



THE MARINA

AT DANA POINT

NEWSLETTER | APRIL 2025

Greetings from The Marina at Dana Point!

April has been a whale of a month! We had a few perfect boating days complete with sunshine and sea life. Early in the month I was out on the water with many of you enjoying a spectacular show starring a pair of humpback whales, a gray whale and thousands of dolphins. It was sunny. The sea was calm. There was a whale fluke, spout or spy hop at every turn of the head. And, to top it off, there was a stampede of thousands of dolphins as far as the eye could see. It was the kind of day that makes you wish everyday was a sunny spring Sunday in Dana Point!



If you did not get out on the water in April, don't worry! May is sure to bring more sunshine, calm seas and sea life with even more opportunity for perfect boating days.

Speaking of perfect boating days...there are some great opportunities to get out on the water



with fellow boaters this month with the unofficial start to summer just ahead! Memorial Day is Monday, May 26, 2025! In celebration of summertime and the long holiday weekend, **Dana Point Yacht Club will again be hosting a live band in the west anchorage on Sunday, May 25th from 1 PM to 5 PM!** Come one and all to enjoy fun in the sun and live music on the

water!

Memorial Day weekend kicks off the official Dana Point Trolley season! To celebrate the return of trolley service, the Dana Point Chamber of Commerce is hosting an Endless Summer Trolley Hop on Sunday, May 25th from 12:00 – 5:00 PM. Click [HERE](#) for details. Don't miss this jolly trolley party!

Dana West Yacht Club is holding their 28th Annual Charity Regatta June 6-8, 2025. Friday, June 6th will include a new Cruise the Coast event for all boats, power or sail! Saturday and Sunday will feature sailboat races. Boaters can sign up for Friday only, or for the whole weekend regatta. Registration fees and all donations for to the American Cancer Society. In addition to the boating events, there will be auctions, dinghy poker run and other fun activities throughout the weekend. All events are open to the public. Click [HERE](#) for more information or to register.

Our 2nd Annual Swap Meet was on Saturday, April 26th with a great turnout of 76 vendors signed up to sell their treasures. Despite the less than desirable weather that day, the event was a lot of fun with many shoppers out early enjoying the day before the mid-morning storms hit. As it does, the rain turned into afternoon sunshine which allowed for a fun ending to the Swap Meet with many enjoying live music, drinks from Rasta Rita, and shopping from those die-hard sellers that stuck it out through multiple storms. If you participated in the swap meet in any capacity, thank you! We look forward to doing it again next year with hopes for better weather.

Enjoy the May flowers!

Marina Office



Our office has been busy as boaters prepare for the boating season. Many boaters ask us about guest parking this time of year. If you are not familiar with how to use the ParkWhiz app to reserve and share guest parking passes, we are here to help! Guests of marina slip tenants are welcome to park in the boater parking lots, but they do need to have a guest parking pass issued to them in advance. Guest passes are reserved by the slip tenant through the ParkWhiz app and can be shared with your guest through the app via the

transfer pass feature. Click [HERE](#) to review the step-by-step guide for setting up the ParkWhiz App, reserving and transferring guest passes. Or visit our office anytime for assistance. We are always happy to walk you through it.

The Marina at Dana Point's annual summer T-shirt will be available for purchase in late May! This year's design celebrates Dockside Vibes showcasing boaters enjoying their boats in the slip and fun on the docks with the marina office in the background. It is a lot of fun! We'll send an announcement when they are available.



Please stop by the marina office anytime. We are open 8 AM to 5 PM daily, including Saturday & Sunday. Give us a call or stop by and say hello if there is anything you need!

On the Docks



As we move through the marina revitalization project, we continue to be surprised by boaters who are surprised by the requirement that all vessels participate in a seaworthy evaluation. It should not come as a surprise that all boats in the marina are required to be maintained and able to navigate in open water unassisted. This is a requirement outlined in the Wharfage Contract and applies to all boats in the marina, regardless of if they are in a new slip or an old slip. If your boat is not seaworthy, it is time to start making plans to either have it repaired, replaced or removed. There is no option for a non-operational vessel to occupy a new slip and it will not be long before all the slips are new. Don't wait until the last minute. Please reach out to the marina office if you would like information on vessel donation or disposal.

We have received feedback from boaters regarding the pumpout at the Harbor Patrol dock being difficult to use due to the sealion activity. If you find yourself needing a pumpout and not wanting to navigate the sealions on the public pumpout dock, we are happy to assist you with pumpout service on Dock20. You can call our office to schedule the service. One of our maintenance staff will meet you at the dock at the appointment time to do the pumpout. Please contact the marina office to schedule, (949) 496-6137. Although 24-hour advance notice is preferred, we will do our best to accommodate all requests.

We are fully aware of many of your concerns regarding the risks of sea lions to property and safety. If you have concerns or negative experiences with Sea Lions in the harbor, we encourage you to [email](#) our office.

