

*Port of Brownsville*  
*Newsletter May 2018*



**Here is a list of construction projects we have coming up for this summer:**

- A. Pressure washing. Lots of it.
  - B. We are going to work on the upper park this year.
  - C. The Boat ramp and staging area is going to be replaced this summer in August.
  - D. Boat demo
  - E. Piling repair
1. This part might get old because I am going to repeat it until we get our 30 participants. June 3 is the official date. The port is doing its Bi-Annual **CPR and First Aid Training**. This is hosted by the Port and will be open to the first 30 people to sign up. So if anyone is interested in attending please come up to the office and get on the list.
  2. If you have problems with your dock pedestal, or anything else you see, please report it. The more eyes looking, helps find things that may or may not have been missed. If no one takes the time to talk to the staff, we may not know there is a problem. If the Port is not aware of a problem, we cannot fix it.
  3. Well it is official. We will be getting our Army Corp. Permit in about a week. That means we will be doing Construction on the new Boat launch and the Staging area this August. So unfortunately the boat ramp will be closed about 2 weeks before and after August. We will try and do our best to have as little impact on you as possible but unfortunately you will be unconvinced to some extent. Once we choose our contractor in the next few weeks we will know a lot more details that I can pass on to you. Let me thank you in advance for your patience and understanding during construction. If you have any questions please feel free to come talk to me. Thank you.
  4. We haven't talked about fire extinguishers, ventilation systems and backfire flame arrestors in a long time. I think we should rectify that situation.

All vessels with a motor are required to have a Type B fire extinguisher(s) on board if one or more of the following conditions exist:

► Inboard Engine ► Vessel length of 26 feet or longer ► Closed compartments where portable fuel tanks may be stored ► Double-bottoms not sealed to the hull or which are not completely filled with floatation material ► Closed living spaces ► Closed storage compartments in which flammable or combustible materials may be stored ► Permanently installed fuel tanks.

Approved types of fire extinguishers are identified by the following marking on the label:

"Marine Type USCG Approved" --- followed by the size and type symbols (B-I or B-II) and the approval number.

Classification Type & Size Pounds	Fire Extinguisher Requirements		
	Foam Minimum Gallons	Carbon Dioxide Minimum Pounds	Dry Chemical Minimum
B-I	1¼	4	2
B-II	2½	15	10
Length Class	Without Fixed System	With Fixed System*	
Less Than 26 ft.	one B-I	None	
26 ft to less than 40 ft	two B-I or one B-II	one B-I	
40 ft to less than 65 ft	Three B-I or one B-II and one B-I	one B-II	
<i>* refers to a permanently installed fire extinguisher system</i>			

Extinguishers should be placed in an accessible area ---- not near the engine or in a compartment, but where they can be reached immediately. Be sure you know how to operate them and check all extinguishers regularly to make sure they are fully charged.

### Ventilation Systems

The purpose of ventilation systems is to remove flammable gasses, greatly reducing the chance of a life threatening explosion. All gasoline powered motor boats, constructed in a way that would entrap fumes, must have at least two ventilation ducts fitted with cowls to remove the fumes. At least one exhaust duct must extend from the open atmosphere into the lower bilge. At least one intake duct must extend midway to the bilge, or at least below the carburetor air intake level.

### Backfire Flame Arrestors

Backfire flame arrestors are designed to prevent the ignition of gasoline vapors in case the engine backfires. All gasoline powered motorboats, except outboards, must have a backfire flame arrestor on each carburetor that is U. S. Coast Guard approved or stamped in compliance with SAE J-1928 or UL 1111 standards.

5. We are going to have the first BAD XIII meeting May 10 2018. There is still lots of room for anyone interested in being in on the planning committee for BAD.
6. Commissioners' Meeting: The regularly scheduled meeting **has been changed** and is **May 16** and will be held at **6:00 P.M. in the Yacht Club New Business**: None **Old Business**: Boat Launch and Boat compliance list.