

MIACC

At the Helm



Marine Safety & Security Forum

Thank you to all the agencies who presented at the Marine Safety & Security Forum at the Orange Blossom Library last week!

A few tips from the officers:

- ◆ Buy a life jacket that you'll wear!
- ◆ Call the tip line if you see anything suspicious - TAKE A PICTURE
- ◆ Take pictures of your property- VIN, serial number, distinguishing marks
- ◆ Secure boat well before leaving for season/Hurricane season- boats lifted to top of lift and tied to the lift/lift tied to pilings, double tie lines, or pull the boat out



- ◆ Prevent Theft- store boat in a well lit area, install cameras (motion activated), have a GPS tracker, titanium lock & chain on trailer, take valuables off the boat, take keys off boat, photograph vessel information and equipment
- ◆ Medical supplies on board- narcans, gauze, tape

TIP@MyFWC.com



April 2024

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Welcome Aboard New Members:

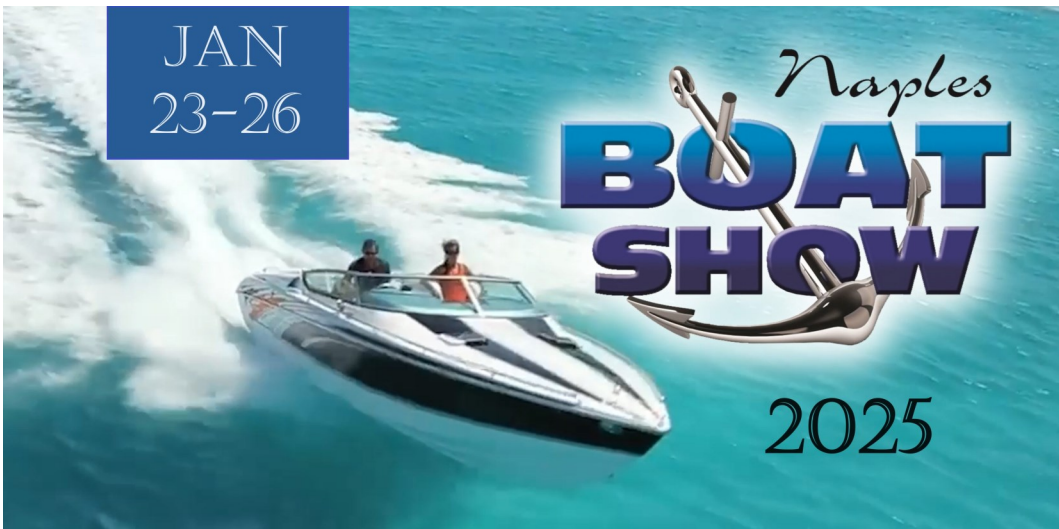
Auserican Industries

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Member News & Events

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PELICAN ISLE
YACHT CLUB

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◆ Tish Dawson has joined Pelican Isle Yacht Club's Management Team as the new Club Controller. Tish joins PIYC with over 20 years of diverse finance and accounting experience. She began her career in automotive glass manufacturing in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, after she earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Juniata College. Tish then worked in Optical Products and Coatings for several years and earned her MBA from the University of Pittsburgh, Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business. She and her husband and son moved to Los Angeles in 2011 for an opportunity in Aerospace and to experience life on the West Coast. Tish then transitioned to the software industry after relocating to Naples in 2016. She is excited to bring her leadership and commitment to customer service at PIYC. Aside from work, Tish enjoys spending time with her family, playing with her dog, kayaking, and going to the beach.



BOAT MARKETING PROS

◆ Boat rental websites serve as a digital portal for both seasoned boat enthusiasts and vacationers looking for aquatic adventures. As we embark on the nautical adventure of 2024, the boat rental website business undergoes a significant transition, driven by the continuous integration of technological breakthroughs and a growing demand for immersive boating experiences. In the middle of this transition, we sift through the complex features of boat rental websites, analyzing their many features and examining how these tools not only improve the user experience but also assist businesses in the highly competitive boat rental industry.

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Affiliate News & Events

Lionfish, tiger prawns, zebra mussels oh my! What does each one of these aquatic critters have in common?

They are all nonnative species that have been spotted in the United States, and when introduced into ecosystems outside of their native range, can negatively impact humans, the environment or the economy -- giving them the notorious label of "invasive."

You can help by participating in this year's invasive fish roundup, April 26-28 in Fort Myers.

We all know an example of an invasive species, but what exactly are these organisms that cause over \$120 billion annually in damage to the U.S. economy? Invasive species are nonnative by definition and occur outside their geographic range. These organisms were introduced by people either intentionally or unintentionally and have the potential to/can cause harm to the environment, economy or humans.

If the organism is not from here and is not causing harm, you've got yourself a nonnative; which, when kept under the right conditions can be our harmless pets, favorite food and prized landscaping.

When do nonnative species become a real problem? When these organisms become established in our environment, meaning a self-reproducing population. Once that happens, they are often here to stay, and so are the issues they create for land managers, local ecosystems and costs associated with research and removal.

What's the answer? Education, prevention, early detection rapid response and removal. The most effective way to battle invaders from taking hold is to not release them out to begin with. Some of these introductions may have been by accident through unprocessed shipping materials, adverse weather, escapees, etc. They may be hard to foresee, but legislation, research and municipal ordinances can help reduce the chances of unintentional introductions.

