

Harbor Talk

A publication of Norwalk Cove Marina and Rex Marine Center

Spring 2010

Two Great Marine Service Centers *By Bill Gardella Jr.*

Did you know that Rex Marine Center and Norwalk Cove Marina are sister organizations? They are, and they've been working together for decades to bring regional boaters – recreational and commercial – the most advanced service and parts facilities to be found anywhere in New England.

Both organizations continue to focus on customer satisfaction and to grow our competencies and facilities. Rex's new store at Cove is an example; so too is the addition to the technical staffs at both the Rex and Cove service centers.

Rob Gardella, a long time marine professional, has been named Norwalk Cove Service Director to enhance one-on-one customer contact there. Carl Ryan, Erin Finch and the rest of the Cove crew remain ready to meet service needs for owners of the smallest runabouts to large, steel-hull commercial and government workboats. (Best wishes to Patty Martino who has moved to Florida after 15 great years of service to Cove customers)

Over the winter months the Norwalk Cove Center earned its designation as a Mercruiser dealer and warranty center. The Cove parts department has added a full line of Mercruiser parts to its inventory of diesel parts for most marine engines. Cove Service is an authorized dealer for Caterpillar and Detroit Diesel marine engines.

Meanwhile, the Rex Service Center on Water Street is growing too, increasing both parts stocks and service capabilities. The Rex Center is a factory authorized dealer for Mercruiser, Mercury, Crusader, Yamaha motors and engines and Zodiac inflatables.

As you explore the Spring *Harbor Talk*, be sure to take note of our June 6 Customer Appreciation Party; the new Rex Boating Club Cruiser program; training opportunities for you and your crew; store specials at both Rex Stores; a \$100-refer-a-friend program; and, news of our personnel and facilities.

Since 1936 the Rex Marine Center has thrived because we have listened to our customers. I depend on you to tell us how we're doing, and how we can do it better. Of course, I am always available to talk with you directly – just give me



a call at 203-866-5555, or drop me an email at wgardellajr@rexmarine.com.

Two or three times a year we distribute Satisfaction Surveys to our customers via email. I hope you will help me this year by taking time to complete the surveys when they arrive. We enjoy hearing from you when we've done well, but it is absolutely critical that you let us know when we can do better for you.

Mark your calendar! The Rex Marine Center Customer Appreciation "Docktail" Party is scheduled for June 6 from 2 pm to 6 pm. The

annual gathering is co-sponsored by Rex Marine Center, MarineMax and the Rex Boating Club. All customers and friends are invited to enjoy barbecue fare at water's edge at the 144 Water Street facility. You can help us prepare by emailing ermine@rexmarine.com and letting us know how many in your group may attend. See you there!

As always, all of us at the Rex Marine Center, Norwalk Cove Marina, and Rex Boating Club look forward to helping you and your family enjoy a safe, fun boating season.

Bill Gardella, Jr.
General Manager
Rex Marine Center, Inc.

Contact Us:

Rex Boat Sales:
Bill Deacy
203-866-5555
yachtbroke@aol.com

Rex Service Dept:
John Hibbard, Mgr.
203-831-5234
service@rexmarine.com

Rex Storage & Dockage:
Bill Gardella Jr., Mgr
203-866-5555 ext 23
wgardellajr@rexmarine.com

Rex Ships Stores:
Mike Maver, Mgr.
203-831-5236
store@rexmarine.com

**Rex Store and Fuel Dock
At Norwalk Cove Marina**
Scott Martin, Mgr.
203-604-1295
Store2@rexmarine.com

Rex Parts:
Mike Standeiner, Mgr
203-831-5238
parts@rexmarine.com

Rex Accounting:
Susan Brown
203-866-0383
sbrown@rexmarine.com

Rex Boating Club
Bill Gardella Jr.,
203-866-5555 ext. 23
wgardellajr@rexboatingclub.com

Cove Service & Parts Center:
Rob Gardella, Director
service@norwalkcove.com
203-838-3681

Cove Accounting:
Diane Jewell
203-857-4259
djewell@norwalkcove.com

Cove Storage & Dockage:
Val Morris
val@norwalkcove.com
203-838-5899



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William Gardella Jr., Publisher. Richard N. Aarons, Editor. Mike Perry, Art Director
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Post a Picture of Your Soldier

Rex Marine Center and Norwalk Cove Marina are proud of the men and women in our armed forces and would like to share their activities with you through the Freedom Page on our website. Here are the first contributions. Both of these men are members of the US Coast Guard stationed in Balad, Iraq. The Coastie painting the red “buoy” is BM Chief Barry Natale from Norwalk.

