



Incorporated
"Limey" to our friends!

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The Commodore's Log

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The following is extremely important to all of you!

CORN IN YOUR TANK Ethanol

*From **Marine Tech Talk**, Issue 8, May-June 2009 published by the Ontario Marine Operators Association*

The mandated amount of ethanol (E10) in today's gasoline will likely leave you with a sticky mess! Here's the lowdown & actions you can take.

E10, the most common ethanol mix, is a ratio of 10% ethanol to 90% gasoline & Ontario has regulated that all fuels sold must meet a 10% ethanol average. **This does not mean all fuels sold must contain ethanol**, but the only fuel now actively promoted as being ethanol free is V Power Shell.

For boaters this isn't good! Ethanol is a solvent that doesn't mix well with fuel & fuel by-products lingering in older tanks. It scours fuel systems, overburdening filters, breaks down fiberglass fuel tanks and rapidly absorbs water from atmospheric humidity. This gives fuel only a brief shelf life. Ethanol use is changing the



'Sumer's here at last!' courtesy Jason Lambert

Unless otherwise credited or out-of-focus, all photos are courtesy of H. J. R Kessel, Ferrytale Studio

way gasoline powered boats are maintained, serviced & used.

E10 arrived in the U.S. three or more years ahead of us, so their problems arrived earlier, thus we benefit from their experiences. Research by Boat U.S. and several marine surveyors traced problems back to ethanol reacting with & dissolving the resin in the walls of fiberglass gas tanks. Tank walls may be seriously weakened causing leaks, styrene & related chemical by-products, which, dissolved in or reacted with the ethanol, work their way into the fuel system creating fouling problems. There are thousands of gasoline-powered boats in service with fiberglass fuel tanks, and all of these tanks are now suspect. If your fuel tank is fiberglass make sure there is no degradation and pay close attention to flexible gas lines & hoses for signs of deterioration.

In any fuel tanks E10, combined with non-ethanol gasoline, may cause fuel filters to clog and even deteriorate.

These two products mixed in boat tanks upset the vapour pressure of the fuel causing cold-start &

vapor-lock problems. In isolated cases, corrosion of aluminum fuel system components have been documented & attributed to mixing the two fuels.

To avoid this problem both tanks should be run down to the lowest safe level before taking on ethanol fuel. Fuel suppliers are in transition. Boat owners who trailer their boats and fill at service stations must be aware that they are buying mixes up to E10. Boat owners & marinas report that filters clog often with the first few fill-ups (more prevalent in older boats) because the filters cannot take care of all the dirt. However, the installed filters will collect the dirt but will have to be changed more often. Carrying spare ethanol-compatible filters will be a must for boaters & marinas. Boaters must have the spares & the means to change them, including a method of safely storing them & gasoline they contain for safe disposal ashore.

Ethanol, being alcohol based, absorbs water. Marine fuel systems are very susceptible to water intrusion. E10 has the ability to absorb 6000-7000 PPM of water into solution & allow it to be burned by the engine.

In a 375 litre tank the fuel could hold about 2.5 liters of water without separation. The problem comes when the fuel is saturated beyond its capacity to hold any more water. Phase separation takes place & leaves two solutions: a high concentrate of water & alcohol, and gasoline with no oxygenate. The water/alcohol solution is highly corrosive to aluminum & other fuel components, & oxygenate-shorter gasoline will cause engine damage. The only solution is to drain the system & start over again. E10 will also absorb water directly from humidity in the atmosphere through the fuel vents. In 100 days at 70% humidity E10 can absorb enough water to phase separate. E10 is only good for 60-90 days if left without treatment. Non-alcohol based fuel stabilizers can extend the life, & are recommended.

Contrary to past practices, it is preferable to leave boat tanks containing ethanol low on fuel & the more the boat is used the better. For winter storage leave the tanks as low as possible & treat what is left with stabilizer.

