



On The Water Weekly

Where Ohio Business Meets the Water

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May 22nd, 2024

OMTA at the Ohio Statehouse

OMTA Representative and previous president Ken Alvey testified at the Statehouse yesterday before the House Transportation Committee against the legislation to remove the spotter requirement for watersports. You can watch the hearing at [this link](#). (Ken is about 11 minutes into the video.) In addition to OMTA, there were 3 other pieces of written opponent testimony for the boating industry.

Most of the committee was nodding in agreement to Ken's formal remarks. We were able to have private conversations with many of the committee members, including the Chairman and Vice Chairman. The member (Rep. Kevin Miller) who represents Buckeye Lake, and is also former highway patrol and agrees with our position. After the hearing, the Chairman indicated he does not plan to have any further hearings on the bill. So, mission accomplished!

Additionally, today the House Energy and Natural Resources Committee is scheduled to vote out SB 156 (regarding scenic rivers) that includes the OMTA supported provisions regarding boating safety grants.

And the House Government Oversight Committee had an opponent hearing on HJR 14 to encourage Congress to pass the Great Lake Restoration Act, something OMTA has formally supported. There were no opponents. So hopefully that is passed soon.

Overall, a good week for OMTA at the Statehouse. Thanks Ken for your testimony and hope everyone has a wonderful and safe Memorial Day weekend!

Boat Dealer Survey re: Future New Boat Shows

OMTA is actively planning ahead for the future with exciting new show ideas in mind. Your feedback is invaluable to us, so please take a moment to fill out this brief survey to help us understand your interest in participating.

[Take the Survey](#)

Call for Boats: Support Fundraising Event on August 14th

The Republican Senate Campaign Committee is hosting a fundraising event on Wednesday, August 14th. Senator McColley has expressed interest in our assistance with providing boats for the upcoming fundraising event, similar to our collaboration with the Ohio Chamber of Commerce event last year.

Please fill out the form below if you are interested in contributing. Thank you in advance!

[Access the Form Here](#)



2025 Cleveland Boat Show Space Sales Launching Soon

The boat show committee will convene soon. Space sales will launch this summer, so please keep an eye out for detailed information.



May 8th H2Ohio Annual Meeting & Reception Recap

The H2Ohio annual meeting and reception took place on the evening of Wednesday May 8th. OMTA Legislative Representative Amanda Sines was in attendance. Representatives from both the Ohio EPA and the Department of Agriculture were present and shared insights during the event. The materials distributed by the Ohio agencies involved in water conservation initiatives are shared below.

[H2Ohio 2024 Funding Overview](#)

Don't Forget to RSVP: OMTA Member Meeting via ZOOM on June 10th, from 5pm-6pm

The OMTA Member Meeting has been rescheduled to take place on **Zoom on Monday, June 10th, from 5pm-6pm**. During the meeting, we'll be diving into OMTA initiatives. Plus, don't miss out on the insightful presentation by guest speaker Sarah Orlando from Ohio Sea Grant and the Ohio Clean Marinas Program. Sarah will be providing a 15-minute talk on clean boating practices and environmental regulations relevant to marinas.

We look forward to speaking with you virtually. Please RSVP your attendance to receive admittance to the meeting.

If you are not already an OMTA member, please RSVP and join us to learn more about the association's initiatives.

[RSVP for June 10th Member Meeting](#)

2024 Calendar of Events

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Wednesday, May 22nd	3:00 pm-5:00 pm	Cuyahoga Connects CRSTF Mixer & Presser
Monday, June 10th	5:00 pm-6:00 pm	OMTA Member Meeting via Zoom
Thursday, August 15th	5:30 pm	Lake Erie Foundation: Celebrate the Lake
Saturday, August 17th	7:00 pm	Nashville Hitmakers presented by The Indian Lake Watershed
Monday, September 9th	8:30 am-3:30 pm	LEMTA Educational Foundation Golf Outing
Mid September	TBD	OMTA Member Meeting in the Indian Lake Area
November	TBD	OMTA Member Meeting Location TBD

[Printable Calendar of Events](#)