



2010 AWARDS PROGRAM RECIPIENTS

PROJECT AWARDS:

Each year SOBA provides the opportunity for boat access projects to be nominated for national recognition in four categories. These categories were established to acknowledge the range of boating access projects that states and other organizations often address. Cost in and of itself does not define the size of a project. Rather the need for access, the intended customer base and daily use, and the often unique circumstances of the site itself can greatly affect cost and the design of the project.

These awards are given to an agency, group, local government, or corporation whose project is constructed in a SOBA member state.

In 2010, a total of 17 projects were nominated: the winners are as follows:

SMALL ACCESS CATEGORY: Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment for their *Eight Point Lake Boating Access Site Development Project*: Eight Point was the largest lake (400 acres) in Clare County with no public access. It is a one lane ramp with 22 parking spaces, and the cost of construction was \$330,000. Obstacles that were overcome during the construction included:

- Collecting Public Input
- Addressing private landowner concerns
- Storm water management to protect shoreline wetlands
- Poor inbound road access
- Poor geotechnical conditions
- Inadequate ADA access

MID-SIZE ACCESS CATEGORY:

2010 Recipient: Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries for the *Lawnes Creek Boating Access Facility*, located in Surry County, a site determined best to try out new alternative materials. The courtesy pier and wave screens were severely deteriorated, and materials used in construction included Fiberglass cylinder piles, PVC sheet piling, plastic composite whaler and top plate, and composite plastic material for the dock, pier and ladders. The cost of the project was \$220,000.

LARGE ACCESS CATEGORY:

2010 Recipient: The Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Watercraft for the *Huron River Wildlife Ramp Access*. This is a new 9 acre site on the mouth of the Huron River providing access to Lake Erie's western basin. The project consisted of 4 launch lanes, 135 car/trailer parking spaces, 33 car only parking spaces, courtesy docks, LED lighting and restroom. The cost of construction was \$2.4 million.

MARINA AND HARBOR CATEGORY:

2010 Recipient: Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Recreation Division for the *Straits State Harbor*. The project utilized many "green" technologies including wind turbines, solar tubes, motion light sensors, timed showers and low flow water and toilet fixtures. The marina includes 134 slips, fuel sales, sanitary pump-out, 3 lane ramp, and Harbormaster building. The cost of construction was \$11 million.

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SOBA STATE AWARDS

2010 BOATING ACCESS PROGRAM EXCELLENCE AWARD:

This award is presented to a state agency that has primary responsibility for boating access development and which has excelled over time and provided outstanding service to its residents and visitors to the state. This award recognizes leadership and public service: in providing boating access site development, operation and maintenance; in providing programs that educate and inform boaters about boating access in the state; and in providing programs that resulted in innovation in all aspects of boating access management including financing.

2010 RECIPIENT: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Wisconsin is home to over 15,000 inland lakes totaling 982,000 acres. Additionally it has 659 miles of shoreline bordering Lakes Michigan and Superior, and it has 238 miles on the Mississippi River. The WI DNR owns and operates 620 access sites, and local government units operate another 2290 facilities. WI, DNR launched a popular boating access website in 2007. In addition WI DNR has an active land acquisition program spending \$50 million per year, which includes acquiring additional motor boating access sites, shore fishing sites and non motorized access sites yearly.

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CLEAN VESSEL ACT PROGRAM EXCELLENCE AWARD:

This award is presented to a state agency that has primary responsibility for implementing the provisions of the Clean Vessel Act of 1992 and which has excelled over time and provided outstanding service to its residents and visitors to the state. This award recognizes leadership and public service: in the administration of the CVA, in the operation and maintenance of CVA facilities; and in developing innovative CVA programs and projects.

2010 RECIPIENT: New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife, CVA Program.

Since the passage of the CVA program in 1992, New Jersey has designed a pumpout program model that integrates construction, renovation, operation and maintenance activities with boater education to address the concerns related to vessel generated sewage and waste. The key to the success of the NJ CVA is to plan and implement pumpout construction and public outreach activities through partnerships. This approach resulted in 249 pumpout units installed, 6 pumpout boats in operation and 5 million gallons of sewage and waste removed from recreational vessels. These units and boats have played an integral part in the protection of New Jersey's marine estuaries from discharge of vessel generated waste. The CVA program is administered through a steering committee with participants from several public and private entities:

- Division of Fish and Wildlife: CVA program provides guidance, grants management, information and education activities
- Division of Coastal Engineering: prepares contract forms and oversees construction
- Marine Trades Association receives and reviews applications for completeness
- New Jersey marine Science Consortium/new Jersey Sea Grant Consortium chairs and coordinates all steering committee activities.

