boca Grande, FL 33921	941-964-0511
11	New-A-Gator Grill (near Fort Caylak)	9700 SW Riverview Ex. Arcadia, FL 34269	414-627-3474
12	Best Western Punta Gorda	100 W. Bertia Esplanade Punta Gorda, FL 33950	414-639-1165
13	Fish & Wine Village (at E.V. Luchina Bella Luna Cabaret) Table Harbor Ale House Harpoon Hazy's Market Village Oyster Bar	1000 W. Bertia Esplanade Punta Gorda, FL 33950	414-575-4544 414-637-1177 941-505-8775 414-637-1177 414-639-7959 414-637-1212
14	Rivera Oyster Bar (near El Rincón Marina)	5500 Deltona Dr. Punta Gorda, FL 33950	414-639-2663
15	(at Port Bello)	3150 Matecumbe Key Rd. Punta Gorda, FL 33955	823-933-0189
16	Panama Crab Marina Bokellei Crab Shack	1000 S. Highway 92 St. James City, FL 33956	239-283-2666
17	Cabbage Key Inn	ECW Highway 60, 60 Cabbage Key PO Box 28 Pine Island, FL 33954	239-283-2278

No.	Name/Location/Phone	Average Depth	Revised Average Depth	Revised Maximum Depth	Revised Minimum Depth	Revised Range	Revised Max. Depth	Revised Min. Depth	Revised Range	Revised Max. Depth	Revised Min. Depth	Revised Range	Revised Max. Depth	Revised Min. Depth	Revised Range	Revised Max. Depth	Revised Min. Depth	Revised Range	Revised Max. Depth	Revised Min. Depth
9	Eldred Marina Placidia 691-697-1431	4	7	B	S															
10	Gasparrilla Marina Resort Gasparrilla Isl. 691-697-2280	9	6	B,E,W	S	H,M,F	30	MC	S	P,T,S	L	I,O	W,D	T 16 79	C	W	I	R,T,L	G,H	D,G
11	Uncle Henry Marina Resort Gasparrilla Isl. 691-964-0154	6	8	B,E,W	S			M,C	R,L,S	P,T,S,L			W	16	C	W	B,T	G	D,G	
12	The Inn Marina Boca Grande 941-964-2777	5	4	E,W		H,M,L	25 ft. or 1			L	I,O	W,D	C	W	B,T					D,G
13	Boca Grande Marina Boca Grande 941-964-2100	8	7	B,E,W		H,M,L		M,C	R,S	T,S,L			68	C	W	B,T				D,G
14	Whiddee Marina Boca Grande 941-964-2878	6	9	B,E,W				M,C	S	P,T,S			W	71	C	W	B,T		G,H	G
15	Gulf Coast Marine Center II El Jobean 691-629-9666	4	5	S	H,M	7.5		M	S	T	I,O	D	W	16	C	W	B,T		H	G
16	Desoto Marina near Ft. Ogden 691-627-3474	4	6	B,E	S			R	R,S	T		W	16	C	W	B,T		H	G	G
17	Peace River Fish Camp Cleveland 941-639-2819	4	4	B,E,W	S				L,S	T,S,L			W		W					G
18	Punta Gorda Marina Punta Gorda 941-639-2750	4	6	E,W		H,M,L	15 35		T	I,O	W,D	T 16	C	W				H	G	G

[illegible]

No.	Name/Location	Road Directions	Approx. 1/4 Mile Slop	Dredged	Permitted	Permitted	Permitted	Permitted
4	North Port Marina	Paden Chancellor Blvd. at Kenwood Dr	4	*	*	*	*	*
5	El Jobean Pier	On S.R. 776 next to Gulf Coast Marine Center II	2	*	*	*	*	*
6	Spring Lake Pier	Off Edgewater Dr at West Spring Lake	3.5	*	*	*	*	*
7	Port Charlotte Beach	End of Harbor Blvd Port Charlotte	3.5	*	*	*	*	*
8	Harbour Heights	Bay Harbor Dr off of Voyager Dr	2	*	*	*	*	*
9	Deep Creek Ramp	End of Peace River St next to Desoto Marina	4	*	*	*	*	*
10	Liverpool Creek Ramp	End of Liverpool Rd of U.S. 17	4	*	*	*	*	*
11	Riverside Ramp	On Riverside Dr 1/4 mile W of U.S. 17	4	*	*	*	*	*
12	Dani's Point Soloma	End of Danie, off of Riverside Dr	1.5	*	*	*	*	*
13	Lalshay Pier	Need of Nesbit St at E. Marinoville	3*	*	*	*	*	*
14	Ponce de Leon Pier	Wend of Marinoville	7	*	*	*	*	*
15	Wisteria Park	End of Wisteria off Rio Mill	7	*	*	*	*	*