

# The latest news from Sleepy Cove

## Sam, Lefty, and Wade: Proprietors Store Your Boat Here, If You Dare

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Well, it's been a slow week here in Sleepy Cove. It didn't start out that way, though. It's getting along in the season, and folks are starting to think about winterizing their boats. We got the regular folks who normally haul out here. But this year, we got a lot of folks from up north stoppin' by to see about haulin' out here. Seems the winter storage rates up there just keep going up and up.

Trouble is, they keep expectin' more than we want to offer. Fancy boat detailing, pressure washin', shrink wrapping, jack stands, things like that. What's wrong with blue tarps from the unclaimed freight store and cinder blocks?

Lefty and Wade have been busy pulling




the old cinder blocks out of the woods and stacking them ready for use. They've been battling the termites and fire ants for the wood blocking, although from the looks of most of it, the termites won. Luckily, the old ties we swiped from the railroad siding are so heavily creosoted that the termites won't touch them.

Sam even had another load of gravel hauled in for the muddy spots in the yard. Just as soon as Hank at the county road maintenance garage can sneak the road roller over, it'll be spread smooth and packed down, too. Sam's talkin' about getting some of the local high school students over to do the boat cleaning. That is, until Lefty reminded him that most are still on probation from spray painting stuff on the boats last year.


The other problem is that we're runnin' out a room here. The boats down at the far end of the yard, the ones that have been here the longest, are sinking into the ground. It's too soft for the Travel Lift to get to them, anyway. Sam's talkin' about clearing some of them out, if we can still find the owners. Of course, the way some of them are sinking off kilter, the next wind may take care of that for us.

In any case, Sam's getting grumpy about dealing with all the calls from those uppity newcomers anyway. The grumpier he gets, the higher the winter rates go. Soon enough, the problem will sort itself out naturally. Or at least be sorted out Sleepy Cove style.

Other than that, it's been a slow week here in Sleepy Cove.

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