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INDIVIDUAL AWARDS:

OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD:

This award is presented to an individual or an agency who has made either a one-time or continuing contribution to provide improved access for boaters and anglers to our nation's public waters. These contributions can relate to such activities as: obtaining funding at the national or a state level for boating access acquisition or improvement; enactment of legislation or policies that protects and improves the public's right to access the nation's waters; and similar activities.

2010 RECIPIENT: Kim Elverum, Boat and Water Safety Coordinator for the Minnesota DNR.

Kim has been with MN, DNR since 1971 and is a graduate of the US Coast Guard Institute's Boating Course. He is a member and past president of both NASBLA (National Association of State Boating Law Administrators), and the Northern Association of Boating Law Administrators. Kim is the recipient of many NASBLA awards including the State Boating Law Administrator's Award in 1986, the Bonner Award in 1994 and the Lifetime Achievement Award in 2001. Kim is being recognized with SOBA's 2010 Outstanding Service Award for his role in offering funding for the acquisition, development and rehabilitation of public access facilities through the Sport Fish Restoration Program. The opportunity to effectively utilize Federal boating safety funding was instrumental in the growth of Minnesota's public access program from approximately 1,000 state owned sites in 1975 to 1,600 today. Kim is an essential partner of Minnesota's public water access program, continually finding ways to maximize the amount of public access projects completed and funded with boating safety funding.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AWARD:

This award is presented to an individual SOBA member or a group of SOBA members (most often a designated Task Force or Committee) for service on a special project or for ongoing efforts on behalf of SOBA. From time to time SOBA establishes various committees or Task Forces that work on special projects and issue areas. These groups at times have continued their work over a period of years before a final product was produced. This award recognizes an individual or group effort on such projects completed on behalf of SOBA.

2010 RECIPIENT: 2009 Construction DVD Committee for their work on the completed DVD: Construction Techniques for Recreational Boating Access Facilities.

This committee started their 3 year project in 2007, and the 8 member team donated large periods of time to this effort.

Team members included:

- Terry Boyd, (AL): Chairman
- Gary Iles (IL): Vice Chairman
- James Adams (VA)
- Kevin Atkinson (CA)
- Tim Bazley (CA)
- Dave Kieffer (OH)
- Ted Leverman (IN)
- Lacy Nichols (DE)

The final product was presented by the committee during SOBA's 2009 annual conference in Corpus Christi, Texas.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD:

This award is presented to an individual, group, organization or political sub-division in recognition of activities that are singularly illustrative or supportive of SOBA's mission. These activities can take various forms ranging from providing organizational support to SOBA, completion of special assignments for SOBA, providing leadership within or on behalf of SOBA, and for general leadership in public boating access issues.

2010 RECIPIENT: Lacy E. Nichols, Jr. Construction Project Manager for the Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife.

Before receiving his Master's of Science from the Tennessee Technological University, Cookeville, Tennessee in 1971, Lacy spent two years in the US Army, including a tour of Vietnam. For the past 21 years he has been with the Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife, first as the Supervisor of Field Operations and for the last 19 years as the Construction Project Manager. Lacy has been affiliated with SOBA since 1991, and served as a past Annual Conference Chair and Treasurer. During this

long association, has been involved in numerous committee activities and task force groups including the 1999 Operational and Maintenance Program Guides for Recreational Boating facilities and the 2009 Construction DVD Committee. He has been responsible for 24 boating access projects in Delaware totaling more than 415 million. These of these projects have won SOBA Outstanding Project Awards:

- Wagamons Pond 1997 Small Access Award
- Massey's Landing Boat Ramp 2001 Large Access Award
- Newport Boat Ramp 2004 Midsize Access Award

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WILLIAM H. IVERS AWARD:

This award was established by the SOBA Executive Board in 1993 to honor the memory of William H. Ivers. Bill was one of SOBA's early pioneering members whose vision, dedication and hard work helped establish SOBA as the primary organization dedicated to boating access. This award is presented to an individual who has significantly contributed over at least 15 years to the design, construction, management or administration of boating access facilities or programs. The nominee's contributions will exemplify high standards of professionalism and outstanding achievement.

2010 RECIPIENT: Mike Hough (retired) Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife

During Mike's tenure with the KY Fish and Wildlife Division, he was in charge of the boating access construction program, drawing and designing plans for many projects. He served on the original SOBA Design Handbook committee and on the committee responsible for the recent update of the Design Handbook. He has been affiliated with the SOBA board of directors in several capacities, including Treasurer, Vice President, and President. He was the SOBA Newsletter Editor for several years, and continued in this role after his state retirement. He has represented SOBA on the Sport Fish Boating Partnership Council, and continues to promote boating access by representing SOBA on the Review Committee for the Council for the BIG program and the 15% Review. His strong leadership, expertise, commitment and knowledge have advanced recreational boating in the State of Kentucky, and contributed to the growth of SOBA.