



Fred's Shed Seminar Topics Descriptions

Props—Choosing, Care & Repair Sponsored by Yamaha Genuine Propellers

What pitch prop should you use? Are there advantages of a 4-blade prop over a 3-blade? Which is better aluminum or stainless steel? Get answers to these questions and learn how props impact performance and fuel economy.

Service & Maintenance—What You Need to Know Sponsored by Yamalube

Learn basic maintenance and how to prevent problems before they happen to keep your gas-powered outboard running at its best. We will dive into the carburetor and fuel injection systems of both today's and yesterday's boats, and look inside a motor cutaway to gain a better understanding of motor mechanics.

Ethanol—How It Impacts Your Engine Sponsored by Yamalube

Wondering what is best for your boat—pure gas, E10 or E15? Is there a difference between marina gas and gas from car pumps? Should you store your boat full or empty? How does ethanol affect marine engines? This session tackles fuel system basics, including the tough subject of ethanol in marine engines.

Batteries—How to Maintain & Boost Your Electrical System

Everything you need to know about marine batteries but didn't know who or what to ask! Listen in as our pros share their expertise and leave with the know how to solve basic electrical issues and maintain your batteries.

Talk with a Tech Pro

Stop by for a free one-on-one consultation with our certified marine technician. Get professional advice and answers to your questions enhanced by hands-on demonstrations of tools and techniques on boat and motor cutaways. Sessions are first come, first served.

Fiberglass & Gel Coat Damage—Fix It or Forget It

If you own a fiberglass boat, you do not want to miss this workshop. Learn about preventative fiberglass maintenance and strategies for repairing damage. Demos on cutaway fiberglass panels give you a first-hand look at maintenance and repair techniques.

Boat Parts—15-Minute Boot Camp

If you want to learn the total anatomy of a boat, you will want to join us for this session. What are the basic parts of the boat that I need know? How are boat weight limits calculated? What are things I need to pay special attention at different times of the year and while boat is in use?

New Boater Basics

New to boating? We're' here to help make sure you know how to choose the right boat for you and your family. Join us to learn what you need to consider as you are boat shopping today. We will also dive into the "rules on the water" similar to the rules of the road.

Lower Unit Service & Maintenance Tips

What does my lower unit do? Why is it important to keep the water pump in tip top condition? Can I change my water pump (impeller) and gear lube myself? Watch in as one of our tech pros demonstrates a complete lower unit service. You will also want to return for our propeller session as well.

Trailer—Hitching, Driving & Safety Tips

Learn what to check on your trailer before you hitch up and head out to the launch wrap. We will cover all of the basic parts and care needed for your trailer. Get answers to these questions and more: Why are there grease zerk fittings on my trailer axles? Or should there be? Are any tires OK for my boat trailer as long as they fit on the rim?

Starting Your Boat—Do's, Don'ts & Why's

Is it OK to start my outboard or sterndrive engine while it's on my trailer, before it's launched into the water? Should the blower switch be left on at all times and when can I shut it off? What sequence do I use for turning on batteries and electronics including getting the engines running? How long should I let the engines run before getting out onto the water?

Engine Essentials—General Maintenance

What service intervals should I be aware of for my boat engine? Is any engine oil OK? What is the difference between today's outboard or sterndrive engines versus yesterday's engines? Four-stroke technology and fuel efficiency versus two-stroke engines? There is so much to cover on this topic. Don't miss it!

Water Pumps & Fuel Filters—Installation Insights

Even if you attended our lower unit servicing session, you will learn more about your water pump and its importance along with why an inline fuel filter should be considered to remove water from your fuel tank.

Personal Watercraft—Upkeep & Gear Necessities

Get tips from our tech pro on what you need to know before launching your personal watercraft (PWC), including what to look over on your machine, what to wear and what you should always carry in the storage locker of your PWC.

Cleaning & Detailing Do's & Don'ts

Learn what it takes to keep your boat looking new—and to maintain its value. Whether you are boating in fresh or salt water, cleaning and flushing your boat are extremely important. Topics covered include: water spots that can mar your boat's shiny appearance, best way to keep your seats clean, the right products to use when washing and waxing your boat and more.

Winterizing—Everything You Need to Know

Learn the important steps to preparing your boat for its winter nap. We will discuss fuel storage, water draining if any, the best time to do any maintenance prior to the next season and other important winterizing tips.