

PMBC Boater Resource Guide 2020



The Purpose of This Guide

Like all large and storied bodies of water, the Hudson River is home or occasional destination to boaters of all backgrounds and levels of experience. We hope the information is useful for new PMBC boaters as well as veterans.

While contents below are vetted by at least one or two members, PMBC recommends checking your own sources.

Finally, please send notes, corrections, and suggestions to toddorman@gmail.com and Matthew_Yox@discovery.com any time.

We will likely ask members for updates and suggestions near the end of each season.

Special thanks to former Commodore Mitch Weitzner for helping to facilitate the boater's survey, and for helping to gather info here.

Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic

This guide was written in late 2019, after a PMBC survey of members and long before the pandemic changed every area of life, including boating. While many marinas, fuel docks, launch ramps, and river-side restaurants are still in some form of operation, calling ahead is obviously now more important than ever.

Club Reciprocity

As a member of the Hudson River Yacht and Boat Club Association (of [HRYBCA](#)) PMBC members gain club reciprocity up and down the Hudson. The association describes itself as: "Advocates for over 30 local boat and yacht clubs from Raritan Bay, NJ to Poughkeepsie, NY."

Club reciprocity means that PMBC boaters are welcome to tie up at most clubs up and down the Hudson if you call ahead and space is available.

PMBC extends this courtesy as well, though obviously space is limited. Details for each club can be found [here](#).

HRYBCA also holds monthly meetings at different venues that cover various matters of interest to local boaters, and all are welcome to attend. Perhaps this summer they will be offered via Zoom?

If you are approached by a member from a different club about docking at PMBC, you should direct them to the Commodore, Matt Yox.

Safety & Local Navigation

As most are now aware per the Commodore's emails this past summer, as well as local and national news, a new safety law that applies to motorized watercraft, called Brianna's law, took effect in New York as of January of 2020. The law will be phased in over 5 years; by 2025 all NYS operators of motorized craft will need to complete safety courses. In-person and online options are available. No charge for operators from 10 (yes, that is the minimum age to operate a motorized watercraft in NYS—!) to 17.

A good summary of the law and available courses can be found [here](#).

And finally: [Boat New York: Online course](#).

Important Radio Channels

- Channel 6: Intership safety
- Channel 9: Communications between vessels (commercial & recreational) & ship to coast
- Channel 13: Strictly navigational for commercial, military, and recreational vessels at bridges, locks, and harbors.
- Channel 16.: Distress and safety calls to US Coast Guard and others, and to initiate calls to other vessels; often called the hailing channels. Some regions use other channels as the hailing channel. For example, the Northeast uses Channel 9. When hailing, contact the other vessel, quickly agree to another channel, and then switch to that channel to continue conversation.
- Channels 24-28: Public telephone calls (to marine operator)
- Channels 68, 69, and 71: Recreational vessel radio channels and ship-to-coast
- Channel 7p: Digital selective calling "alert channel"

Gov. Cuomo Bridge/Tappan Zee Navigation rules

Although most of the bridge work is done, navigation rules around and under the bridge are still strictly monitored, so checking routes every so often is a good idea. [This page](#) includes a live map of where service vessels are at present (geo-located, refreshes every 4 minutes)

Seatow:

Locally based in Haverstraw, maintains a consistent presence on the Hudson. A single tow pays for a year's membership. Seatow is operating during the pandemic.

Sail Resources

Marinas

Many PMBC sailors utilize Westerly or Pennybridge for basic needs, including winterizing (see below).

[Samalot Marine](#)

Samalot is further north (Haverstraw Marina, 602 Beach Road, West Haverstraw. Samalot is a full-service sailboat marina, run by and for sailors. Services include sail repair, rigging, engine work, and navigation and electronics. The proprietors, George and Barbara, know sailboats inside and out and bring decades of experience on many sizes and types of sailing vessel. Their shop is open year-round.

Sail or Canvas repair:

[Guaman Canvas](#) 914-432-7329 (Ossining)

[Doyle's Sail](#), City Island—a full-service sail loft.

Sailing academies/lessons/programs:

[SEAS Westchester](#)

Beginners lessons on Sunfish off Kingsland Point Park

[Croton Sailing School](#)

Beginners to intermediate and advanced sailing,

[Shattemuc Jr. Sailing Academy](#)

Ages 9-16, beginner sailing skills to competitive racing

[Nyack Boat Club: Junior Sailing Program](#)

Summer sessions for sailors 8-16

Sailboat racing on the Hudson

[Hudson River Yacht Racing Association](#)

“The nationally sanctioned governing body for all sailboat racing on the Hudson River.”
That’s right.