Barry, a member of Norwalk Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 72, has carried a flag with him on his many missions that he plans to present to the Flotilla when he returns in a few months.

Balad is a major US armed forces transportation hub in Iraq. Barry is a member of a Coast Guard Redeployment Assistance and Inspection Detachment Team 10 (RAID) that operates throughout southwest Asia. Barry and his buddies brought a bit of humor to their desert base by spending an afternoon recently setting up the familiar red and green “buoys” at the entrance of their compound. We wish Barry and his friends God’s speed in their mission and their safe return.

Please send us news and pictures of your soldiers so we can proudly post them for the extended Rex/Cove family of employees, customers and friends to wgardellajr@rexmarine.com.

We would also like to acknowledge and thank our employees who have served us and our country, including: Dan Ferencz, US Army; Bill Gardella, Sr., USN; Larry Green, USN; John Costello, USN; Ken White, USMC, and to all US Service Members who sacrifice so much every day to serve and protect all Americans, especially our troops in harm’s way in Afghanistan, Iraq, and other foreign deployments.

Norwalk USCG Aux One-Day Courses

The Norwalk Coast Guard Auxiliary one-day About Boating Safety (ABS) classes will give you the knowledge you need to obtain a Connecticut state-issued Safe Boating Certificate and Certificate of Personal Watercraft Operation. At the end of the course, participants can sit for the proctored exam. Many boat insurance companies offer discounts on boating insurance to boaters who successfully complete ABS.

Since 1942, the mission of the volunteer civilian members of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary at Norwalk has been to assist the Coast Guard in the performance of its civil functions - particularly the promotion of recreational boating safety. One of the four cornerstones of the Auxiliary is public education. This year’s one-day courses are scheduled for Sunday March 21, Saturday April 24, Sunday May 16, Saturday June 5, and Sunday June 27.

All courses run from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm. The price is \$85 including course materials and a box lunch. Flotilla 72 is based in the Dominic Lametta Training Center in Calf Pasture Beach, Norwalk, CT.

You can register for any of these courses on line at <http://a0140702.uscgaux.info/index.htm>. More information is available at (203) 838-1200.

On-water Training with the Best at Rex

New to the Norwalk Harbor and need area familiarization? Or perhaps you are new to your power boat and want some help figuring out all those systems. Maybe you want to practice close-quarter handling or master the quirks of your radar and electronic navigation system with a pro at your side, or have an interest to learn night-time operations. Rex has the answer. Our experienced training captains will provide hands-on training in your boat – big or small.

Our Captain services are available with a minimum block of two hours for both on-water or shore-side individual instruction. Captains also are available to pick up or deliver your boat for service. Call the service office at 203-831-5234 to get info you need to get on their schedules.

“Operating a boat of any size can be a true joy,” says training coordinator Dick Aarons, “but only if you can do it safely and confidently using all of the boat’s systems and electronic aids competently. Crew coordination is important on the smallest of vessels, and so too is the ability of your ‘first mate’ to take over in an emergency.

“Our goal is to work with the individual boat operator and his/her family to develop the necessary skills and confidence to get the most out of their boating experience.”

Service Department Notes

The service departments at both Rex Marine Center and Norwalk Cove Marina are making the final preparations for the spring rush. So, as always, the customer service folks at both facilities urge you to get your commissioning and launch orders in right away: our limited capacity is allocated on a first-come, first served basis, so please call today.

Norwalk Cove Marina is now a factory authorized Mercruiser parts and service center. Rob Gardella is on board as service director (See story in this issue of Harbor Talk.) Two more technicians have joined our service departments.