At the time of writing this, Hurst Marina, the Kars General Store & Kelly's Landing are pumping ethanol-free gasoline.

Precautions for the switch to ethanol

- *Do not mix ethanol blend with old-formula fuels.*
- *Run non-alcohol based fuel stabilizers in the boat fuel system-especially recommended for boats sitting for extended periods with little use.*
- *The more use the boat gets, the less likely it is to have problems. Don't leave large quantities of E10 fuel aboard idle boats.*
- *Install good quality, ethanol compatible fuel filters.*
- *Keep a stock of spare filters & the means for safely changing them.*
- *Replace old, weather-faded portable plastic tanks with new ones.*
- *When you are buying fuel, first ask the retailer what type of fuel they are dispensing*
- *Fuel lines older than the late eighties should be inspected & may need replacing.*
- *Some older carbureted engines may require special tuning & ethanol-compatible fuel system components.*



We're a Clean Marina!

Limi Scuttlebutt...

Bass Condos

Did you notice the dozens & dozens of bass nests at the south end in June? They were almost touching, each one patrolled by a vigilant father guarding his offspring. This is great news for the water quality of our river as bass, as with most other water critters, don't tolerate polluted water. As usual our 'No Fishing' signs were in place cautioning you that fishing for them is illegal until July.



mmm ... delicious!

These folks bagged a big walleye right off our main dock

The Giving Garden

Limi is proud to become the first marina in Canada to plant a Giving Garden! A growing concept in this area, ours is a herb garden we've planted on the north end patio. Parsley, sage, chives & a host of other herbs are there for you to take. The Giving Garden legend is written on a plaque there for you to read. The concept is based on the premise that you cannot steal that which is given to you. So, help yourself, but please leave enough for others.

North Grenville has planted a Giving Garden on the north side of County Rd 43 next to 'Finders Keepers' in Kemptville. This one is huge, & has vegetables &

flowers for you to harvest, and preferably re-gift. Check out the website: www.northgrenville.on.ca



One of four herb planters at the north patio

A Sad Farewell to 'Pumper'

A picturesque scene at our main dock for the past several winter months has been the over a hundred-year-old 'Bytown Pumper, one of the last fully operational steamships in North America.



Pumper being towed to Ludlow's

Unfortunately we haven't had a dock long enough & wide enough to keep her for the summer. Gillian has racked her brain to try to accommodate her & convert her to a floating restaurant ... to no avail, so this steamship has moved to Ludlow Boat Works at Becketts Landing. There she's for sale. If you're interested call Phil Ludlow at (613) 258-4270

Shit's Happening!

Another first in Canada for Limi!

That golf-course type grass you see beside the Victuals kiosk is covering our new sewage tanks which are the first completed component of our 'EcoCyclet' wastewater garden.



The first chapter

Added before spring 2010 will be a three-hundred square-foot garden planted with vegetation that thrives on the circulated contents of those tanks! This is called phyto-remediation, increasingly used to remedy major environmental spills. Limi's will be the first commercial installation in Canada. There are only two others, both serving residential properties. We have worked closely with the Centre for Sustainable Watersheds in Portland, who pioneered and operate the first installation in Canada, and who devoted many hours helping us design & install our system. Check it out on their website: www.watersheds.ca

More details of Limi's next spring when we're up & running!



'Gillian (left) in shit!'

The Centre for Sustainable Watersheds 'EcoCyclet' in Portland

Party
time
again!



'End of Season Pig Roast'

Saturday, September 12th, 5:30pm

Bring your usually hungry selves and a food offering (salads, breads, desserts, etc. or something deliciously gourmet) and get ready to pig out at our ninth annual, hugely popular PIG ROAST beginning at 5:30pm. Oink Oink Acres will again be firing up the roaster early that morning and serving up succulent pig somewhere around 5:30 pm. Then enjoy our wonderful lockmatters 'THREE BY GEORGE' as they strut their stuff till we drop.

No Reservations Required!
No Charge!