

Greetings Mooring User--

I wanted to reach out and share pertinent information with you all. Some information may have changed, so please be sure to read it carefully, as there is a lot of important information here.

We plan to have our docks AND moorings in before May 1st. Should that change, you will be the first to know. As you are aware, the weather cares not for our calendar.

In January, you will receive an email to register your intent to return to the mooring field for the coming season. **This must be completed by Feb. 13th**. Contracts will be sent out on Feb. 27th. Payments will be due March 13th. Unclaimed buoys will be distributed to the waiting list after March 27th.

If you notice any issues with your mooring when you arrive at the buoy, please let me know immediately, and I will alert the 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.

UPDATES

In Field #1, we have corrected the issue where some pin numbers were mixed up. We've retagged all the chains with more durable and legible number tags and will be reapplying the vinyl numbering on pins that are peeling off. We also hope to have lighted marker buoys on the corners of the field.

The search will continue in Field #2 this Spring for chains #2 and #3.

MAINTENANCE AND INSPECTION OF THE MOORINGS

We have a team of mooring maintenance staff 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 in the mooring field in the Spring. 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

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 or some Hoofers may be available to taxi you via motorboat to your mooring when available. Students working at the front desk do not necessarily have experience or permits to operate a motorboat. During weekday HSC Youth Camp programming, the motorboats and instructors are focused on the safety of the kids and cannot offer assistance.



FIELD 2 AND 4

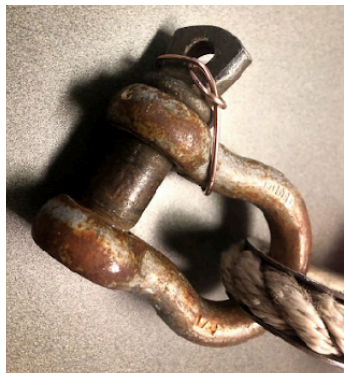
All renters in field two will be assigned a tether or rack space for their paddle craft. If you have not received a tether, please contact OUWmanager@union.wisc.edu immediately. As a reminder, if you are using the tether to secure your boat, we are not assigning specific spaces – spaces are first-come-first serve starting May 2nd. As no one spot will belong to anyone in particular, 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 near 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 on Saturdays and Sundays. **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

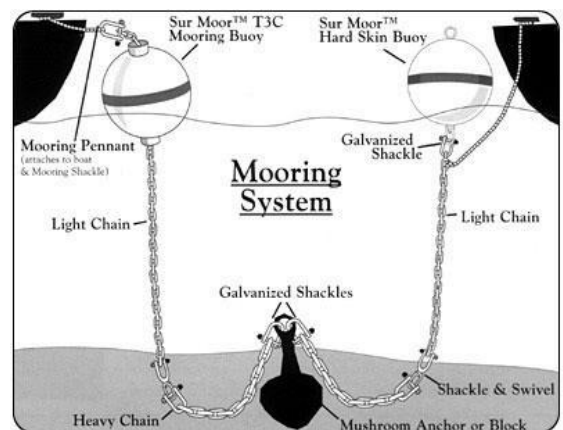
If you will be purchasing pennants/lines for your mooring, we strongly recommend that you do not use anything longer than 12-15' (with metal thimbles attached). Pennants longer than that can allow boats to swing into each other and cause damage. I **STRONGLY** recommend using a

floating device, like a 'pool noodle' on your mooring line, where it first touches the water near the buoy end of the line. This will help prevent it from wrapping under the mooring, where the line can be quickly damaged. This is the #1 reason for boats coming un-moored. Below is a photo of a recommended mooring pendant design. It includes a float (\$1 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.

We are often asked about the proper buoy setup. Our anchors are large metal plates that sink into the lakebed (note that an anchor is pictured). Weight and suction from the mud hold it very securely in place. From the plate, heavy drag chains are connected to a lighter chain that terminates at the buoy. Due to the 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. We currently recommend having both on top. **Your** shackles should connect to **our** shackle on the buoy. Do NOT undo or remove the bailing wire on our shackle and pin. **ALL** shackles and pins must be wired shut. Let us know **immediately** if the wire is missing or failing.



THE MOORING DIRECTORY

The 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 not to use it inappropriately.

THE OUTDOOR UW SERVICE DESK HOURS FOR THIS SEASON ARE FOUND [HERE](#)

UW LAKE RESCUE & SAFETY

UWPD operates the Lake Rescue & Safety out of the building just to the east of the Edgewater Hotel. They are a public service on the lake for safety. They can be hailed on VHF CH 16. Note that their [hours shift throughout](#) the year as the length of the day changes.

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

WATER QUALITY ISSUES AND BLUE-GREEN ALGAE

University Environmental and Health Service monitors the quality of water around the Hooper piers at least once a week. In the case of contamination, Blue-Green algae, etc., they will issue notices and closers. These can be found [online](#) and in the Outdoor UW office.

[Blue-Green Algae](#) is the most common reason we have warnings. Usually, the risk is immediately in the area of the mat of algae on the surface of the water. Apart from smelling terrible, it can be dangerous to humans and deadly to pets.

CONTACT LIST

MARK GILLESPIE, SAILING PROGRAM MANAGER

e-mail: mtgillespie@wisc.edu

Office: 608-262-7351

LAKE RESCUE & SAFETY

Emergency Phone: 608-262-3505

Non-emergency Phone: 608-262-5865

VHF: Channel 16 – Hail “UW Rescue”

DAVE ELSMO, OUTDOOR UW DIRECTOR

e-mail: David.Elsmo@wisc.edu

Office: 608-265-8453

OUTDOOR UW SERVICE DESK MANAGER

e-mail: OUWManager@union.wisc.eduphone

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

HOOFER SAILING HEAD OF INSTRUCTION

e-mail: headofinstruction@hoofersailing.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 FAQs will be available on the Union’s OUW [website specific for the mooring field](#).