Ken White

Ken White has joined the Rex staff and Paul Heintz joins the Cove staff. Both are experienced marine technicians. Ken was graduated from New England Institute of Technology with a degree in Marine Technology and has worked in the Marine industry since 1995 except for 4 years of in the U.S. Marine Corps that included overseas service. He has as a USCG 100 Ton Masters License with a

commercial towing endorsement and is an open water driver. Paul has been delivering and servicing new and used SeaRays and Azimuts and Bertram and Ferretti yachts for over ten years with Marine Max and along with Mercury and Mercruiser factory training he is capable in control systems and navigation systems troubleshooting as well as new installations. Both are also available for Captain's services, and one-on-one boating skills training and vessel orientation to help you get better acquainted with your boat's engines and systems.

At Rex Marine Service Center in SONO the winter was busy for the dock staff with site improvements, and for the technicians with additional training. Jim Kapp and Sal Cicale studied Mercruiser's new Axius joystick boat controls. Ken White and Sal attended Yanmar's advanced medium engine class. Ken also studied Kohler genset service and will be going to Yamaha outboard motor school later in the season. Mark McCormick studied new technologies at both Mercury and Yamaha schools. Rex Service Manager John Hibbard studied new computerized diagnostics techniques. John also gained hands-on experience with Mercury/Mercruiser Smartcraft instrumentation and digital throttle controls.



Daniel Ferencz

Mark McCormick

Sal Cicale and Ken White will be staffing the Rex Mobile Service vehicle this season. The marine shop on wheels is available for service calls in Norwalk and nearby Long Island Sound communities. This service is ideal for customers who can not get their boats to Rex or Cove for service. Once the vehicle is on scene, normal shop rates are charged. A mobile service fee based on mileage is charged for the rolling shop. (Mobile service fee for Norwalk is \$49.)

One-Day SBC Courses Scheduled at Rex SoNo

Rex Boating Club is hosting one-day Safe Boating Courses presented by Sound Environment Associates (SEA) at its 144 Water Street facility. These courses lead to the Safe Boating Certificate required by Connecticut, New York and New Jersey for operators of power boats and personal watercraft.

SEA's one-day courses are approved by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) and recognized by the U.S. Coast Guard. The course is designed to provide safe boating information and regulations in a clear, practical, and interesting format. The course material is presented by qualified instructors who use teaching techniques and visual aids to enhance the learning experience and keep the course fun and interesting for children as well as adults. The charge for adults is \$100. The fee for kids under 18 is \$80. Seniors 65 and older pay \$50.

The SEA Safe Boating Courses hosted by Rex are scheduled for: March 13, April 10; May 15, June 12 and July 10. SBC Courses run from 9 am to 5 pm. Also the Rex Boating Club will be hosting two 4-hour navigation courses on March 20 and May 1 starting at 9am.

Register online at www.seadolphin.com or call 800-510-9995.



Vessel Safety Inspection Day at Rex

Members of the Norwalk Coast Guard Auxiliary will be on the docks at Rex Marine Center on Saturday May 1 to provide complimentary Vessel Safety Checks confirming that your boat meets both federal and state requirements for safety. No citations are issued and the results of the safety check are not reported to any enforcement agency, but a decal is awarded to display if the vessel has passed the examination.

An example of some of the items checked include:

- Life Jackets
- Registration and numbering
- Navigation lights
- Ventilation
- Fire extinguishers
- Distress signals (flares, horn, etc.)
- Battery cover and connections

All of these items are currently required by state and federal laws and, if missing or non-operating, can result in a citation if your vessel is stopped and inspected by the (career) Coast Guard. The Auxiliary Vessel Safety Check gives you a risk-free way to check that you meet the legal minimums and to potentially avoid a citation later. The auxiliarists who conduct these checks are experts in safe boating and also may make certain recommendations and discuss certain safety issues that will make you a safer boater.

Of course, the Rex Marine Store carries all the safety equipment needed to meet the Safety Inspection checklist, so if you need to update your safety equipment, the experts at Rex and lend a hand.

