



THE MARINA

AT DANA POINT

NEWSLETTER | JUNE 2025

Greetings from The Marina at Dana Point!

Summer is here! It is the most wonderful time of the year in Dana Point with so many people out on the water, on the docks and in the harbor. It truly is paradise every single day!

If you plan to be in the harbor this weekend, make plans to come to the 1st ever Coastal Cowgirl event on Saturday, June 28th from 11 AM to 4 PM at Bump Out Park located in the west basin cove at 24354 Dana Point Harbor Drive. Whether you are into shopping, line dancing, refreshing drinks or good vibes, Coastal Cowgirl is your perfect start to summer!



We are excited to celebrate the Fourth of July in Dana Point Harbor. There is no better way to kick off the season than with water fights and fireworks! If you are new to Dana Point Harbor, you will not be disappointed...it is a party like no other. It is sure to be a great day of celebration on the water! As you begin to plan your long holiday weekend, please be sure to review the below important information so you are prepared. It is always surprising how many boaters show up on July 4th and seem surprised by the traffic, crowds, and rules related to parking (no guest parking is permitted on July 4th). The more you know in advance, the better time you will have when the big day arrives!

FOURTH of JULY 2025

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Water wars, dock parties and amazing fireworks...it really does not get any better. We cannot wait to celebrate another July 4th holiday with you! For a head start to a hassle-free holiday in the harbor, please review the following information about **PARKING, POLICY** and best management **PRACTICES**:

PARKING

- Boater parking lots are reserved for marina tenants **ONLY**.
- Guest passes are not available on July 4th. **There will be NO GUEST PARKING in boater lots on July 4th.**
- Parking lot gates will be set to tenant only mode with a **valid RFID tag required** to access the lot.
- A boater assigned RFID tag will be required to access the boater lots on July 4th.
- Boaters will be able to use their monthly parking barcode on the ParkWhiz app as an alternative to using their assigned RFID tag. **If the app is used, the affiliated RFID tag may not be used (it is one or the other, not both).**
- Motorhomes, RVs, Trailers or other recreational vehicles will not be permitted into the boater parking lots. Any such vehicles left in the lots will be towed at owner's expense.
- **Boaters will not be permitted to stand at the gate and attempt to swipe a visiting vehicle in to park.** Each vehicle will be required to possess their own means for access.
- The parking system is a one in/one out system. If you use your Flash or ParkWhiz app to enter in a vehicle, you must exit before the RFID tag assigned in conjunction with your vehicle account will be permitted to enter the lot (this shows up on the kiosk screen as a passback violation and prohibits the gate from raising for entry or exit).
- We will have attendants at each of the boater parking gates from early morning until late night. Attendants are there to ensure proper use of the gates and parking lot. They are not able to assist you with access into or out of the lot. Please be courteous and patient as parking lot entries will backup during peak hours (10 AM to 2 PM).
- If parking resources fill to capacity, you will not be allowed into the parking lot.
- Left turn movements on Dana Point Harbor Drive will be restricted west of Casitas Place. Vehicles wishing to reach the west basin cove parking lot or island side will be required to travel toward Baby Beach and use the turn around to come back and use right hand turns into these areas.
- The Dana Point Trolley will run its regular route on July 4th with frequent stops in Dana Point Harbor. Click [HERE](#) for trolley information. This is a great opportunity for your guests to park offsite and take a fun and FREE ride to the harbor. The trolley will run from 10 AM to 8:30 PM on July 4th.

POLICY

- Dock entry gates are to remain closed and locked. Please do not attempt to tie or prop open dock gates.
- Slips are assigned in connection with a specific person and vessel. Tenants are not permitted to loan their slip to friends, offer the slip to a club to use, rent their slip and/or use the slip to accommodate a vessel other than that listed on the slip agreement.

