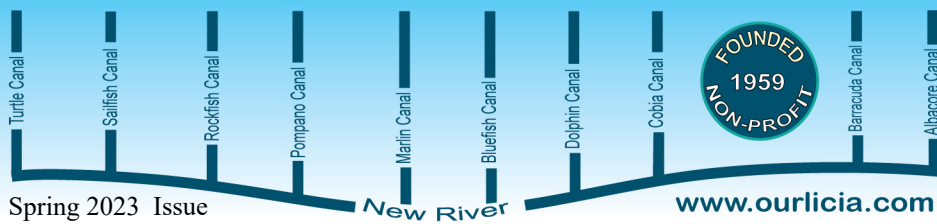


Lauderdale Isles Civic Improvement Association, Inc.



LICIA STEPS UP TO HELP NEIGHBORS IN NEED

Right after the April 12th storm, you probably saw the posts by Aynsley Geramanis, our Bimini Lane Board Member, on Nextdoor and the Isles Insider, asking for donations to help the flood victims in Edgewood. Neighbors responded and dropped off lots of donations to Aynsley's to be distributed to the victims on Saturday, May 6th.

The LICIA Board held an emergency meeting and approved an expenditure in order to purchase essentials, including much needed bleach, cleaning supplies, trash bags, paper towels, toilet paper and diapers. Diana Steeger, our Treasurer, became very familiar with the Dollar Store and made several trips to load up on those essentials.

Aynsley, Karen, Diana, & Deb headed over to Floyd Hull Stadium in Edgewood, where they met up with Commissioner Warren Sturman. They then unloaded the food, clothing, water, and cleaning supplies onto tables so the affected residents could come by and select the essentials they needed.

After that, it was out into the neighborhood by truck, delivering supplies right to the homeowners, who were appreciative and thanked our volunteers over and over. It was a long exhausting day, but our volunteers were grateful for every minute they were able to help our Edgewood neighbors.



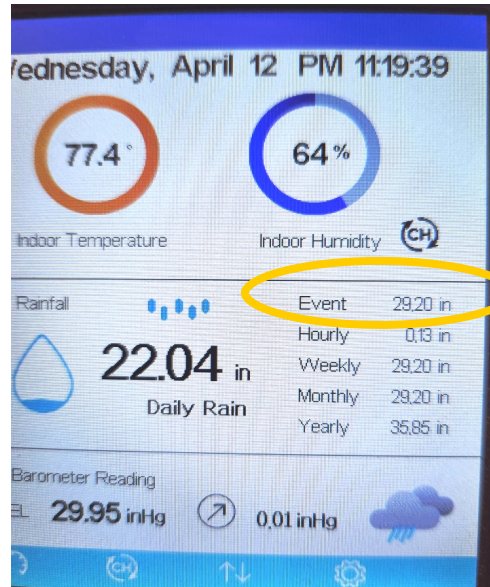
LICIA Board Members Karen Rames, Diana Steeger, Deb Dedek, and Aynsley Geramanis at Floyd Hull Stadium.



Headed out with supplies for the neighborhood

See more pics on page 9

APRIL 12TH MONSTER MONSOON



A weather station in Lauderdale Isles indicates the rainfall amount for April 12.

OUR LICIA LANE REPS FILE THEIR REPORTS

Braving the elements, our fearless Lane Reps risked their lives to capture photos of the neighborhood during and after the storm. Luckily, they all survived and they file their reports here:

Trent Simpson

While Lauderdale Isles was not an exception to the flooding, most of the homes on Andros Lane did not experience extensive damage. Some residents had water in their garages or rooms that were once carports but have been enclosed over time. Nonetheless, the main interior elevation of their homes seemed to stay dry.

It's worth noting that while the streets turned into rivers, the water was able to run off into the canal, keeping water intrusion into homes at a minimum. This played a significant role in preventing extensive damage to the properties. *continued on page 4*



Kayaking on Andros Lane

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Dock Rentals ** Another Successful March Waterway Cleanup ** Boaters Corner ** Non-ethanol Boat Gas

Over the years, our Team has sold, listed or leased
over **133** Lauderdale Isles homes.



