

SOCIAL DISTANCING | GO BOATING!

A MESSAGE FROM BOATING ON THE HUDSON.COM

Here comes the earliest spring we have seen in years. The exceptional weather is an opportunity for us all to get out and enjoy our beautiful lakes and rivers like never before!

As I write this spring rain is pouring down washing away the sins of the past mild winter. The weather reports are for a warm clear weekend and from what I see, at the moment, there is no reason not to go get your boat out of where it is stored, for the winter, and take it to the nearest lake, river or stream and enjoy it alone or with your friends or family,

The past week the boat clubs and marinas have been uncovering their boats at an unprecedented rate, fully preparing for the onslaught of boaters wanting to social distance at a time when all we hear is terrible news on the boob tube.

If this was 1918 without all the wonderful skills we all possess in this modern world, we would be far worse off, but this is today, we have the Internet, excellent cars, and most certainly modern boats of all types that are almost available to us all.



Lightning sailboats out of Nyack Boat Club



Family tubing on Lake Mahopac.

Family learning how to row on Lake Mahopac



You know that kayak or canoe that has been sitting upside down for so many years that you promised yourself you would use when you "had time", well you now have the time to do it. The trip to Europe that was planned for so long and now is on hold, look around you, enjoy

what you have, take advantage of your own particular situation to the best of your abilities.

Focus on what you can do and, if you are a reader of this magazine, there is most

certainly the great outdoors including our lakes, rivers and streams to take advantage of.

Oh sure, you may not be able to gather in a crowd in the clubhouse or restaurant, but the object of your desire is your boat, and the beauty that surrounds us.

Got kids home from school, well here is a terrific opportunity to teach them. Use your boat as your local school district remotely transmits their curriculum. If you are a smart parent you will give your children things to do the things on the boat you would normally do. This includes, putting them in charge, obviously under your supervision, but untying the boat, storing the lines, so they don't drag in the water, getting the bumpers in, and finally, having them start the boat, 'not you'. Nothing makes your child pay attention more to you than giving them the responsibility.

This is a rare opportunity to spend time with your children that you may not have had, enjoy it.



A few years ago at the Cortlandt Yacht Club 12 years old at the time and fully capable of running his father's boat.