

## ***Waterlefe Marina Club – Dave Rogers, President***

June 1<sup>st</sup> is the start of hurricane season and now is the time to plan on the method for securing your boat if a tropical storm or hurricane warning is issued for our area with potential impact on the Waterlefe Marina. The two main risks to the marina and your boat during a hurricane are high winds and high water. ***It is the responsibility of each Marina Club member to insure their boat or the boat in their slip from a reassignment is secure during any storm. There are no marina personnel to secure your boat. Each member is liable for any damage that their boat may cause to the marina, other boats and the environment.*** Also, be aware the power at the Marina may be shut off prior to a storms impact, so prepare early.

Here are guidelines for properly securing your boat and protecting the marina docks.

1. If you can remove your boat from the marina and store it on land, that is your best option as recommended by Boat U.S.

**If your boat remains at the marina during a storm, you must properly secure your boat as follows.**

2. Bring the lift up above the dock. This will eliminate the chance of the swinging lift and boat damaging the dock. The shorter the lift cables the less swinging in high winds.

3. Tie the boat off to the lift and dock. Tie to the piling post and not a cleat. This will keep the boat from swinging and also in the event of vary high water keep your boat in the slip.



4. Pull drain plugs and check bilge pumps. This will be key with significant rainfall. Your boat can quickly fill up with water and alter its balance on the lift.

5. Covers need to be secured. If the cover is not secure enough to tow down the highway, you will want to remove it to avoid its destruction.

6. Disconnect all electrical power cords from electrical outlets. Note that bilge pumps may have to operate on battery power for a day or two without a charger.

**7. If your boat occupies a wet slip (not on a lift), then it will have to be safely removed prior to a predicted storm impact in accordance to Florida Statute XXIV ch327.59.3 and ch327.59.4.**

A video has also been prepared demonstrating how to prepare your boat for a tropical storm or hurricane.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tyxhb3fLp7Y&feature=emb\\_imp\\_woyt](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tyxhb3fLp7Y&feature=emb_imp_woyt)

Any questions regarding hurricane preparation can be directed to the board of directors at [waterlefemarinabod@gmail.com](mailto:waterlefemarinabod@gmail.com)