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Our fiscal year runs from November through October. If you haven't paid your annual dues for this fiscal year yet, it's time to send your \$20. Your contribution helps LICIA in our efforts to improve and protect our neighborhood. Why not take a minute right now to take care of it. By paying your dues, you'll be a Member in Good Standing, and you'll receive our emails of the *Isles Insider*.

LICIA encourages you to submit articles for the newsletter. Letters & articles may be submitted by email to:
laudisles@gmail.com All submitted articles are subject to approval by the Executive Board.

All submitted materials will become the property of the association and may be printed in this newsletter or reprinted by any other interested publication. Deadline for submission: 25th of month prior to publication.

Lauderdale Isles Civic Improvement Association, Inc., PO Box 121255, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312



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APRIL 12TH MONSTER MONSOON (cont'd)

Our Lane Reps file their reports

Aynsley Geramanis

Every storm runs out of rain... eventually...

Bimini lane overall faired pretty well. We didn't hear of any interior flooding except garages. Some houses had minor dock damage, mostly loose planks. One dock that suffered major damage was constructed without a permit and not built to Code. It seems that the "inconvenience" of obtaining a permit pays off.

We lost our dock box but our wonderful neighbors fished it out of the canal for us and kept it safe until we could retrieve it. One boat toward the Riverland Road end of the canal overturned. We don't know specifics but my speculation is the bilge was not functioning properly or the lines were too tight. Sea Tow was there promptly the next day with their recovery efforts.



promptly the next day with their recovery efforts.

Moving forward, the lessons we learned from the flood are: Bolt and/or chain all loose items to the dock that you want to keep, or at the very least put your contact info on them with permanent marker. Set proper spring lines if we are anticipating a lot of rain and check your

bilge pump frequently -particularly if bad weather is expected. If you have your boat plugged into shore power, consider moving it to a higher elevation than the dock. These are also great tips to consider with hurricane season approaching.



Diana Steeger

Riverland Road by New River Middle School:

After closing the office early (4:15pm) due to the heavy rains, and gauging how flooding was already affecting Plantation, I decided to stay away from low lying streets, such as Riverland Road. My route was to drive down Davie Road, turn on 31st Street, and pass New River Middle School to Andros Lane. By this time, it's already 4:45ish...I noticed that water was already starting to accumulate around 31st and Riverland Rd, and parents were still lined up to turn into the school for pick up, but didn't think much of it.

It wasn't until later that evening, when someone posted on Nextdoor a picture of how that area had flooded. The following morning, we saw the remnants of what had happened. Water was still too high for regular cars to pass and there were at least 5 abandoned vehicles. It was heartbreaking! Following are two pictures: one taken during the storm, and the morning after.



Riverland by NRMS during the storm.

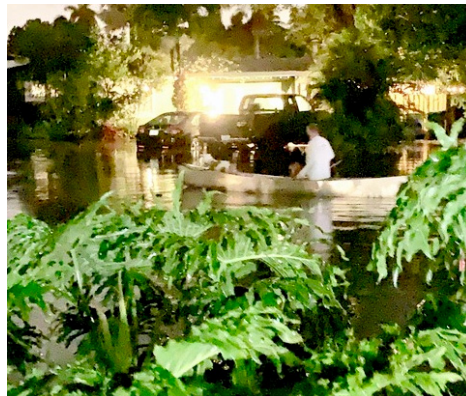


The morning after. Note the abandoned cars.

Dick Cahoon

Cat Cay Flooding

The historic flooding turned Cat Cay Lane into Cat Cay "Lake", as evidenced by a resident paddling a canoe down the middle of the street as rain



Cat Cay Canoeist

was subsiding in the middle of the night, as shown in the photo.

Houses appeared to fare well in general. More than one neighbor had water in their laundry room. One neighbor had flooding in a sunken dining room and prevented it from overflowing the rest of the house by continuously wet-vacuuming

incoming water almost all night and dumping into street.

And it appears that the flooding encouraged more fish into the canals:



Probably looking for Whale Harbor Lane

Monster Monsoon Reports (cont'd)

Jackie Zumwalt

I don't have a comprehensive account of the flooding in all the homes on our lane, but on talking with some neighbors we did have water in garages, laundry rooms, and homes. Some cars also had water seep in the doors. We had tree limbs break our power lines which resulted in some houses having electrical issues. It seems it was the neutral line that was in the water. Nine homes had their power off for approximately two hours while power company technicians repaired the lines the next day.