You will be supplied provided with a copy of the Auxiliary evaluation so that you may follow some of

the suggestions given. Vessels that pass the inspection will be able to display distinctive USCG Auxiliary VSC decal. This does not exempt you from law enforcement boarding, but you can be prepared to make this a positive encounter.

Beyond the May 1 Rex Inspection Day, auxiliarists will visit the north dock from time to time to accommodate rack customers on a first-come-first serve basis. Alternatively, you can arrange for an appointment by leaving a message at 203-838-1200. A Vessel examiner will return your call and set up an appointment. For more information on Coast Guard Auxiliary programs, check the Norwalk Flotilla website at a0140702.uscgaux.info.

Security at the Rex Yard

Rex Marine Center managers and employees strive to help you make the most of your boating experience. This effort includes maintaining advanced yard security with 12 security cameras, private security patrols and after-hours locked gates.

If you plan to use our facilities after hours – as is often the case with our dockage and rack storage customers – you must understand our entry gate policy. The street gate will be closed each night by our security guard once business activity ends for the day.

During winter and the shoulder seasons, the gate usually closes between 8-and-10 pm.

Fixing Fuel/Oil Leak Hazards

Harbor police, DEP officers or US Coast Guard Patrol personnel can terminate your voyage and require you (the operator) to return to the nearest mooring if they discover a hazardous condition. You must then correct this condition before proceeding on your way. The conditions listed below are considered especially hazardous:

- Inadequate number of PFDs or fire extinguishers.
- Overloading. (Check capacity plate information if your boat has one.)
- Failure to display required navigation lights.
- Fuel leakage or fuel accumulation (other than fuel tank).
- Failure to meet ventilation requirements.
- Failure to meet engine backfire flame arrestor requirements.
- Excessive leakage or accumulation of water in the bilge.

Don't let the law enforcement folks arrest your voyage. Let Rex store and the Rex and Cove service departments help you stay safe and legal.

Shop Rex Online



Among the many advantages of shopping in person at the Rex Marine Stores – on Water Street or at Norwalk Cove Marina – is the help offered by our experienced marine sales personnel and our competitive discount pricing.

However, if time won't permit a visit or you just want to explore the thousands of items in inventory at the stores or our warehouse, drop in at the Rex Online Store at www.rexmarine.com. There you can check out the clearance specials and complete lines of everything from parts to apparel; from anchors to rigging; from fishing gear to trailering accessories.

You can search the store by categories, brands or part number. Items can be shipped precisely when and where you want them. And, what's best, you can always call the Rex Store at 203-866-5555 with questions before you order.

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Meanwhile, the Rex Service Center on Water Street is growing too, having recently added a new technician and increasing both parts stocks and service capabilities. The Rex Service Dept. is a factory authorized dealer for Mercruiser, Mercury, Crusader, Yamaha, and Yanmar engines and Zodiac and Mercury inflatables.

Time to Repower? Talk to Rex or Cove Experts

Making the decision to re-power can be difficult, so let the repower specialists at Rex Marine Center or Norwalk Cove Marina help you find the answers to your cost/benefit questions. The Rex and Cove service departments are certified repower centers for Mercury outboards and Mercruiser inboards and sterndrives. The Rex Center also is a factory certified repower center for Yamaha outboards, Crusader inboards and Yanmar diesels.

Mercury is the world's leading manufacturer of marine propulsion systems. Since the earliest days of recreational boating, Mercury has set the standards for the industry. When pending outboard emission standards challenged the industry, Mercury took the lead in redesigning its two-cycle product to reduce emissions and to not only meet, but also exceed the new standards. At the same time, the Mercury engineers developed the big (150- to- 300 hp) fourstroke Verado series. The OptiMax outboard engine concept was created to deliver exceptional performance from a two-stroke outboard with a completely new technology. With an average of 45 percent better fuel economy and smooth, smokeless, misfire-free operation, the OptiMax models were - and are - the benchmark for new-technology two-stroke outboards.