- **Barbecues and/or open flames are not permitted on the docks.** You are welcome to use a marine grade boat barbecue aboard your vessel. Marina staff will enforce the rules related to barbecues and/or open flames on the docks.
- Amplified sound is not permitted while in the slip. Please do not plan to have a band, DJ or other amplified entertainment aboard your boat while in the slip or on the dock.
- Setting off fireworks on the docks or off your boat is not permitted.
- Please do not take over main walkways with your personal party. The main walkways are for all boaters to safely navigate the dock. Please be courteous to all by keeping your party within your space and allowing a comfortable path of travel.
- Please do not place rafts, dinghies, kayaks or other items in slips that are not assigned to you. Any vacant slips are being used to accommodate visiting guests on an ongoing basis.
- Please return dock carts to the head of the gangway following use. Please do not leave items stored in dock carts at your slip.
- Please do not ride bicycles, scooters, skateboards, or other rolling/motorized modes of transportation on the docks. Wheelchairs and other medical related modes of transport are permitted.
- Please be kind and courteous to your dock neighbors.
- Please be patient at parking gates. If you arrive between 10 AM to 2 PM and/or stay for the fireworks, you are certain to have a wait getting into or out of boater lots. We appreciate your patience. **There will be heavy traffic getting out of boater parking lots following the fireworks.**
- Traffic and congestion will be heavy immediately following the fireworks. Please expect traffic delays throughout the harbor and city if you plan to leave after the fireworks shows.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

- Please refrain from using water balloons in the harbor...these are a threat to the health and safety of marine life.
- Please do not use inflated balloons for decoration...these often blow away and end up in the water causing a threat to the health and safety of marine life.
- Be sure trash is disposed of properly in designated trash areas. Please do not leave trash on the docks or on the ground along the harbor walkway.
- Please clean up after yourself. Remove any food waste and properly store tables, chairs, canopies and other loose items before leaving.
- We will have additional dumpsters onsite at each boater service building location. If you find these full, please do not pile trash into these units. Please use a different nearby disposal site or contact the marina office for assistance.

The City of Dana Point will host the fireworks from a barge outside the breakwater. **Fireworks will go off at 9 PM sharp.** Enjoy the show! Click [HERE](#) to listen to a special fireworks soundtrack during the show.

Prior to the fireworks display, the Condor Squadron, consisting of WWII North American AT-6 airplanes will be making a flyover in Dana Point from 5:50 PM to 5:55 PM, so look to the skies for this annual tradition.

Mark your calendar for the Fourth of July afterparty on **Sunday, July 6, 2025** and join the **Dana Point Chamber of Commerce for the Red, White & Booze Trolley Hop!** With over 20 participating bars and restaurants AND a FREE Trolley Hop Mug, this has to be the best way to wrap up the holiday weekend! Keep the party going, click [HERE](#) to purchase your wristband (\$10) or for more information.

Our office will be open 8 AM to 5 PM on July 4th with a full staff. Please do not hesitate to give us a call should you need anything...(949) 496-6137.

Wishing you a safe and happy Fourth of July.

Marina Office



Dockside Vibes are all the rage in 2025 and we've got the t-shirt to prove it! Stop by the marina office to pickup your limited edition 2025 summer t-shirt. This is the 7th annual summer t-shirt we've put out and it screams FUN! What better way to celebrate the season than chillin' on the dock enjoying the views and good company. Dockside Vibes look good on YOU!

SAVE THE DATE! In partnership with OC Waste & Recycling, **The Marina at Dana Point will host a Marine Flare Collection Event on Saturday, August 16, 2025, from 7 AM to 1 PM in the west basin cove boater parking lot.** As you are probably aware, unused or

expired marine flares require proper disposal but there are very few resources available for boaters. Thanks to OC Waste & Recycling and Vice Chair Katrina Foley, this has been made much easier and far more convenient with regular Marine Flare Collection events in Orange County. The August 16th event will be our second event in Dana Point Harbor, and we are excited to offer this to our boaters and boaters in nearby Orange County harbors seeking safe flare disposal. More information is to follow but please mark your calendar, save the date and locate your old expired marine flares so you are ready on Saturday, August 16th! The event will offer both drive-through and walk-up options. A big THANK YOU to all partnering with us to make this event happen including OC Waste & Recycling, OC Fifth District Supervisor Vice Chair Katrina Foley, CalRecycle, the City of Dana Point, California Coastal Commission and California State Parks Department of Boating and Waterways.

We are excited to share that three boats out of Dana Point Harbor will be racing in the legendary Transpac! **Vessels AIMANT DE FILLE, BLACKWING, and INSOUmise are signed up for the race.** In total, there are 53 boats signed up to participate in the race which starts July 1, 2025. The Transpacific Yacht Race (Transpac) is a biennial offshore yacht race held in odd-numbered years. The race starts off the Pt. Fermin buoy in San Pedro, California and ends off Diamond Head in Hawaii, a distance of around 2,225 nautical miles.