FPL techs on Key Largo

Karen Rames

Like all the lanes, Gulfstream became a lake. We had reports of Florida rooms and garages flooded, as well as a seawall failure on the Dolphin Canal.



Gulfstream Lake

Joann Kratky

Nassau Lane fared pretty well considering. The new house at the corner of Riverland lost newly laid sod that was quickly replaced. Tri-levels flooded downstairs. An elderly neighbor did sustain flood damage within the house and a crew of great volunteers helped move household items and dry out the home. We recovered several items from the canal and were able to reunite them with their owners with the help of *Nextdoor*.

When the street tide subsided enough I was able to remove the debris from the storm drain to help relieve the subsequent rain fall from accumulating yet again. One thing that I found astonishing was the power of the water as it rapidly rose into the yards was its ability to float away pilings and full size railroad ties that took 4 men to lay in place.



Nassau Lane:
Canal side ←
Street side →



Penny Shea

Our lane had flood waters all the way down the street. We had between 12-15 homes with water intrusion from the street side. At the cul-de-sac, it was approximately 3 feet deep. I tried to keep the drain clear so water could flow out until the river became so high that draining stopped. The sewer lid had been bubbling up and neighbors reported that toilets would not flush. Two new pools under construction became infinity pools. With all the debris in the water, it would've been a good time to have fishing waders!



Flooded Flamingo

Julie Gordon

Many neighbors lost their coolers, dock boxes and kayaks. Here is a cooler floating away at the beginning of the downpour.



Cooler afloat on the Bluefish canal. Maybe a Yeti? If so, the beer in it should still be cold five days later.....

Deb Dedek

The pictures say it all:



The water was over a foot inside...and a wheel outside

Dawn Hanna

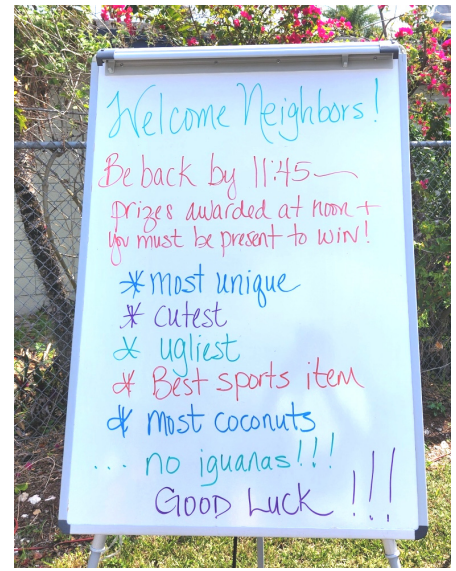
We had a boat sink on the Turtle Canal, refloated & hauled out.



The National Weather Service called this a Thousand Year storm. So we shouldn't see another one for 999 years.....

THE 46TH ANNUAL WATERWAY CLEANUP ON MARCH 4TH WAS A HUGE SUCCESS

Very few neighborhoods in Broward County have participated in all 46 of the MIA SF Waterway Cleanups. Lauderdale Isles is one of those neighborhoods, and on March 4th our neighborhood once again did an incredible job cleaning our waterways. With 89 participants and 18 boats at the Riverland Woods boat ramp, that dumpster filled up very quickly with trash. Fifty dollar gift certificates were awarded for the most unique, the ugliest, the cutest, the best sports item, and the most coconuts brought in. Afterward, participants could attend the Trash Bash party downtown, for free food and drink and drawings for more prizes. Thanks to all our neighbors who work hard every year to help keep our waterways clean! And thanks to our great site Coordinators, Jill Prizlee and Karen Rames.



And the winners are:

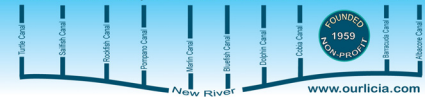


Our site at Riverland Woods is supported by



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Your neighborhood is my neighborhood

Lauderdale Isles Dock Rental Questions



By Theresa Montalbano Bennett

Florida Bar- Board Certified
Admiralty and Maritime Attorney

I was asked to answer some questions that have dogged waterfront property owners in Fort Lauderdale for years. This article will discuss several aspects of dock rentals and boat issues in Lauderdale Isles.