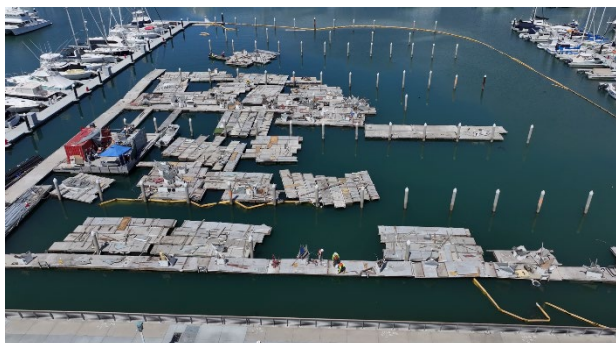
Please contact the marina office if you notice something on the docks in need of our attention. The office can be reached by [EMAIL](#) or give us a call, (949) 496-6137.

We look forward another fun boating season!

Marina Revitalization

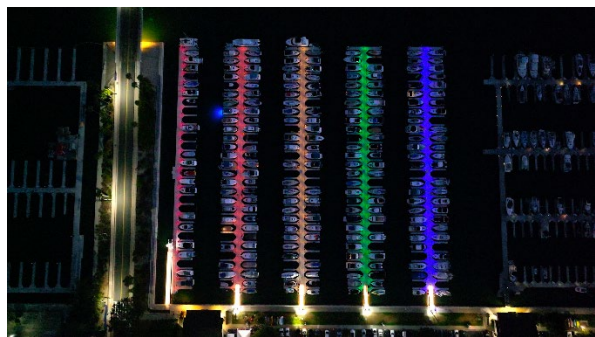
Phase 8 officially opened for occupancy on April 1, 2025! All boats have made their way to their new slips and the Dock of the **Crimson** Lantern is looking beautiful!

Bellingham is working on Phase 7.2 (west basin island) and making good progress with the phase expected to open for occupancy on July 1, 2025. Slip selection is underway for



slips coming into this phase which includes part of G21, Dock of the **Purple** Lantern, G22, Dock of the **Sunset** Lantern and G23, Dock of the **Indigo** Lantern. If you previously indicated that you want a slip in west basin island, you should hear from us with an offer to select a slip. If you indicated a different preference (east basin island), you will not hear from us during this round

of slip selection. If you are unsure or may want to change your mind, please reach out to us so we can update your preferences.



You may have noticed the lights on G24, Dock of the **Forrest** Lantern, G25, Dock of the **Yellow** Lantern and G26, Dock of the **Moonstone** Lantern, have been changing to their dock color at sunset each evening and remain their color for about an hour before turning back to white. This is Bellingham testing lighting technology. It seems to be working, and the light show looks great! Once the technology is perfected, all dock

lights will change to their lantern color at sunrise and sunset each day. They will remain the lantern color for an hour and return to white all at once. The lights can also be changed to celebrate special events and holidays! With the technology being tested, we are getting closer to implementing this concept which will be a very cool connection between water and land in celebration of Dana Point's lantern heritage and offering a fun light show for all to see twice daily.

As more boaters have an opportunity to occupy new slips, we are learning a lot about the new electrical system regarding the electrical code and what triggers electrical failures. As we have pointed out in the past, each slip comes with its own dedicated power pedestal. Power pedestals serve as multi-purpose devices, which supply power, water, internet, ground fault protection, remote metering and lighting to boats of any size and magnitude. Many boats require shore power to run onboard lighting, air conditioning, pumps, and small appliances while the vessel is docked. Power pedestals provide all of these essential utilities and capabilities within a single unit.

The new electrical code for marinas is very stringent. Although our old existing docks are "grandfathered" under an electrical code that has no ground fault protection, our new slips are required to have ground fault protection at the slip that shuts down electrical service at 30mA. Vessels with leakage in excess of 30mA will trip the ground fault protection every time they plug in until the issue is resolved. If the leakage is great enough the main breaker to the dock will trip resulting in a power outage to the entire dock or a large section of the dock. Each vessel, prior to plugging into the power pedestal, is required to participate in a ground fault leakage test. The test is easily administered, and it is a simple pass or fail. The test does not determine what is wrong. A marine electrician can usually narrow down and fix the issue in a short timeframe.

We have tested a lot of boats over the past two years and found the old shore power cord to be a common cause for failure of the ground fault leakage test. This is due to the cord having a lot of moisture logged inside of it. Some boaters have managed to dry out their old cord and make it work while many decided to start fresh with a new cord. If you are preparing to move to a new slip and you have an old shore power cord, we recommend that you purchase a new cord to use at the new slip.

As we continue to move through marina revitalization, we are requiring the ground fault leakage test and seaworthy assessments to be completed prior to occupying the new slip. Boaters will receive a letter when they select a new slip outlining the process for scheduling. Once the boats pass both tests, they are cleared for occupancy and free to move as soon as the new slip opens.

Exciting times as we get closer to summer and 100% of the west basin complete!
Sunshine and dock time by day as lanterns light up the nights.
Time spent at the marina is pure delight!



BOATING CLEAN & GREEN

Boat Maintenance

FACT: Products used to wash boat hulls and decks often contain toxic ingredients that are harmful to the marine environment. Degreasers dry the natural oils that fish need for their gills to take in oxygen. Underwater hull cleaning can leave toxic paint residue in harbor sediments.

GOAL: For boats in the water to use cleaning methods that prevent pollutants, sanding, dust or other debris from being released into the water.

Actions you can take:

Limit in-water maintenance and perform cleaning where debris can be captured and disposed of properly.

Use fresh water to clean your boat after every use.

Use environmentally friendly cleaning methods and non-toxic, biodegradable cleaning products.

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