As we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of everyone's favorite summer film, Jaws, it's fun to point out that the character Matt Hooper, played by Richard Dreyfuss, claims that he has "crewed three Transpacs" as a means of establishing his seamanship credentials with Quint. We have no doubt that our skippers have established their seamanship credentials as we wish them fair winds, following seas, and a ton of memories along the way...Aloha!

Reminder...our office is open daily including Saturday and Sunday and will be open on July 4th during normal business hours, 8 AM to 5 PM. Please give us a call (949) 496-6137, [email](#), or stop by if you need anything. We look forward to hearing from you!

On the Docks



We have had plenty of beautiful sunshine, long days and calm seas lately with the summer just beginning. It's fun seeing everyone out and about on the docks!

The summer season in Dana Point Harbor is synonymous with sandbar days on the anchor and evening dinghy cruises...there is nothing better! As a reminder, dinghies should not be stored behind vessels in the slip unless they fit within the allowable LOA in the slip. There is a rumor amongst boaters that dinghies are allowed to be stored behind boats in the summertime, but this is not true. Dinghies that overhang beyond what is permitted in the slip create a hazard to safe navigation for vessels around you and are not allowed to be kept behind the boat. We will continue our active enforcement throughout all seasons of the year and appreciate your ongoing cooperation. We continue to work on a solution for dinghy storage and will share any information as it becomes available.

If you enjoy fishing, we hope the fish have been biting for you. If they do, please remember that cleaning and fileting fish in Dana Point Harbor is not permitted. We ask that you please take your catch home or take care of the business out in the open ocean. In addition, please do not dump leftover bait inside the harbor, at the entrance of the harbor, or within a mile of the harbor entrance. Sealions and birds follow food and they consider your leftover bait their catch of the day. Tossing the bait inside or near the harbor will attract the animals into the harbor.

On the subject of animals, please remember that pets must be leashed anytime they are on the docks or property. We have no doubts that your pet is well-behaved and friendly but animals are not for everyone and not everyone's pets are friendly. Please leash all pets while enjoying the docks and public spaces. As a reminder, pets are not permitted inside the boater restrooms and should not be drinking directly from the public drinking fountains. Please always clean up after your pets.

A friendly reminder that the contract in connection to the boat slip assigned to you is specific to you and your vessel. The contract prohibits alternative use of the slip such as loaning it to a friend or allowing a reciprocal yacht club member to utilize it in your absence. Whether it is for three days or three months, any use of the slip outside of use by the vessel named on the contract with the marina requires approval and constitutes a sublease. Please contact the marina office for information or if you have questions about subleasing, (949) 496-6137.

We look forward to a phenomenal Fourth of July on the docks!

Marina Revitalization

We have reached an amazing milestone in the waterside revitalization project...the entire west basin is complete! This is a reason to celebrate...bring on the fireworks!

Phase 7b which is the final phase in the west basin opens for occupancy on July 1st. All boaters that selected a slip on G21, G22 or G23 have been notified that their slip will be ready on July 1st. We anticipate a lot of movement over the next two weeks and appreciate everyone's cooperation with keeping any vacant slips and associated dock fingers free and clear as tenants make their way from their current slip assignments in phase 9 to their temporary slip relocations throughout the marina (east basin cove and island).



With the project a little over 50% complete, we have 20 new docks as follows:

Gate 5, 6 & 7: Dock of the **Green** Lantern

Gate 8: Dock of the **Ruby** Lantern

Gate 9: Dock of the **Copper** Lantern

Gate 10: Dock of the **Amber** Lantern

Gate 11: Dock of the **Jade** Lantern

Gate 12: Dock of the **Navy** Lantern

Gate 13: Dock of the **Orange** Lantern

Gate 14: Dock of the **Violet** Lantern

Gate 15: Dock of the **Cardinal** Lantern

Gate 16: Dock of the **Crystal** Lantern

Gate 17: Dock of the **Sunrise** Lantern

Gate 18: Dock of the **Emerald** Lantern

Gate 19: Dock of the **Sapphire** Lantern

Gate 20: Dock of the **Crimson** Lantern

Gate 21: Dock of the **Purple** Lantern

Gate 22: Dock of the **Sunset** Lantern

Gate 23: Dock of the **Indigo** Lantern

Gate 24: Dock of the **Forest** Lantern

Gate 25: Dock of the **Yellow** Lantern

Gate 26: Dock of the **Moonstone** Lantern

Congratulations to Bellingham, Dana Point Harbor Partners, the County of Orange, the City of Dana Point, and the boaters of Dana Point Harbor! Everyone's coordination and cooperation has made this massive undertaking look relatively easy. There are 20 docks yet to come into the east basin cove and island with the estimated time of completion to be the end of 2027.

