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COOPER RIVER MARINA BECOMES SC's 15th CLEAN MARINA

Charleston, SC -- The South Carolina Clean Marina Committee has granted Clean Marina certification to Cooper River Marina (CRM), located in North Charleston, SC and administered by the Charleston County Park & Recreation Commission.

A flag and certificate were awarded to the marina managers at the South Carolina Marine Association Summer Marine Education Conference. SCMA administers the SC Clean Marina Program in cooperation with the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control and the SC Department of Natural Resources. Although a voluntary program, it challenges SC marinas and boatyards to manage facility operations as responsible stewards of the environment.

Matt Driscoll, General Manager of CRM, said they made over a span of three years improvements "upon existing policies and procedures to conform to the standards. These included maintaining a clean and operational pump out boat, proper storage of hazardous materials, providing boater education and signage on environmentally friendly practices, recycling and proper disposal of materials, selling and encouraging the use of environmentally friendly products, as well as fabrication of spill response and emergency action procedure documents, among others."

At the same awards ceremony, Downtown Marina in Beaufort, SC received its recertification of its Clean Marina status. The marina, under the stewardship of Rick Griffin, CMM, has met the high standards of the program continually since 1998.

"Becoming a Clean Marina involves using best management in all phases of the marina's operations, SCMA President Iggy del Valle said in congratulating the recipients. "It isn't an easy process and, in some cases, involves added expenses." The marinas go beyond normal regulatory requirements in managing potential pollutants, keeping their facilities as "green" as possible and educating their customers on better environmental actions to keep our waterways clean.

For further information contact SCMA at the address and phone number above or email SCMarineAssn@gmail.com

The South Carolina Marine Association is a trade association representing the boaters and the boating businesses in the state.