Is it legal to rent docks in Fort Lauderdale?

Most people will tell you it is illegal to rent docks behind residences. But the legal answer is not as clear cut. Whether dock rental is legal depends largely on the zoning designation and other city ordinances. Two are relevant for this discussion.

The city has a dock ordinance that specifically prohibits dock rental in areas zoned as RS-8 and RS-4.4. That ordinance can be found in the City's Code available at fortlauderdale.gov

Lauderdale Isles is zoned RS-6.85A, so the above dock ordinance does not specifically prohibit dock rental in Lauderdale Isles. The specific activities permitted in Zone RS-6.85A can be found in Section 47-39 of the City Code

The city takes the position that any use not expressly listed as a permitted use, is prohibited. Since dock rental or marina like activities is not on the permitted use list, it would be prohibited, and a fineable offense by the City.

What happens with the sale of a house if the dock's rented, and owner can't be contacted?

First, no one should buy a home without requiring addressing any boats at the dock before closing. This can be done by confirming whatever details the Seller is giving about the circumstances and having them back it up with an affidavit or warranty that is part of the deal. Also, financial allowance can be made for expenses required in removing the boat.

Assuming a situation where a Seller legitimately has an abandoned vessel, the first thing to do is determine whether the boat is "derelict." The Marine Patrol has the authority to remove derelict vessels from any waters in the state under Florida Statute 823.11.

A derelict vessel is defined as one that is in a wrecked, junked, or substantially dismantled condition upon any waters of this state. So, if the vessel is derelict, the first step is to contact Marine Patrol and mention statute 823.11.

If the boat is not derelict, or for some reason the Marine Patrol can't help, then the next step is to be sure that the owner of record cannot be located. Boats are typically U.S. documented or state registered. If the boat is foreign-flagged or registered in another state, there are also ways to determine ownership, but for purposes of this article only U.S. and Florida registration will be discussed.

U.S. documented vessels should have the name and hailing port listed on the vessel's transom. Ownership can also be searched by HIN number. A search at the Coast Guard's Port State Control portal can provide the documentation number based on vessel name or HIN Number. That site can be found here: <https://cgmix.uscg.mil/PSIX/PSIXSearch.aspx>

Once you have located the vessel's Official Number through PSIX, you can order an abstract from the National Vessel Documentation center here: <https://www.pay.gov/public/form/start/1175233/>

To obtain Florida registration information, a request to the Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles division, on the form that can be found here: <https://flhsmv.gov/pdf/forms/90510.pdf>,

provided certain criteria as to the reason for the request are met.

With the abstract and/or state registration, you can confirm 1) who the owner is, 2) whether there is a mortgage on the boat and 3) whether anyone else has recorded a claim of lien. These details are necessary to foreclose a maritime lien for providing dockage, in the event the owner can still not be contacted. The foreclosure of a maritime lien is a lawsuit that is filed in the federal court system as an admiralty matter. It is an expensive last resort to remove the vessel, but with the benefit of being able to bid the value of the dockage in a marshal's sale of the boat, and possibly obtain free and clear title, it may be worth it.

Some commentators have indicated that a contract for dockage may not be enforceable if it is illegal under local ordinances. However, the court may be inclined to find a maritime lien for the provision of "necessaries" to a vessel (which includes dockage) under a legal theory of "quantum meruit." This doctrine is used in cases where a contract may not be enforceable because of a technicality, but one party received value from the other under circumstances where it would be inequitable not to receive payment. Or the court may find Consequently, whether an original dock contract is legal under local ordinances may not prohibit recovery.

Can they be evicted?

Land-based eviction procedures are not applicable to boats. The owner can be sued for money owed in state court, but the only court with jurisdiction over the vessel are federal courts. To evict a boat, one would follow the procedures outlined above.

Who is responsible for damages caused by an abandoned vessel during a storm?