Recommended sailing Day trips:

Nyack
Piermont
Sing Sing/Croton Pt.
The Boat House restaurant in Ossining
Hook Mountain park
Irvington

Recommended sailing Overnights

Croton Point, North side;
Cold Spring opposite West Point North End
Viking Boatyard at Buchaan or any of the clubs at that end of the bay
Sandy Hook (Atlantic Highlands)

Maintenance, Upkeep, Repair

Note: most of the below applies to both sail and power boating.

Pennybridge Marine

21 Grassy Point Rd, Stony Point, NY 10980

[\(845\) 786-5100](tel:8457865100)

www.pennybridgemarina.com

Ginny, the proprietor of Pennybridge, has taken care of boaters from PMBC for many years. She runs a full-service marina, with technicians/mechanics certified by multiple boat and engine makers.

Westerly Marine

7 Westerly Road, Ossining, NY

914 941 2203

westerlymarina@westerlymarina.com

joe@westerlymarina.com

westerlymarina.com

Joe runs Westerly Marine, and he and his son Joey are another mainstay of care for many boaters at PMBC. They will repair just about any engine, but are certified by Mercury and Force outboard, and for Inboard-Outboard by Mercury, Volvo, and OMC.

Mobile Marine Mechanics

[Action Marine](#)

Guy Kiefer's Action Marine is based in Nyack (listed address, 205 Rte 9W, Congers, NY). Guy will come straight to the beach club dock by boat or truck to do repairs. Several PMBC boaters have relied on Guy with good results. Boaters pay for his travel time in addition to parts and labor.

Boaters can minimize those costs by meeting Guy at the Nyack public dock, just across the river, where he'll do repairs on site. Boaters at PMBC have found him responsive and very professional.

Call Guy at (845) 721-2146

[George's Mobile Marine](#)

44 Kings Ferry Rd
Montrose, New York
914-879-0630

Aside from Guy, mobile marine mechanics appear to live complicated lives. While there are a few in evidence online and via Craigslist, they come and go, as one boater put it. Another option is George, of George's Mobile Marine, who has seemed to stick around for a while.

Supplies:

Most boaters at PMBC utilize online resources for basic supplies, including Amazon, West Marine, Boat US, and Bass Pro.

Westerly and Pennybridge also carry basic staples, from dock lines to tubes and coolers.

For a wider selection, including a more robust selection of in-stock navigation and electronics, try [West Marine](#). The closest store is in Stamford, CT.

Lettering/Port of hail:

[Sign Extreme, Sleepy Hollow](#)
914-693-3755
www.signextreme.com

285 North Broadway, Sleepy Hollow, NY

Tyler and the Sign Extreme crew make and install many of the signs for businesses (and for some of the town departments) throughout Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow. If you need a boat name installed (or removed or refreshed), they will design, create, and install it for you according to your specs and sizing. They employ a graphic designer as part of their team.

Boat must be on the hard for installation. Design, production, and installation of name and port of hail runs around \$125.

Tyler's team can also refresh or replace pinstriping, engine decals, etc.

Tulleson Boatworks,
900 Valley Rd, Clifton, NJ
(201) 245-9837

Tulleson is another recommended paint/name service nearby.

Launch Ramps

[Washington Irving Boat Club](#)

Tarrytown (\$25 fee)

Call the Fleet Captain, Seth first: 914-332-1472. If Seth isn't around you can pay the bartender.

[Ossining Boat Ramp](#)

Ossining

Ossining Recreation: \$35 fee, call the office, 914-941-3189

Hauling

[Pete](#): 203-913-1848

A full-time hauler who works all over the east coast, Pete is a friendly, reliable guy who knows what he's doing. His rig won't fit into PMBC though, so you'll have to use another local ramp. (See *launch ramps*, above).

New Boat Purchase

Most recommend old favorites listed here throughout: Westerly, Pennybridge, etc. Others rely on brand dealers, Boat Trader, or Craigslist.

There's also [Rodgers Yachts](#), in Mystic, CT, a dealer with gorgeous vessels currently on offer, some that rival local housing prices. [\(860\) 536-7776](#)

Day to Day: Gas, Dock & Dine, Trips/Cruises

Gas Docks:

Call ahead to verify the docks are open.