Phase 9 takes the project to the east basin island and includes Docks M and N. Both docks have been cleared of vessels and Bellingham will begin demolition following the July 4th holiday.

The landside portion of the project is also making great progress with the parking structure due to open this summer. The parking structure houses 93 boater parking spaces as well as boater restroom and shower facilities on the first level which our tenants on east basin cove docks L through O will be given access to. Tenants on these docks will receive a separate notification from us with specific information. Congratulations



to our commercial core partners at Burnham-Ward on this massive achievement in the Harbor Revitalization Project. The parking structure is beautiful as is the new road leading into the harbor/parking structure. With mature landscaping throughout, stunning light structures, widened sidewalks and pergola pathways leading to the waterfront, Phases 1 and 2 of the commercial core project set the precedence for what's to come and we cannot wait! Phase 3 of the commercial revitalization includes the waterfront area from Harpoon Henry's to the former Mariner's Yachts building and will begin later this year.

For information and to view renderings of the entire project, click [HERE](#) or visit the Dana Point Community Room (34515 Golden Lantern across from the former El Torito) Thursdays 10 AM to 12 PM where a DPHP representative is available to review renderings and answer questions.

Of course, please call or visit the marina office with questions or to discuss the marina revitalization. Give us a call, (949) 496-6137, send an [email](#), or stop by!

Dockside Vibes on the Fourth of July. Water wars by day. Fireworks by night. New docks float with pride as they fill the west side. It's a good day to be a boater in Dana Point Harbor!



USCG AUXILIARY DANA POINT UPCOMING EDUCATION CLASSES

Basics of Marine Radio

Cost \$20



When: Saturday July 26, 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Where: West Marine, 34235 Pacific Coast Hwy. Dana Point 92629

The VHF radio is one of the most important safety devices you have on a boat especially when you are in an emergency situation. This class will teach you how to operate a radio, make emergency calls, contact other vessels, get Coast Guard updates, use the MAYDAY "red button", AIS, and other features of a Marine VHF radio

To register or get more information, contact Eric Gritzmacher at: ericgritz@gmail.com or text or call: (949) 632-2378

Boat America – 1 day – 8 hour class. Saturday, August 23, 8:30am to 5:30pm

The class will cover what you need to know about operating a boat safely. Subjects include: Rules, navigation, Coast Guard requirements, risk management, aids to navigation, registering your boat and many other subjects to help you be a better, safer boater.

Anyone operating a motorized vessel in California waters must now have a Boater Operator card issued

by the State of California. This class will meet the State requirement.

Cost: \$40

Where: Dana Point Community Center. 34052 Del Obispo St., Dana Point CA, 92629

To register contact Eric Gritzmacher at: ericgritz@gmail.com or (949)632-2378.

Garry Nelson at: nelson.garry@gmail.com

BOATING CLEAN & GREEN

MARINE FLARE COLLECTION EVENT

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 2027 , 7 AM to 1 PM

**West Basin Cove Boater Parking Lot:
24650 Dana Point Harbor Drive
Dana Point, CA 92629**



Do you have any unused or expired marine flares? Safely dispose of them at no cost

OC Residents & Boaters: Safely dispose of expired marine flares at a free collection event. Staff will collect items directly from vehicle trunks.

Items accepted include hand-held flares, aerial flares and smoke flares.

Electronic flares, military flares, vehicle/roadside emergency flares and hazardous waste flares will NOT be accepted.

Thank you for doing your part to preserve water quality!

As always, please contact the marina office directly if you have questions, concerns, or see something in need of our attention. You can reach me via [email](#) for a quick response, or you can call the marina office at (949) 496-6137.

Happy Boating,

Kelly Rinderknecht
