



Manchester-by-the-Sea Harbormaster **Report to the Board of Selectmen**

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The Waterline

MOORINGS

Mooring reassignment is approximately sixty-five percent complete. Abandoned moorings are still being identified and of course will be reassigned at the earliest possible date. Many boats are on moorings without stickers affixed. It is likely that a fee will be assessed at renewal in 2013 for those who fail to affix the sticker to their vessel. If you have lost your sticker contact me and I will assign you a new number. Inventory of unused moorings is complete and currently 94 moorings are empty. While a few more vessels may show up this year, it would appear that many mooring holders will be obliged to use or give up their moorings next year. A few of the moorings are already in the second year of vacancy and will be reassigned this fall unless serious action is taken by the mooring holder.

Fireworks

Independence Day is nearly upon us and with it the zenith of the boating season. The harbormaster has been advised to hang on to his gunnels while on the water over the holiday due to the volume of boat traffic expected in Manchester. The fireworks display will surely draw large numbers of visiting boaters to Manchester. While the fact of visiting boaters for the fireworks is not a surprise or news, it is important to exercise extra vigilance if viewing the display from your vessel. Many viewers will spend the day boating and perhaps enjoy some adult beverages. The greatest risk of incident will likely be after the fireworks display ends with most vessels leaving the viewing area at one time. The combination of a long day of boating, adult libation and darkness could contribute to a post celebration incident that won't add to anyone's happy holiday memories. Before setting out make sure all your safety equipment and lights are fully functional and close at hand. Consider putting off your departure from the viewing area until after the big rush and of course, drink responsibly while out on your vessel. Several public safety vessels will be patrolling the viewing area and will render assistance if necessary. The harbormaster can be reached on VHF channels 9-16-68. Have fun, be careful and wear your lifejacket!

Morss Pier Renovations

Apologies to the community from the harbormaster for the slow pace, (no pace) of repair at Morss Pier. Work is expected to start again this week.

Stop by, say hi and don't forget your lifejacket! You can follow harbor happenings on Facebook at Manchester Harbormaster Department, updated as often as is practical.