[Westerly Marina – Ossining](#)

914-941-2203

<https://goo.gl/maps/uyQQvWTwY4S2>

[Haverstraw Marina](#)

845-429-2001

<https://goo.gl/maps/bvcbbSDr5cM2>

[Piermont](#)

845-359-5522

<https://goo.gl/maps/yFYFywmGW772>

[Alpine Boat Basin \(NJ\)](#)

201-985-6580

<https://goo.gl/maps/jpYeK9HkBY32>

[Englewood Boat Basin \(NJ\)](#)

201-568-1328

<https://goo.gl/maps/nKZAWKYDfXt>

[Stony Point \(next to Penny Bridge Marina\)](#)

800-477-4645

<https://goo.gl/maps/nKZAWKYDfXt>

[Tarrytown Boat Club \(closest to PMBC\)](#) *Note: closed until further notice*

(914) 631-1300

<https://goo.gl/maps/w2ReXtBdosH2>

Dock & Dine

Tarrytown

Barley On The Hudson

914-418-5724

<https://goo.gl/maps/Fk4MPMJi37t>

Dobbs Ferry

Half Moon

914-693-4130

Hudson Social

(914) 478-3634

Dobbs Ferry Public Dock

<https://goo.gl/maps/ESqhSSYswVU2>

Hoboken

Pier 13 Hoboken

(201) 798-8065

<https://goo.gl/maps/d8q2DgB6iQk>

Dock and Dine: \$25 per hour with a two (2) hour minimum

Dock at: <http://shipyardmarina.com/marina-slip-rental/>

NYC

West 79th Street Boat Basin

212-496-2105

<https://goo.gl/maps/nv5wmbMaDBU2>

MarineMax at Chelsea Piers (Pier 59)

212-336-7873 ext.7

<https://goo.gl/maps/jHS2qTVNLa82>

IGY NorthCove (next to WTC)

212-417-2422

<https://goo.gl/maps/HcdfXjVo5PB2>

Peekskill

River Outpost Brewing Company
[\(914\) 788-4555](tel:9147884555)

Piermont

Pier 701
845-848-2550
<https://goo.gl/maps/2VYFcbXLQaC2>

Cornetta's Restaurant & Marina
845-359-9852
<https://goo.gl/maps/w8Z58bxDxE32>

Ossining

The Boathouse
914-923-6466
<https://goo.gl/maps/kgDENQ5yzdu>

3 Westerly
[\(914\) 762-1333](tel:9147621333)

Haverstraw

Hudson Water Club
845-271-4046
<https://goo.gl/maps/LJbKJ95jUGx>

Day trips:

PMBC sailors and power boaters alike take many of the same trips, as do many other Hudson Boaters in our area—to points north: the Cove at Croton Point, Cold Spring, the Bear Mountain Bridge or anchorage, the Haverstraw Hudson Water Club, and West Point; and to points south: the Statue of Liberty and round and about lower Manhattan.

Trips near the city can be crossed with wakes and commercial traffic, especially on and around weekends and most of all on holidays.

One boater recommends a favorite power boat trip down the Hudson to the Harlem River, south on the Harlem to the East River, South on the East River around lower

Manhattan, and back north to PMBC—about a 4-hour journey depending on cruising speed.

Northern Overnight (power)

Detailed by boaters Tex and Wendy:

Friday morning:

- Left at 11:00, Stopped in Newburgh for Lunch - \$20 docking fee but you are given a 10% discount voucher for several restaurants on the shore all with easy walking distance.
- Docked overnight at the Hudson Powerboat Association. Called a day in advance to make sure they had room. They charged 1.50 per foot but also had gas.
- From the dock – walked about .5 miles into town. Plenty of BNB, and restaurants on the main drag – Warren Street – to choose from.

Saturday:

- Left after 12:00
- There are several other places to fuel up along the way with clearly market signs but we choose to run straight to Haverstraw for fuel and food.
- Total boat time upriver was 4 hours at an average cruise speed of 22 mph.
- Total boat time downriver was 3.5 hours at an average cruise speed of 27 mph
- Distance is 81 miles each way

Seasonal Events

[The Clearwater Festival](#) (June): from the organization website:

“The Clearwater Festival is a music and environmental summer festival and America’s oldest and largest annual festival of its kind.”

4th of July fireworks (Tarrytown, and Croton)

Fall leaves at the Bear Mountain Bridge

Favorite landmarks, and sites to show visitors/guests:

- Tappan Zee/Cuomo Bridge
- Bear Mountain Bridge
- Hook Mountain
- Storm King
- Indian Point
- Croton Point

- NYC Harbor
- West Point
- Rye Playland,
- Ospreys in 14-day marker
- Statue of Liberty

Tubing/tow sports

Many members bring kids out to tube on the Hudson. Because of increased debris on the river earlier in the season, some boaters recommend holding off until July to begin this activity. As with any watersports area that is also used for commercial traffic, always make a sweep of your chosen area to check for floating logs, etc.