Mercury's Verado are the world's quietest, most efficient, large fourstroke outboards. You can see the Verados and OptiMax motors at the Rex Store on Water Street. The facility also stocks a wide range of Mercury FourStroke series outboards ranging in power from 2.5hp to 115 hp.

Mercruiser and Crusader are acknowledged as the world's finest inboard gasoline engines, and Yanmar has made its mark as the number one manufacturer of small and medium-size marine diesels. Rex and Cove technicians are experts in all these brands and the Rex and Cove parts centers maintain full inventories to keep all these engines running to reduce maintenance down time.

The decision to repower has many variables; often new powerplants make sense economically, but sometimes the wisest choice is to sell your old boat and opt for a newer boat with younger engines. Rex and Cove specialists can help you determine if your existing hull and systems are worth the re-power investment.

If you decide to repower we can provide complete installation design and implementation backed by factory warranties on the hardware and Rex/Cove warranties on our craftsmanship.

For outboard re-power questions, see Dan Ferenz in the outboard shop or Mike Maver in the store. For stern-drive or inboard installations see Service Manager John Hibbard at Rex or Service Director Rob Gardella at Cove.

Fueling Programs Save Time and Money



No one likes to spend boating time at the dock filling fuel tanks and pumping the head. Both Rex fueling facilities – the Fuel Dock at Norwalk Cove Marina and the concierge fuel service at Rex Marine Center – offer special programs to save you time and money. And both locations provide only ValvTech Marine Fuel, diesel fuel and gasoline formulated to meet the special challenges found in the Long Island Sound environment.

For do-it-yourself refueling – Our fuel dock at Norwalk Cove Marina remains the best fueling facility in Fairfield County, offering a friendly, helpful staff, and unbeatable Valvtech marine fuels at a great price. Special savings are available at the Cove Fuel Dock for Rex rack and dock customers. Just identify yourself and you will receive a discount of at least five-cents per gallon. If you pay by cash, you'll receive an additional five-cents off per gallon. And, if you buy 250 gallons or more at one visit, you receive yet another five-cents per gallon discount.

Concierge Refueling – Rex rack and dock customers who wish to skip a visit to the fuel dock can take advantage of our weekday – Monday through Thursday – concierge refueling (and head pumping) program.

Rex technicians will refuel your boat and pump the holding tank. You need only call the Service office at (203)831-5234 or email service@rexmarine.com with your order. The charge for on-demand fueling concierge service for rack customers is \$20 plus the cost of the gas. For Rex dockage customers the on-demand service costs \$60 plus the cost of gas. In either case, pumping the holding tank costs an additional \$20. And, of course, the gas purchase is discounted as described above for both rack and dock customers.

Another option for both dock and rack customers is the Automatic Refueling service. In this case, Rex technicians make sure your fuel tanks are topped off and your holding tank is empty before each weekend out-

ing. To learn more about these fueling and head pumping options, call Service Manager John Hibbard.

Enhance Your Cruising with Marinalife



Have you checked out Marinalife yet? Rex Marine Center and Norwalk Cove Marina are both participants in the Marinalife online community. It is a wonderful way to enhance your cruising experience by assisting you with all your waterborne accommodations chores.

This online service provides:

Marina reservations – Make reservations at marinas throughout the US for transient and long-term dockage, moorings, and “Slips for Sale”. Search by country, state, city, marina name, body of water or amenity. Members receive a personalized profile that holds your reservation itinerary, reservation history and a logbook for notes about each of your reservations.

Restaurants and attractions for major ports Access to Port Reports and Featured Destination summaries for major destinations that will provide you information on where to eat and what to do in the area while visiting.

Marina rating system and reviews Members can read other member reviews and access to the Atlantic Cruising Club (ACC) full marina reports and a complimentary Silver Level ACC membership. ACC provides extensive, independent, objective information on marinas.

Weather/tides/marine forecasts Access to real-time weather including a five-day forecast, radar and satellite imagery, current weather conditions, and tides for your selected marina.

Approach/Buoy Information Use EarthNC Nautical Charts to access buoys, markers, lights and charted shore structures (docks, jetties etc.) and for route planning. Slip maps are also available for many of the marinas.

