

The Caribbean Marina – Mooring Policy

The Caribbean Marina, located on the South side of Lake Minnetonka's Echo Bay, is exposed to open water, and substantial wave action is always a possibility. A primary concern of the Caribbean is the well-being of customer watercraft. Every reasonable effort is made to assure that your watercraft, neighboring watercraft and marina facilities are adequately protected.

The marina management and staff regularly inspect slips to make sure adequate mooring lines and shock devices are both present and properly installed. When necessary, and where possible, marina staff will make adjustments or corrections. On occasion, management may find it necessary to bring the matter to the attention of the watercraft's owner.

The following helps are provided to assist the customer with the mooring process.

1. Mooring line selection is a more important consideration than many boaters realize. Line size should be based on watercraft size (length) and in no case should the line be less than 3/8 inch in diameter. Lines with factory-made loops are recommended as they greatly simplify the mooring process.

All lines should be secured to dock posts using appropriate knots. Mooring lines should not lie on the dock, and absolutely must not cross over the top of the dock.

The West Marine Advisor® recommends 1/8" of line diameter for every 9' of boat length. Larger lines will wear longer but stretch less. They also provide a table of recommended dock line sizes that is included here.

Boat Length	Up to 27'	28' - 31'	32' - 36'	37' - 45'	46' - 54'	55' - 63'	64' - 72'
Dock Line Dia.	3/8"	7/16"	1/2"	5/8"	3/4"	7/8"	1"

Lines must be suitable for outdoor use so must be mildew, sunlight and ozone resistant.

2. Snubbers are a critical part of the mooring system, particularly at the Caribbean Marina. They are the "shock absorber" of the mooring system. Without snubbers the wave action can result in damage to lines, boats and/or docks.

Factory-made mooring snubbers are recommended for larger boats (over 23' in length). These snubbers can be purchased at stores like West Marine or online. Choose the size that is best suited for the particular boat.

Oversized snubbers (as with oversized mooring lines) are not only not helpful but can be detrimental. These snubbers should be installed and used in accordance with the manufacturer's directions.

Rubber tie-down straps with steel hooks are suitable for use as mooring snubbers for smaller boats (typically those less than 24 feet in length). These straps are available at hardware and other stores and are relatively inexpensive. They should be of durable construction as well as sunlight and ozone resistant.



Recommendations for installation and use of rubber tie-down straps as snubbers can be found on page 2.

Copies of this document are available at the Caribbean Marina office.

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3. Dock bumpers and/or boat fenders are always a good idea. Use of bumpers and fenders are at the discretion of the customer.

Permanent attachment of bumpers and fenders to docks is subject to approval by the Caribbean Marina management.

Rubber tie-down straps (often used with tarps) can be used as dock line snubbers and may be purchased at almost any hardware store for a few dollars each. They should be durable as well as sunlight and ozone resistant (suitable for long-term outdoor use).



The recommended strap length for the snubber is 12 to 14 inches. Shorter straps have less flexibility and longer straps take up too much space. In no case should the strap selected be less than 9 inches or more than 18 inches in length.

The hooks furnished with the strap are open when purchased. The outside hook loops should be closed completely with a pliers. The inside hook loops can also be closed if desired.

Staff note: The following method is the proper way to install the rubbers with the hooks on the end. Other methods, such as a loop in the line, are no longer considered acceptable. Experience has shown that the straps will likely break multiple times in a season and are in continual need of replacement.

Wrap (coil) the line around the strap like a spring. There should be approximately 6 wraps for each 12 inches of rubber strap. Knots may be tied at the hooks if desired.



Marina staff is always ready to assist customers to ensure correct mooring of their boat.

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