



FLOATING HOMES ASSOCIATION, INC

Join the Floating Homes Association

What are the benefits of membership? The FHA:

- **Builds community.** We host an annual party and community meeting and provide funds to support individual dock social activities and needs.
- **Advocates for beneficial legislation.** We communicate with your local and state representatives. Six pieces of California legislation have been sponsored by the FHA and signed into law, including ensuring your ability to obtain a title for a floating home and designating our homes as real property (Prior to 1986, our homes were "vessels"; now we can deduct our mortgage payments). We also monitor Marin County building codes and regulations.
- **Organizes emergency preparedness.** Because our needs are unique, we maintain a trailer with supplies appropriate to any emergency. We encourage people to train with the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program. Once completed, the FHA will reimburse the cost. If you are interested in becoming a CERT, please visit: <http://www.marincountycert.org/cert-training-schedule/>.
- **Is a good neighbor.** The FHA has donated thousands of dollars to local nonprofits, including the Marin City Library, Sausalito Village, Marine Mammal Center, and the Sausalito Historical Society.
- **Publishes *The Floating Times*** (<https://ft.floatinghomes.org/>) and maintains a website (<https://www.floatinghomes.org/>) with important information.
- **Needs your help!** Join us to make lifelong friends. Volunteers can serve as Dock Representatives or on a committee, including Tour, Membership, Floating Times, Environment, Emergency Preparedness, Government Relations and Public Relations. To see how to get involved, visit <http://www.floatinghomes.org/get-involved/>

To join, visit <https://www.floatinghomes.org/>

The FHA meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm on Zoom. The meeting schedule is posted on our website, 'see FHA Board'. *Everyone is welcome!*

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Safety Tips for Floating Home Living

Here are some important things to know about living on the water:

PARKING LOT and HIGH TIDES

Check Floating Times (<https://ft.floatinghomes.org/>) or dock bulletin board for high tide and storm notices, download a tide app, or visit: <http://www.floatinghomes.org/resources/useful-links/>

DOCK SAFETY

- Do not place planters or other objects more than 3 planks deep each side of the dock from railing into the walkway (emergency crews need clear access to the dock).
- Do not obstruct dock lighting, report any outages to your particular Harbor (phone numbers area available on the website under 'Resources'-Contact Info).
- No motorized vehicles on walkway.
- Do not ride bikes on docks or lock bikes on walkway side of dock railing.

FLOATING HOME SAFETY

- Install and/or inspect interior hull water sensors.
- Install and/or inspect holding tank level alarm.
- Inspect boat lines for wear and tear.
- Inspect pilings to determine if replacement or repair needed.
- Tie down loose items such as chairs that could blow away in storms.
- Inspect exterior and interior hoses for leaks.
- FHA members can access a list of inspectors and repair people at <https://www.floatinghomes.org/>

UTILITIES

- Know where your water, gas and electricity shut-offs are located.
- Know where your circuit breaker box is located.
- Do not flush anything down the toilet except toilet paper
- Empty sewage holding tanks before power outages or storms.

FIRE SAFETY

- Do not dump ashes in the garbage/recycling dumpsters as they tend to catch fire.
- No open flames on the dock.
- Do not use planter boxes as ashtrays or drop cigarette butts on the dock.
- Make sure your fire extinguishers are full and up to date.
- Install/maintain smoke detectors.
- Plan escape route from boat in case of fire.
- Attend dock fire emergency training (dates will be posted on dock notice boards).

POWER FAILURES

- If electricity is out do not run water (no showers, no dishwashing, and no flushing toilets). It is important to let renters, visitors, and cleaning crews know about this as holding tanks can fill to overflowing without the electric pump working!
- Do not use generators or BBQs inside as toxic fumes will build up to dangerous levels.
- When using candles or oil lamps make sure they are contained and extinguished before you retire to bed or leave the house.
- Switch off all circuit breakers, except one (preferably the lighting breaker), to prevent a power surge when electricity service is resumed.
- Be sure all pilot lights are lit when power is resumed.

BAY POLLUTION

Report to the Richardson Bay Harbor Administrator (415) 289-4143 any sewage leaks or oil and fuel spills in the water.

ZERO WASTE

- Garbage and recycling dumpsters are located near dock entrances.
- Break down cardboard boxes and leave in appropriate dumpster.
- Many docks are also composting; look for green-cycling bins.
- Place food and green waste in compostable bags.