Online maps/charts Members can access maps and charts to view a marina's location or you can view a satellite map provided by Google to view the location of the marina and surrounding area.

Online community Communicate directly with your fellow members by visiting the Forum section of the Marinalife website. The section includes a forum for reading and posting marina reviews, cruising & navigation information.

You can log in to the Marinalife site at www.marinalife.com/rexmarine. Rex Marine and Norwalk Cove customers receive a substantial discount and an opportunity for a 30-day free trial. Various membership levels are available to meeting your cruising needs.

It's the Law

Do not allow anyone to ride on the bow, gunwale, transom, or in any position which is potentially dangerous while underway in a motorboat. There is a long, unhappy record of kids suffering crushed legs in collisions. Also, bow riding kids have been bounced from their perches and run over by their own boats during wake encounters.

In addition to being against the law and unsafe, riding on or hanging over the bow can interfere with the stability of the vessel and often restricts the operator's visibility. Here's the regulation: "No operator of a vessel under way under power shall allow any person to be on a decked-over bow of such vessel unless the bow of the vessel is equipped with a handrail that encompasses the bow, and all persons on the bow are inward of such handrail.

"On vessels under power with open bows not decked-over, no operator shall allow any person to sit or stand on the gunwale at the bow of the vessel while underway. These provisions shall not apply to persons in or on the bow of vessels engaged in anchoring, mooring, or docking activities and proceeding at a dead slow speed."

Fuel Tax Rebate

Connecticut applies a tax to motor fuel. If you used more than 200 gallons of gasoline or diesel fuel during last year for recreational boating, you may apply for a refund of that tax (less a 6% use tax) before May 31 of this year. For detailed information and downloadable forms got to the Department of Revenue Services' website at <http://www.ct.gov/drs>. Click the "Forms" link and print out the pdf file.

Once completed, attach either a copy or the original of each invoice and mail the forms to:

State of Connecticut
Department of Revenue Services
Excise/Public Services Taxes Subdivision
25 Sigourney St
Hartford CT 06106-5032

If you have questions, call the DRS at (860) 541-3224, or Connecticut calls (outside the Greater Hartford calling area only) toll-free at (800) 382-9463.

Refer a Friend – Receive \$100 in Fuel

If you are a Rex customer, you know our indoor/outdoor storage systems and in-water docks are among the finest in New England. And we think you will continue to recommend our facilities to your friends as you have done for so many years.

We want to say thank you for those recommendations in a way that will help you get more out of your boat

ing season. So, if you recommend a new customer for rack storage or dockage, we'll give you and the person you recommend each \$100 worth of free fuel.

All you need do is to be sure the person you recommend types or writes your name on the bottom of the storage application and we'll take it from there.

Of course, the more folks you recommend and sign up, the more free fuel for you!

\$49 SPRING INSPECTION FOR INFLATABLES



Our inflatable boat repair shop – the only Zodiac North America authorized repair facility in the tri-state area – wants to help you get your season off to a good start with a 30-point inspection of your inflatable boat for only \$49.

Rodent attacks, improper storage, sharp folds and age all contribute to off-season deterioration of inflatables. Owners typically discover the damage on their first day of boating season, and our shop gets backlogged. This year we want you to get an early start and reduce your waiting times. To this end, we've established the special inspection pricing program to run until March 31. Just remove non-inflatable floors and oars, and bring your boat in. We'll inflate it and do the rest.

We can repair all makes of inflatable. Our warranty certification includes Zodiac, Bombard, Avon and Mercury boats.

To keep your inflatable boat healthy, keep it clean and follow the manufacturers instructions on appropriate pressures and valve lubricants. Repair kits are available, but we recommend professional care for any tear or rip over one half inch. For more information, contact Walter Walsh at 203-866-5555 ext. 50.

Inflatable Boat and Motor Sale

Mike Maver, manager of the Rex Marine stores and inflatable boat specialist, is offering several great deals on inflatable boats and boat/outboard packages this spring – while supplies last – at prices below the discounters and warranty service that always beats the competition.



