

## **Fall Cleanup & Boat Storage Checklist**

### **BOAT CLEANING**

- Wash exterior hull and deck with marine-safe soap
- Clean interior surfaces, compartments, and upholstery
- Remove food, trash, and perishables
- Flush engine with fresh water (especially outboards)
- Drain bilge, freshwater systems, live wells

### **MAINTENANCE & INSPECTION**

- Change engine oil and replace oil filter
- Add fuel stabilizer and run engine to circulate
- Replace or check spark plugs and fuel lines
- Inspect hull for cracks or damage
- Check propeller for dents or fishing line
- Lubricate steering and control systems
- Remove, clean, and store battery (charge every 4–6 weeks)

### **STORAGE PREP**

- Apply wax or anti-corrosion spray to protect surfaces
- Cover boat with breathable, weather-resistant cover
- Elevate boat if stored outdoors (ensure proper drainage)
- Use dehumidifiers or moisture absorbers in cabin/compartments
- Seal exhaust ports and intake openings (to prevent pests)

### **GEAR & EQUIPMENT STORAGE**

- Remove and store electronics (GPS, radios, fish finders)
- Clean and dry life jackets and safety gear
- Store fire extinguishers in a dry, accessible place

- Wash, dry, and store ropes and dock lines
- Clean and organize fishing rods, reels, and tackle
- Remove flares, charts, tools — store in dry space

#### ✓ **DOCUMENTATION & PLANNING**

- Inventory all stored items
- Log maintenance and repairs completed
- Make note of needed upgrades or future repairs
- Renew boat registration/insurance if expiring soon
- Take photos of stored condition (for insurance records)



**Pro Tip:** Set a reminder in your calendar to check on your boat mid-winter and charge the battery.



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