

Rate Your Favorite DIY Yard in *PS's* Online Survey

In *Practical Sailor's* ongoing effort to keep cruising affordable to everyone, we're conducting a survey to identify outstanding do-it-yourself boatyards across the U.S. We began with a sample boatyard, Galesville Harbor Yacht Yard in Maryland, and developed a simple rating system to allow readers to grade their own DIY yard. (See Galesville's report card on the facing page.)

We've already heard from some readers about their favorite DIY boatyard—check out the reader-recommended yards listed below. But if we've missed your top pick or you've yet to fill out the survey, let us hear from you. Visit www.practical-sailor.com and take the reader survey about your DIY haulout haven.

READER PICKS:

Berkeley Marine Center, Berkeley, Calif. — This yard allows and encourages do-it-yourselfers to handle their work, but the knowledgeable and friendly staff headed by Cree Partridge and Karl, his yard manager, are available for consultation or pulling the proverbial horse out of the ditch when you have bitten off more than you can chew. — *John T. Sutton; Toronto, Ontario*

Dutch Wharf Boatyard, Branford, Conn. — This moderate-sized, family-owned yard specializes in wooden boats but is absolutely competent in all things mechanical, electrical, and fiberglass. Dutch Wharf also has an exceptional paint shop. I have used this yard for over 30 years and highly recommend it, its people, and its quality. — *James M. Malkin; New York City, N.Y.*

Napa Valley Marina, Napa, Calif. — Located up the Napa River from San Francisco and San Pablo bays, this marina is a friendly, family-owned place. Very helpful people, complete facilities, and the ability to haul any kind of boat. I've had my

boat hauled there several times and always went away happy and full of admiration for their talent and character. — *Bruce Sinclair; Pretty Penny; Vallejo Yacht Club, Vallejo, Calif.*

Jensen's Shipyard, San Juan Islands, Wash. — Jensen's Shipyard in Friday Harbor is a great place to work on your own boat. — *G. Booth, via e-mail*

Schroeder Yacht Systems, Deltaville, Va. — This DIY yard staffs friendly, congenial people, who do very competent work. Their labor charges are reasonable, and monthly storage is inexpensive. — *Jack Berkey, via e-mail*

Bob Walton's boatyard, Delta Marina, Rio Vista, Calif. — This yard's prices are low, and their willingness to help is astounding. This boatyard is within a day's cruise of San Francisco (50 nautical miles from Bay Bridge) and is a little-known bargain in a high-priced region. — *Larry Smith; S/V Pleamar, 1983 Aloha 32; Vallejo, Calif.*

Seal Cove Boatyard, Cape Rosier, Maine — These guys are pros, willing to assist and help with the smallest problem—real or imagined. — *Aaron Glazer; Adagio, Albin 27 trawler; Cape Rosier, Maine*

Catawba Moorings, Port Clinton, Ohio — *Bob James, via e-mail*

Knight & Carver, National City, Calif. — I've been taking my boat here every three years for bottom paint. The yard caters to megayachts, but smaller-boat sailors like us are welcome, too. The people are most professional and helpful, never measuring you by the length and value of your boat. — *Jack Grenard; Islander 36; San Diego, Calif.*