When a moving vessel strikes a stationary object, it is called an allision. There is a presumption in an allision, that the moving vessel is at fault, but the presumption can be rebutted if it is shown that the boat owner took all reasonable steps to secure his vessel. The damage caused by a vessel can also be remedied by a vessel arrest in the event the boat owner does not have insurance or the ability to pay for repairs.

Theresa Montalbano Bennett is a Florida Bar Board Certified Admiralty and Maritime Attorney with offices in Fort Lauderdale She can be reached at: 954-463-4007 or theboatlawyer.com



Dock Rental Gone Bad



Lauderdale Isles history: The infamous Renata sank behind a house on the Dolphin Canal in 2013. It cost the property owner (not the unknown boat owner) over \$17,000 in City fines.

Our LICIA Board Members reach out to help our Edgewood neighbors



Loading up at the Dollar Store



So many streets in Edgewood looked like this



The word went out on Nextdoor and the Isles insider



Lots of donated clothes to sort through

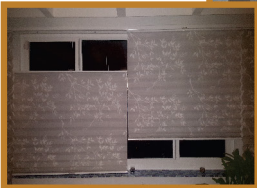


The LICIA team worked closely with our District 4 Commissioner Warren Sturman

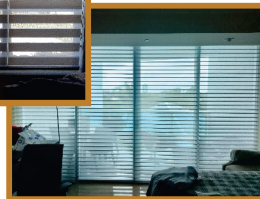


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You didn't attend the last couple of LICIA General Meetings????

Here's what you missed:

- **Seawalls:** Dr. Nancy Gassman, Assistant Director of Public Works, presented everything you need to know about the City's new seawall ordinance. Repairing or replacing your seawall is one of the most expensive projects you can ever undertake for your home. Dr. Gassman is the City's expert. She explained when you just need to do a repair instead of an entire seawall replacement. Methods to minimize seawall upgrade costs were discussed, as well as the ins and outs of permits for this work.
- **Mayor Dean Trantalis:** We had the honor of our City's Mayor presenting at our March meeting. He discussed the latest details about the City's plans for the New River Rail crossing, "tunnel or bridge," which is, of course, of great interest to all the boaters in the neighborhood. He also shared his vision and the City's interest in the old Yacht Club property on Whale Harbor Lane.
- **Code Enforcement:** Inspector Marco Aguilera explained in detail how the City enforces illegal dock rentals in Lauderdale Isles. The City does not lose dock rental cases at the Special Magistrate. He also discussed the latest developments with vacation rental enforcement.



March: Mayor Trantalis

**The next General Meeting is August 17th.
Don't miss it!**

The BAN THEM NOW Signs

These signs are available for free from LICIA. Send an email to laudisles@gmail.com and we'll drop one off for you. Let the owners of vacation rentals know this is your neighborhood, not theirs.



There's been an interesting development with the signs: when a home is listed for sale in Lauderdale Isles, the selling Real Estate Agent cannot deny the sale of the house to a buyer because it's going to be used as a vacation rental. But smart neighbors next to and across the street from a home for sale put these signs on their front lawns. What do you think prospective buyers looking to buy a vacation rental are going to do when they see these signs surrounding the home? Yup, they'll look elsewhere.

We spotted something interesting in a review written by guests who recently stayed in an AIRBNB in the Isles: "neighborhood with hostile signs about vacation rentals needing to be BANNED." Yup, they read those signs correctly.

THE BOATER'S CORNER

Your dock power pedestal

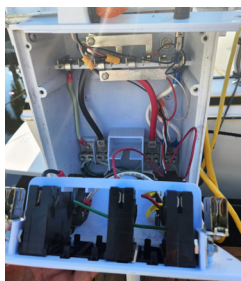
Many dock power pedestals were submerged in the April 12th flood. Most neighbors knew to turn off the power at their main circuit panel on the house. BUT - did you check your power pedestal afterward?

Circuit breakers, receptacles and GFCI's that were submerged cannot be trusted to continue to provide their safety protection, and should be replaced. And all connections within the pedestal need to be checked. If you are not well versed in electrical systems - especially boat grounds - this is a job for a licensed electrician.

