



For Immediate Release

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One new marina certified and one re-certified as Michigan Clean Marinas

Livonia, Mich., June 15, 2016 – The Michigan Clean Marina Program is pleased to announce one Michigan marina has been named a Certified Clean Marina: Suttons Bay Marina in Suttons Bay, MI. They have been certified for a three-year term through 2019. Additionally, Northwest Marine Yacht Basin Association in Charlevoix, MI, has been re-certified as a Michigan Clean Marina for another five-year-term through 2021. Forty-nine Michigan marinas have obtained and are maintaining this prestigious certification.

The Clean Marina Program was initiated to preserve and protect, through voluntary efforts, Michigan's greatest resource, the Great Lakes and its connecting waterways. The certification process begins with a pledge to participate in the program, followed by an online course with an overview of the designation process and a review of best management practices. The facilities then conduct self-evaluations of their environmental practices to determine their strengths and weaknesses. After implementing improvements and reaching a level of competencies, the marina requests a visitation by a CMP consultant to evaluate the facility's environmental stewardship. When the facility reaches established goals, they receive their designation.

"We welcome Suttons Bay Marina to the Clean Marina Program, and we commend Northwest Marine Yacht Basin Association for being re-certified as Certified Clean Marinas and for their continuation of following best practices," said Nicki Polan, executive director of the Michigan Boating Industries Association. "More boaters are becoming aware of the program and are searching out these facilities as places they want to patronize." The Clean Marina designation is applicable for a three-year period, at which time the facility must be re-designated.

MBIA encourages all marinas to seek out this certification. "It is not difficult, and there are both financial and environmental gains that come with this effort," said Polan.

The Michigan Clean Marina Program is a joint program between the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Michigan Sea Grant and Michigan Boating Industries Association. For more details on the program and to see which facilities are designated Michigan Clean Marinas, go to: <http://miseagrant.umich.edu/cmp/>. For more information on the Clean Marina Program and the Michigan Boating Industries Association, visit www.mbia.org.

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