

Greetings Mooring User--

As the 2021 mooring season starts on May 1st! I wanted to reach out and share pertinent information with you all. This is a fairly lengthy e-mail so please be sure to read it carefully as there is a lot of important information here.

As there is quite a lot of uncertainty regarding the Covid-19 Pandemic some of the following information MAY change. At present we are still planning to have our docks AND moorings in prior to the aforementioned May 1st date. Should that change, you will be the first to know.

If you notice any issues with your mooring when you arrive at the buoy, please let me know immediately and I will alert maintenance staff. If your mooring will not be ready for any reason, I will contact you with an alternate buoy to moor at until your mooring is ready.

Maintenance and inspection of the moorings

We have a team of mooring maintenance staff (who have been doing this for years led by Mark Kosikowski) who dive down to inspect the chains and connections each season when there is good underwater visibility. The lake turns in mid-June each year so you can expect to see some divers out in a little over a month. Please keep your eyes peeled for the diver down flag and give it plenty of space! If they notice any damage or have any concerns with the integrity of the mooring, they will do an immediate fix or replacement. Chains, swivels, lock nuts, and connectors are regularly replaced as needed. If something seems off please contact me immediately



Field 1 renters

We will have two Tender Dinghies for rowing to and from the field. The dinghies will be locked at the Outdoor UW floating pier under the combination (5-1-8-1). Please be sure to bring the dinghy back once you have retrieved your boat and do not leave the dinghy tied up at your mooring while out sailing. These are community resources, so they need to be available. If you need help with getting a dinghy in the water, please don't hesitate to ask one of the Outdoor UW staff to help you out - they will be happy to! **DO NOT** leave the dory in the water and please store the paddles on their racks so we can keep this equipment in good working order.

Ouw Staff may be available to taxi you via motorboat to your mooring when available.

Field 2 and 4 renters

All renters in field two will be assigned a tether or rack space for your paddle craft. If you have not received a tether please contact OUWmanager@union.wisc.edu immediately. As a reminder, if you are using the tether to secure your boat, we are not assigning specific spaces – spaces are first-come-first served starting May 2nd. As no one spot will belong to anyone in specific, if a tether space is open at any time, it is up for grabs. Please remember to always lock

your boat to the tether as we have experienced theft and unauthorized use of dinghies that have been left unsecured. If you are looking for parking nearby to Willows beach, please see the campus parking map [HERE](#). There are a number of lots very close to Willows Beach that are free after 4:30 on weekdays and all day Saturdays and Sunday. **NEW THIS YEAR:** We will be expecting renters to display a **Ouw rentals sticker** marked with the appropriate year on their craft at Willows Beach. This will allow us to recognize boats that are squatting on the property. You can pick these stickers up at OUW or we are happy to mail you one upon request.



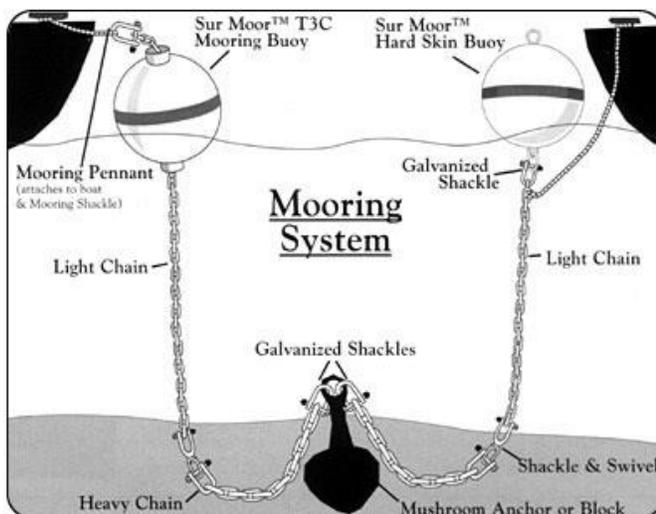
Securing your boat

If you will be purchasing pennants/lines for your mooring, we strongly recommend that you do not use anything longer than 12-15' (with metal thimbles attached). Pennants longer than that can allow boats to swing into each other and cause damage. I **STRONGLY** recommend using a float device for the first several feet of your pendant to prevent it from wrapping under the mooring and chewing on the tackle. This is the #1 reason for boats coming un-moored. Below is a photo of a recommended mooring pendant design. It includes a float (50 cent pool noodle) secured by zip-ties, a metal thimble for the pin end and a wire securing the clevis pin of the shackle so it cannot unscrew (2nd most common cause of loss).



Note: **YOU** are expected to install your own pennants and **MUST** use a corrosion-resistant wire for securing your shackle pin. You are also responsible for checking and maintaining all shackles above the mooring including their pin securement systems. **DO NOT**, under any circumstances, remove the shackle that OUW provides atop the mooring.

I am often asked about proper buoy set up and have provided a diagram below. Our anchors are large metal plates that suction to and sink into the lake bed (not an anchor as pictured). From the plate, heavy drag chains are connected to a lighter chain that terminates at the buoy. Due to wave action we experience in our fields, we **EXPECT** that you connect **two** pennants to the mooring. Some people will attach one above the buoy to the provided shackle and one to the swivel under the buoy. Others attach both to the provided shackle atop the mooring. Either solution is acceptable.



The 2020 mooring directory will be provided individually. If you notice an error on this list, please let me know so it can be changed. If a space says 'occupied' it is due to that renter not wanting to be included in the directory. This list can be used for sailing-related events that are of general interest as well as contacting individuals regarding problems with their equipment. Please be thoughtful with this list and be sure to not inappropriately use it.

The Outdoor UW service desk hours for this season are found [HERE](#)

UW lifesaving hours can be found [HERE](#)

In the event of an emergency with your boat, below are contacts you can use for help. We ask that unless you are experiencing a true emergency that you not contact us on our personal cell phones. We are of course happy to help after hours if we are needed.

Blue-Green Algae

As our lake continues to experience Blue-Green Algae blooms we want to make sure you area aware of the risks and health precautions you should take in the instance of exposure. Please see attached resources provided by the University Environmental and Health Services division.

David Elsmo, Sailing Program Manager

e-mail: David.Elsmo@wisc.edu

Office: 608-265-8453

[UW Lake Safety](#)

Phone: 608-262-3505

VHF: Channel 16

Joe Webb, Outdoor UW Director

e-mail: JCwebb@wisc.edu

office phone: 608-262-1630

Mark Kosikowski, Mooring Field Maintenance Manager

e-mail: koz@kosmicdivers.com

cell phone: 608-334-0390

Outdoor UW Service Desk Manager

e-mail: OUWManager@union.wisc.edu

phone (Outdoor UW Service Desk): 608-262-1630

Mills Botham, Hooper Sailing Head of Instruction

e-mail: headofinstruction@hoopersailing.org

office phone: 608-262-1630

UW Police Department

e-mail: uwpolice@mhub.uwpd.wisc.edu

phone: 608-264-2677

Other Important Content

The above information AND important FAQ's will be available On the Unions OUW [website specific for the mooring field.](#)