

# Serenity Houseboat



Standard Operating Procedures for:

## Fueling Operations

- I. Warnings
  - a. Gas fumes are **EXPLOSIVE** and appropriate care must be taken at all times.
  - b. There should be absolutely no smoking or open flames during any fueling operations.
  - c. Never place premixed gas onboard Serenity in the Main or Auxiliary (Toy) Tanks.
  - d. Never use high ethanol content gasoline (E-85) aboard a vessel.
- II. Fueling the Houseboat
  - a. Before Docking
    - i. **Contact Fuel Dock.** 5-minutes prior to arrival at the fuel dock, contact the fuel dock via VHF radio (Bullfrog on channel 9 or Halls Crossing on channel 16) and make arrangements for coming alongside. Ensure that there is space available for the houseboat at the dock before entering the marina.
    - ii. **Secure Power.** Secure power on everything that is not essential for navigation (shut down the Generator and secure all AC and DC electronics that are not vital to the navigation of the houseboat).
    - iii. **Secure Propane.** Shut off the propane tank on the BBQ grill.
    - iv. **Secure Ventilation.** Close all windows and doors not necessary to be open for docking.
    - v. **Line Handlers.** If available, you may find it beneficial to have 2-3 people at the fuel dock to catch lines and relay information via handheld radios.
  - b. Fueling Operations
    - i. **Secure Main Engines.** Once docking is complete, shut down the main engines and secure all power.
    - ii. **Secure Ventilation.** Turn off the engine compartment blowers and close any doors or windows that remained open for docking iteration.
    - iii. **Disembark.** Anyone not directly involved in fueling operations should disembark and wait on the dock until fueling is complete.
    - iv. **Fire Preparedness.** Ensure that a fire extinguisher is accessible.
    - v. **Spill Preparedness.** Prior to beginning fueling operations ensure that you have sorbent pads at the ready near the filling operations in case of minor spills and in order to prevent spills from the nozzle when transferring it from one tank to another.
    - vi. **Fuel Fill Location.** The fuel fill for the main tanks is located under an access hatch on the front of the center engine compartment hatch. Auxiliary (Toy) Tanks are located on the top deck and the fuel fill caps are on the top of the tanks.

- vii. **Octane Level.** Fill all tanks with regular 87 octane fuel, if available. Never use E-85 or any other high ethanol content fuel.
      - viii. **Auxiliary Tank Closure.** Once fueling is complete, tighten the fuel fill cap on the Auxiliary (Toy) Tanks fully and then back them off to the first detent to allow the tanks to vent.
    - c. Getting Underway
      - i. **Keep Power Secured.** Once finished fueling, keep power secured to all unnecessary electronics until clear of the fuel dock.
      - ii. **Engine Compartment Blower.** Per normal start up procedure, be sure to run the engine compartment blower for at least 5-minutes before starting the main engines. Check the engine compartment to ensure there is no odor of gas fumes; if gas fumes are still present in the engine compartment, continue ventilating until you no longer smell gas fumes.
      - iii. **Ventilate Cabin.** Once underway and clear of the fuel dock, open doors and windows to allow any gas fumes to dissipate. After the cabin has been ventilated, you may energize electronics.
- III. Fueling from the Auxiliary (Toy) Tank
  - a. Prepare For Fueling Operations
    - i. **Secure Power.** Secure power to all electronics and engines (Ensure the main engines and generator are shut down and secure all AC and DC power).
    - ii. **Secure Ventilation.** Close all windows, doors, and hatches.
    - iii. **Fire Preparedness.** Assign someone to stand fire watch with a large fire extinguisher.
    - iv. **Spill Preparedness.** Prior to beginning fueling operations ensure that you have sorbent pads at the ready near the filling operations in case of minor spills and in order to prevent spills from the nozzle when transferring it from one tank to another.
  - b. Fueling Operations
    - i. **Power the Pump.** Turn the switch ON located on the front of the pump box.
    - ii. **Fuel Boat or Transfer Fuel to Main Tanks.** You may then run the pump to transfer fuel; use caution as the pump is very fast.
    - iii. **Drain the Fuel Hose.** Once fueling operations are complete, ensure that the fueling line is completely drained. A small gas can is useful for this operation.
  - c. End of Fueling Operations
    - i. **Ventilate Cabin.** Open doors and windows to allow any gas fumes to dissipate. After the cabin has been ventilated, you may energize electronics.