Keeping out of the commercial shipping lane (center of the river) while tubing or skiing is strongly recommended by members.

Although New York is [not among the states](#) requiring a [skier-down flag](#), use of one will alert other boaters that you have people in the water.

Below are the basics of watertow safety from [Discover Boating](#).

- Rider should wear a Coast Guard-approved type III life-jacket
- Always have a designated spotter aboard, whose sole task is to monitor the tuber/skier and monitor their needs to the driver
- The spotter and rider should know basic watersports hand signals. These include a thumbs up or down to indicate a desire to go faster or slower, a pat atop the head to request a return to the dock, and both hands overhead with fingertips touching to signal the rider is OK following a fall

Drivers:

As the driver, the safety of passengers and the skier or rider is your responsibility.

- Underway, maintain a safe distance from the shoreline, other boats sharing the water, and any obstacles
- Focus on a safe path and the water ahead, letting the spotter keep track of the action behind
- When returning to a downed rider, always keep that person on the driver's side to keep sight of their position relative to the boat
- Always shut the engine off before letting a rider gear up on the swim platform, slip into the water, or re-board. Neutral is not safe
- Drivers should be aware of the average speeds used in each activity
- Water skiers typically prefer between 25 to 36 MPH
- Wakeboarders 18 to 22 MPH
- Never drive for watersports, or participate in them, when under the influence of alcohol

Other Tubing Specific Guidelines from [Discover Boating](#)

- **Always follow the manufacturer's recommendations** regarding the number of passengers and/or weight capacities. Overloading an inflatable will reduce its performance, but more importantly, it increases the risk of injury. Any towing speed limits should always be followed so that the inflatable behaves as intended
- **Proper inflation is essential**, not only to make sure the inflatable rides properly on the water but also to keep passengers safe. Inflatables typically feature an inner air bladder wrapped in a durable nylon cover. A properly inflated tube will behave as one unit, while an under-inflated tube will leave gaps between the cover and bladder that could potentially entangle a rider(s). Inflatables should also always be used with dedicated towlines designed to handle their increased load.
- **Take extra care when driving.** Old-school “whips” are fun, but be aware that inflatables can reach surprisingly high speeds when slingshotted into a sharp turn. Likewise, watch those wakes, of both your boat as well as others on the water. Flinging riders through a turn or sending them flying off the rollers may seem fun, but if not done within reason can result in injury

Still more information on tubing from Discover Boating is [here](#).

Fishing

Striped bass (“stripers”) make a spawning run up the river in Spring. The official season, north of the George Washington Bridge, is from April 1-November 30, but the bass begin running in early March, and thin out around the end of May/beginning of June. This is because of their preference for cooler waters, around 55-68 degrees. A longer or colder winter often means a later season.

Many agree with the logic that the later the season, the further north the best fishing is. There is a smaller run of stripers up the river again in fall.

Size limits and possession limits for stripers, both north and south of the George Washington Bridge, as well as other limits for the area, can be found [here](#).

For fishing trips later in the summer, many try for bluefish. Some suggest that South of the Cuomo/TZ is best, near Riverdale and environs.

Fishing Permits

You don't need a permit to fish the Hudson, but you do need to [register](#) in the Marine Registry, which is free. Registration is valid for one year.

Bait:

Live blood worms are the recommended bait for striped bass. Fresh bunker is sometimes recommended.

Herring is the recommended bait for bluefish.

Lures:

The [Sebile Magic Swimmer](#) is a suggestion for bass, and a diamond jig for bluefish.

However, local wisdom is that bait works better in the Hudson than lures, due to low visibility in the water (and the aroma of the chunk bait).

Tackle supply:

Croton Bait and Tackle (65 N. Riverside Ave, Croton-on-Hudson) is your local go-to, a charming, tiny little shop that, from the sidewalk, looks like someone just hung a sign up over their basement apartment. Chunk bait is sold in paper lunch bags--usually frozen, so keep this in mind if you're thinking to stop by on your way to fish.

If you're nice to whoever is hanging around the docks, you may be able to tie up at the Croton Yacht Club for a half-hour without any trouble while you run over the tracks.

[Dick's Sporting Goods](#), in White Plains, also has all things fishing, minus the chunk bait and local color.

Favorite apps

Windy
Tide Near Me
tides.mobilegeographics.com
Wind Alert
Sail Flow
7th Gear Tide

Thank you and happy boating!