

Bird Key Yacht Club Begins Major Marina Renovation Project

SARASOTA – Bird Key Yacht Club has commenced a \$2.6 million marina renovation project that will include a new seawall and the reconstruction of its 10,648-square foot dock along the club’s Sarasota Bay waterfront.

When complete, the marina will have a total of 45 slips, including three transient slips, 18 slips with boat lifts, and 24 wet slips that will accommodate boats from 20 to 50 feet in length. It will include two fueling stations, a floating kayak launch, and new electrical and fire suppression systems. The Club’s entire seawall will be replaced, and limited dredging will be done to increase the marina’s depth.

The beginning of construction follows more than a year’s permitting process that included obtaining necessary authorizations from the City of Sarasota, Sarasota County, the State of Florida and the federal government. Upon completion of the six-month project, the facility will be officially designated a “Clean Marina” by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

The designation requires facilities to implement a set of environmental Best Management Practices designed to protect Florida’s waterways by addressing critical environmental issues such as sensitive habitat, waste management, storm water control, spill prevention and emergency preparedness.

“Upon completion, Bird Key Yacht Club will have the newest and most technologically advanced marina on Sarasota Bay,” said BKYC general manager Robert Brown. “Its designation as a Clean Marina will establish it as among the finest, and environmentally responsible, marinas in the area.”

The bulk of the construction work is being managed by Sarasota-based Duncan Seawall Dock & Boatlift, Florida’s largest residential marine contractor with 36 years of experience.

“This is one of the most ambitious projects we have undertaken,” said Steve Porter, Duncan general manager. “It will provide increased employment for Duncan workers, and when completed, the project will stand as a lasting asset for the yacht club and Sarasota area boaters. We are excited to be involved.”

Officials estimate the project will commence March 21st with demolition of the existing marina. The marina will be closed to both slip holders and transient boaters during construction.

About Bird Key Yacht Club

Established in 1959, Bird Key Yacht Club is one of the longest established private clubs in Sarasota County. Its prestigious location on the shores of Sarasota Bay provides panoramic waterfront views of the Ringling Bridge and Sarasota skyline. The club serves as a social and recreational focal point for more than 340 members with a full activities calendar, numerous clubs and special programs such as a wine club, fashion shows and art exhibits. Bird Key Yacht Club is a boater's paradise with available wet slips, boat lifts and a full array of marina services. Other amenities include a waterfront pool, tennis courts, fitness center, kayak launch, and a beautiful dining room served by an award-winning chef. The Club enjoys a partnership with Laurel Oak Country Club with reciprocal privileges for golf, tennis, children's programs and dining. Membership at Bird Key Yacht Club is not restricted by residency or boat ownership. For more information, call 941-953-4455 or visit online at birdkeyyc.com. Bird Key Yacht Club is a private club and membership is subject to the approval of the Board of Governors.