

Christopher Schneider

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To whom it may concern,

I would like to voice my support of the proposed increase in rack boat storage space at Safe Harbor Marina in Vineyard Haven. I have had several different boats stored in that location over the last 20 years and currently own a 30ft center console which is kept on a dock because there is no space to store it out of the water. What Safe Harbor is proposing would provide space for at least ten boats, including mine, currently occupying dock space to be stored out of the water where they pose no environmental hazard to Lagoon Pond. Each boat would be inspected and cleaned every time it is put in or taken out of the water by a well trained professional staff who have to follow all the state and local environmental regulations as it pertains to maintaining, cleaning and servicing boats. This cannot be said of any boat currently at a dock, on a mooring, or launched from the town ramp in Lagoon Pond. It will also provide an additional 20 spaces for boats currently kept on moorings or at private docks in Lagoon Pond to be stored in a far safer manner. I see boats every year on the beaches of Lagoon Pond that have broken off from a mooring or private dock. These are the boats the commission should be concerned about and Safe Harbor is proposing an option to mitigate that risk.

I have heard that there is concern among the residents surrounding Lagoon Pond that having space for an additional 20 or so boats being stored out of the water at Safe Harbor poses an environmental risk to Lagoon Pond. This is utter nonsense and I hope the commission will recognize this. Having space to store more local boats out of the water where they are safe and pose no risk of polluting the Lagoon is an idea the residents and commission should fully support.

Respectfully,

Chris Schneider