The Rex Marine Centers are Western Connecticut's busiest inflatable boat dealers and operate the area's only factory approved Mercury and Zodiac inflatable boat service centers. The Rex stores also sell and support new and used Mercury and Yamaha outboards and have had years of experience with inflatable repower jobs. Rex always has boat and motor packages available up to 28-feet and 300 hp. Check out the offers below and, for more information, contact Mike at 203-831-5236.

Features:

Air Deck
Length: 9'4"
Weight: 93 lbs.
Max HP rating: 6.0 hp
Five year warranty

Mercury 270 Sport Boat/Motor Package \$2,799 (reg. \$3,550)

Take boating fun with you wherever you go with a lightweight and portable Mercury Sport now equipped with a fiberglass floor. The 270 Sport is easy to stow away in an RV or car trunk and even easier to set up—so you're always ready whenever the water calls.

Features:

Fiberglass floor
Length: 8'10"
Weight: 110 lbs.
Max HP rating: 9.9 hp
Five year warranty
Mercury 6 hp FourStroke Outboard
Weight: 55 lbs.
Gearing: Forward-N-Reverse
Extras: 3 gal. fuel tank included
Three year warranty

Zodiac Cadet 310S Boat/Motor Package \$3,100 (reg. \$3,700)

With its welded structure, this light tender offers a unique stability and an astonishing load capacity. Zodiac inflatables are used by serious boaters and government agencies around the world.

Features:

Wood floor
Length: 10'2"
Weight: 93 lbs
Max HP rating: 15hp
Five year warranty
Mercury 6-hp FourStroke Outboard Motor
Weight: 55 lbs.
Gearing: Forward-N-Reverse
Extras: 3-gal. fuel tank included
Three year warranty



Mercury 285 Air Deck Boat \$1,199 (reg. \$1,850)

All Mercury inflatables are constructed with three or more separate internal air chambers for greater safety; and, sleek design for improved performance and handling at higher speeds. The low center of gravity and high-strength provide stability and safety.



PFD's Save Lives

Are your kids life vests up to standard? Coast Guard approved life vests are rated by the wearer's weight. That means your kids will outgrow life vests both as they get bigger and as they get heavier. Be sure to check the label on the inside of the life vest for its size/weight limitations.



While you are at it, check the condition of all those life vests you have stuffed in the bilge lockers. The Coast Guard tells us that moldy or crushed PFDs are no longer serviceable and must be replaced. That is also the case for life vests with obliterated safety labels, missing straps and other visible damage.

It is important to remove the new life vests from their packaging before storing them. Be sure to remove the staples from the straps of new vests so they can be donned quickly. And remember, boating regulations require any child under 13 years of age who is aboard a power boat to wear a Coast Guard-approved life vest while the vessel is underway unless the child is below deck or in an enclosed cabin.

Regulations also require that you have at least one throwable flotation device on deck whenever you are underway. This can be a cushion designed for the purpose or a life ring or horseshoe.

Rex Marine Stores can help you find well fitting, comfortable flotation devices for every member of the family. And while you are shopping for PFDs, pick up a first aid kit and a new set of flares to replace those that are out of date.

Come to a Party!

Mark your calendar! Rex Marine, MarineMax and the Rex Boating Club invite you to our **2nd annual "Docktail" party** on June 6 from 3 pm to 6 pm. Rex and MarineMax "family" and guests are invited to enjoy barbecue fare at water's edge at the 144 Water Street facility.

And don't forget the **July 3rd Fireworks night at Norwalk Cove** – an annual NCM gathering and cookout not to be missed. Invite family and friends, and plan on lots of fun. We'll ask for your headcount later. We sure hope to see you at both these events.

Rob Gardella Joins Cove Service Department

Did you know that Rex Marine Center and Norwalk Cove Marina are sister organizations? They are, and they've been working together for decades to bring regional boaters – recreational and commercial – the most advanced service and parts facilities to be found anywhere in New England.

Both organizations continue to focus on customer satisfaction and to grow our competencies and facilities. Rex's new store at Cove is an example; so too is the addition to the technical staffs at both the Rex and Cove service centers.



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