Education on the impacts of invasive species can help prevent folks from considering releasing their pets or choosing plant species that are legal and have less of a chance of getting out of hand and out of the yard.

Programs like the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission's Exotic Pet Amnesty Day events take unwanted pets and find homes for them. On the plant side, checking out local ordinances and Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ recommendations could help reduce our ecological footprint. Letting researchers know about sightings of new invasive species --using tools like IveGot1 app -- can get managers to an area and prevent that nonnative species from becoming established.

Next up, removal efforts. Folks can participate in roundups and wrangles, tackling anything from the marine lionfish, freshwater fish species, trees or weeds.

Working groups like CISMAs (cooperative invasive species management areas) put on events like the 2024 SWFL CISMA Invasive Fish Roundup where the public can help take a bite of the freshwater fish problem in our area. During the 2023 event, 91 anglers brought in over 5,639 invasive freshwater fish, weighing it at a whopping 2,648 pounds. During the event, data were collected to benefit research, and fish were used for educational purposes, consumed by the anglers and anything unclaimed was used in compost.

This year's event, April 26-28, is gearing up to be the best yet. Participating anglers can receive prizes, and during the weigh-in on April 28, there will be plenty of fun, educational stations and activities. Spread awareness of invasive species today, and for more information about the invasive freshwater fish roundup check out bit.ly/2024CISMA.

SWFL CISMA **INVASIVE FISH ROUND UP**
April 26th-28th, 2024!
 Help save our waters and have a chance to win **AMAZING PRIZES!**

Registration
 \$10 per adult angler
 Free for junior anglers
 Must register by 7am, April 26th
More information at:
<https://bit.ly/2024CISMA>
Or by scanning the QR code
*All proceeds go to the Southwest Florida Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area

Competition Categories
 Heaviest Aggregate Catch
 Invasive Slam (Most species)
 Heaviest Fish

Prizes
 Fishing lures for all junior anglers
 Draw string bags for all anglers
 Top prizes to be announced

Fun Activities
 Fish printing
 Fillet demonstration
 Educational booths

Rules
 • Adult and Junior (<16) Divisions
 • Up to 4 anglers per team
 • All legal methods of take allowed
 • All fish must be captured between 4/26-4/28/24

Weigh-In
Sunday April 28th
 12pm-3pm
 Bass Pro Shops,
 Gulf Coast Town Center,
 Fort Myers

Michael Sipos is the Florida Sea Grant agent for UF/IFAS Extension Collier County. Contact him at sipos624@ufl.edu. For more fishy content and updates on upcoming educational programs, please check out linktr.ee/CollierSeaGrant for links to the Collier County Sea Grant Facebook page, YouTube Channel, Instagram listing, UF/IFAS blog and more!

Naples Fishing Club

Fishing Tackle Flea Market
Saturday- April 6, 2024
10 AM – 2 PM
Open to the Public!

Located at:
VFW Post 7721
800 Neff's Way
Naples, FL 34116

- Fishing Seminars, Fishing Tackle & Equipment, fishing games to test your skills
- Great place for young and old alike to learn and meet experienced anglers
- Cash Bar and Cooked Food, Free Popcorn
- Sponsored by the Naples Fishing Club (a 501 c(3) not for profit entity)

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MIPAC 2nd Quarter Contributions

Marine Industries Promoting Access for Citizens

In 2002 the Marine Industries Association of Collier County formed a Political Action Committee named Marine Industries Promoting Access for Citizens (MIPAC). This action was taken so that we can support issues and legislative candidates who assist the goals and purposes of the marine industries community.

On a quarterly basis, the MIPAC seeks donations of \$50.00 from each member. The MIPAC's mis-

sions and goals are to act upon problematic issues that must be addressed at the legislative level for the growth and protection of the marine industry. Monies collected from the MIPAC donations are used in supporting political decision makers that will tackle the very issues that affect all members of our industry. As a good steward of our member's donations, MIPAC adheres to uniform contribution criteria when determining how much and

Our Mission: Marine Industries Association of Collier County (MIACC) is a not-for-profit membership-based organization focused on the responsible growth of the marine industry for the benefit of its members, recreational boaters, the community, and the environment.

Our Goal: MIACC represents recreational boating and member interests at the Local, State, and Federal levels; Issues of interest include Water Access, Recreational Boating, Commercial Boating, Free Trade, Advocating for Property Rights, and Legislative or Regulatory initiatives that impact these interests.

Our Members: Members include Dealers & Manufacturers, Boating & Professional Services, Charters, Marine Contractors, Boat Lifts, Shipyards & Storage, and Equipment & Accessories.

to which candidate assistance is allocated.

MIPAC will educate you about the political landscape and issues facing our organization and will strategize political impact. In addition, the committee is always open to suggestions, questions and comments.

Please send your quarterly donations to MIPAC, PO Box 9887, Naples, Florida 34101



2nd Quarter Contribution requests coming soon !

Upcoming Events

Meet the Candidates Membership Meeting
 July Member Meeting: Naples Princess
 Docktail Party
 Christmas Boat Parade
 Naples Boat Show

May TBD
 July TBD
 Oct TBD
 December 14
 January 23-26