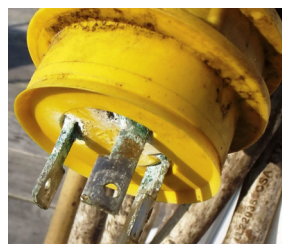
The other thing to check is your shore power plug if it was submerged too. Moisture within the plug is impossible to remove without disassembling the plug, and again, this is a job for an electrician if you are not skilled in such things. Sometimes, corroded connections within the plug take considerable time before they start to heat up and cause trouble.



Submerged dock power pedestal



Breakers, receptacles and GFCI's should be replaced



After time, imagine what the connections inside this plug look like

Ethanol-Free Boat Gas

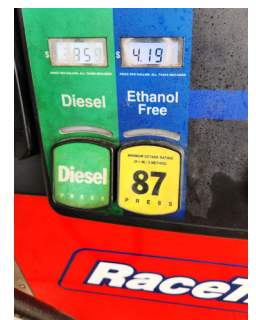
Boat owners are a frugal group. You especially know that when you hear them in West Marine, muttering four letter words under their breath as they look at the prices for marine equipment.

Of course, one of the biggest costs of boat ownership is fuel. Those marinas on the water charge \$5.75 - or more - per gallon for non-ethanol fuel, commonly known as "REC 90" because it's 90 octane and is sold to only be used in recreational equipment like boats. So many smart captains have several five gallon gas cans and head up the street to WaWa or Racetrac and save themselves \$1.50 per gallon or more, on ethanol-free fuel.

But there's more to the story with the non-ethanol gas at street stations. Many late-model outboards require a minimum octane rating of 89, such as some 2.8 liter Yamaha 4 cylinder motors. Look closely at this picture of the fuel pump at Racetrac on SR 84. The octane rating is only 87. The octane rating at the WaWa stations nearby is 89, for around the same price.

Check your outboard's owner manual for the minimum required octane for your motor and make sure you're using the correct fuel. Running your boat hard with gas that's lower octane than your manufacturer's minimum is asking for trouble down the road . . . or rather, down the river.

Make sure you're using the proper octane ethanol fuel in your outboard. Racetrac 87 is not suitable for some modern motors. In others, it's fine.





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Miscellany

May General Meeting Cancelled

As we had to change our General Meeting dates in order to accommodate Mayor Dean Trantalis in March instead of February, the Board decided to cancel the May General Meeting. That March meeting with the Mayor was great, by the way. Our next General Meeting will be August 17th.

Vacation Rentals

As we continue to wade through the vacation rental issue, we recommend that if you need to complain about a vacation rental issue on Mon, Tues, or Wed nights, call directly to FLPD instead of the Fort Lauderdale 24 Customer Service number. Code inspectors are not on duty those nights, and Customer Service frequently overlooks this. As a result, the call can languish for hours in their system, with no one dispatched. Whenever you call FLPD for a vacation rental complaint: insist that the call taker puts in the record that it's for a vacation rental. And get the case number! If no one arrives in 30-45 minutes, call back and inquire. Our Police District Commander says ALL calls for vacation rentals must be responded to by an officer. On all other evenings, call Customer Service, as inspectors then are on duty from 5:30 pm until 3:00 am. Don't forget to get the Q-Alert number from Customer Service. Be it FLPD or Code, if they get the call on a timely basis, they do respond and cite the vacation rental for violations. Most of the time.

Flood Insurance

What's our flood zone? *"The easiest thing to remember is you don't necessarily need to look at a flood map, just look at your address. If your address says 'Florida' on it, you need flood insurance,"* said John Mills, spokesperson for FEMA.

Nextdoor

The most incredible statement on Nextdoor in all those posts about flooding, insurance, FEMA, etc., was *"I don't have flood insurance, because I never needed it before."*

LIWMD UPDATE

Sunken Boats

It was surprising with the tremendous amount of rain that fell on April 12th, that we didn't have a lot of sunken boats. Luckily, we had just two— one on the Albacore canal and one on the Turtle Canal. Both were quickly refloated, with minimal fuel spills. We had reports of a couple of boats on boat lifts that filled with water faster than the water could drain out the scuppers, with the increased weight causing damage to the lifts.

LIWMD Boundary Line Change

As we have discussed at the past several LICIA General Meetings, the boundary line change for LIWMD was finally approved by the City Commission in February, so that it is now "coterminous" with the City boundary line, which is down the center of the river. This required a lot of legal work by City Attorney D'wayne Spence over the past two years. The LIWMD charter was also modified to be compliant with state and county requirements. Lots of paperwork, now finally finished.

Fertilizer Ban

June 1 starts the annual summer fertilizer ban in the City of Fort Lauderdale. The purpose of the ban is to prevent fertilizer runoff into the warm water in the canals in summer, which contributes to algal blooms. We've been lucky and haven't had any algae for several years now, and the fertilizer ban is one of the reasons. You are not allowed to apply fertilizer containing nitrogen and/or phosphorus during the ban which runs until September 1. It's a good idea to remind your lawn service to not blow lawn debris into the water, as that debris contributes to algal blooms as well.

Check your bilge pump

With the start of the rainy season in May, it's a good time to check your pump and batteries to play it safe.



LAUDERDALE ISLES
WATER MANAGEMENT
DISTRICT
www.liwmd.org

Geoff Rames, Chairman

THE REFRIGERATOR LIST

Updated May 2023

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Webmaster: Dawn Hanna: mmex99@yahoo.com

LICIA EMAIL: laudisles@gmail.com

HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Fort Lauderdale Police Non-Emergency	954-764-HELP
Fort Lauderdale Customer Svc. (24 hrs) <i>including Water/Sewer/Trash/Canal Cleaning</i>	954-828-8000
Airport Noise Complaints *	954-359-2366
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Crimestoppers	954-493-TIPS
Mosquito Control (Broward County)	954-765-4062
FPL Power Outages	800-4OUTAGE

*** File Airport Noise Complaints easily with the smart phone app found at:**
<https://www.broward.org/Airport/Business/NoiseInformation/>

PICKUP SCHEDULE for LAUDERDALE ISLES

Weekly Trash Pickup (black cart):	Tuesday & Friday
Weekly Recycling Pickup (blue cart):	Tuesday
Weekly Yard Waste Pickup (green cart):	Friday
Monthly Bulk Trash Pickup:	First Wednesday

For more info: www.fortlauderdale.gov/pickup

WATERWAY ISSUES - Who to call:

- **Alligators (& Crocodiles) Problems**
FWC Nuisance Alligators: 1-866-FWC-GATOR
- **Pollution/ Oil Spills** within the City of Fort Lauderdale:
7:30 –5:00 Ft. Laud. Customer Service:954-828-8000
Evenings/Weekends: FLPD 954-764-HELP
- **Pollution Complaints** outside the City of Ft. Lauderdale:
County Environmental 24 hrs: 954-519-1499
- **Large Debris/Dead Animals in the water:**
Ft. Laud. Customer Service 954-828-8000
- **Injured Manatees**
FWC: 1-888-404-FWCC
- **Sinking or Sunk Boats**
24 Hour Customer Service 954-828-8000
- **Unightly or Derelict Boats/ Boats too wide for canal:**
Ft. Laud. Code Enforcement: 954-828-5207
- **Lawn Service Firms disposing debris in canal:**
FLPD 954-764-HELP
- **Illegal Dock Construction/Pilings/Dredging**
Code Enforcement: 954-828-5207



Lately, it seems like a lot of boaters in Lauderdale Isles are not aware of the speed limit on our canals. Especially the ones coming back late at night, maybe from a watering hole downtown or on the Intracoastal.

From the City of Fort Lauderdale Code:

Sec. 8-166(a)(4) The *Idle Speed* No Wake limit shall apply on any waterway not otherwise regulated with a *speed* or *wake* limit by the city ...

Sec. 8-1: The term "*Idle Speed* No Wake" means that a vessel shall not proceed at a *speed* greater than the minimum *speed* necessary to maintain steerageway.

**The next LICIA General Meeting is August 17th.
Put it on your calendar**

MEMBER DUES for Nov. 2022 – Oct. 2023: BE A MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING

Dues are only \$20 per year. Mail to: LICIA, PO Box 121255, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312

Please return this portion with your check

Name: _____
Address: _____
Email: _____