



We All Get Heavier As We Age - Even Our Boats!

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We keep getting reminded that we are getting heavier as we get older. No matter where we turn, someone is telling us that we are getting fat and need to be thinner!

Guess what? So are our boats! Yes, as boats get older, they get heavier and that has a lot to do about being less "sea-kindly" and more "tender" as they get older (and our reflexes get slower - not a particularly good combination.) Here are some examples...

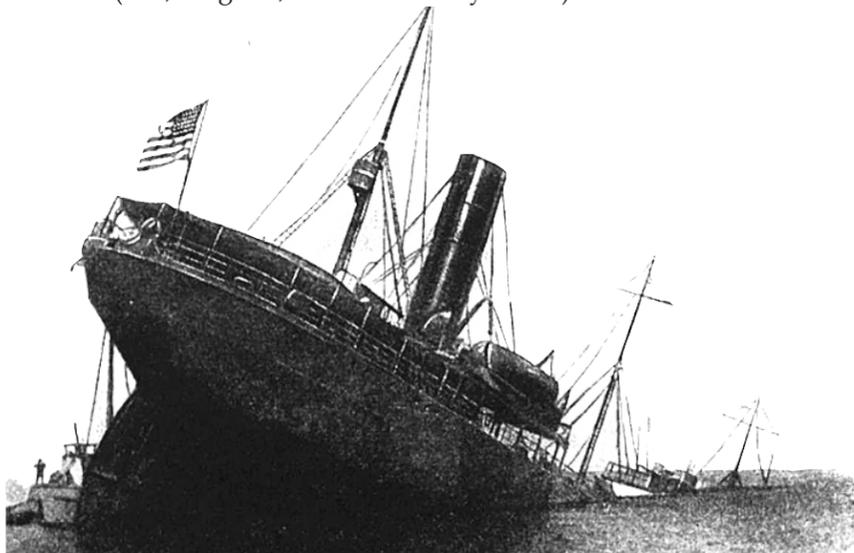
We add things to our boat that weren't there when we bought it. An ice chest may be added so we don't have to lug one from the car... We add an additional ice chest so we can bring more ice so we can stay out longer and catch more fish (hopefully!)... We pile up the cuddy cabin, a.k.a., the boat's attic, with safety and fishing equipment so we don't have to lug them from the car... More insidiously, through tiny cracks in the gel coat, water seeps inside the hull and the boat gets 8 lbs heavier per gallon... and it seeps, generally, aft where the boat is naturally heavier per square foot of hull due to the engine... making it harder to see over the bow when you gun the engine and start to "dig the hole" that getting up on plane gets you out of... and it is now harder to get on plane, i.e., you have to go faster, to get up on plane since the boat is heavier in the stern than when it was manufactured... an endless spiral...

And don't forget that new 4-stroke engine you added - so much quieter, so much more fuel efficient and so much heavier per "horse of power"... at least 20% heavier would be my guesstimate... that makes a 400lb 200hp 2-stroke weigh in at nearly 500lbs as a 4-stroke state-of-the-art power plant... and the same hull sits in front of it...

What to do about it? There are only 2 or 3 things that you can do. First, get rid of anything that isn't essential. There are 10 weekends in a summer. You aren't going to boat on every one of those 20 days - unless you are between spouses and looking for one that wants to live on the boat with you! How much of a big deal is it to cart just the things you need - not everything you own all the time - from the car or the dock locker that you installed at the foot of your slip? Second, you may be well served by adding some ballast to the bow area! While you are making the boat even heavier, you are adding it in a fashion that will allow her to sit

on her original water line - the way she was designed to sit. A good surveyor can tell you how much and where to add the lead "pigs"... please don't guess! Third, you may need to change your prop! The engine may be plenty powerful enough to move your mini-warehouse but it can't turn the propeller any faster due to its pitch (angle that it cuts through the water.) Counter-intuitively, you need a smaller prop/tighter pitch, not a larger one, to enable the engine to rotate the shaft more rapidly. Think about the little tires on your trailer keeping pace with the big tires on your truck - they HAVE to move faster to keep pace. Talk to your dock master about who he or she uses when they re-engineer props for customers. Go see them and talk about your options. This is some art, some science and some superstition. Talk it through with people who make a living engineering propellers. It will make a difference.

If you don't think about these things, "you gonna need a bigger boat..." (Yes, Virginia, it has been 30 years...)



Moriches Inlet Tide Table May 2007
40.7650°N, 72.7533° W

Date	Day	Time/Ht	Time/Ht	Time/Ht	Time/Ht
1-May	Tue		05:43/0.03	11:37/0.51	23:55/0.60
2-May	Wed		06:24/0.02	12:14/0.50	
3-May	Thu	00:28/0.60	07:03/0.01	12:50/0.49	
4-May	Fri	01:00/0.59	07:41/0.02	13:26/0.47	
5-May	Sat	01:33/0.58	08:19/0.03	14:03/0.46	
6-May	Sun	02:08/0.57	08:56/0.04	14:45/0.44	
7-May	Mon	02:50/0.55	09:36/0.06	15:34/0.44	
8-May	Tue	03:40/0.54	10:22/0.07	16:28/0.44	
9-May	Wed	04:37/0.54	11:19/0.07	17:24/0.46	
10-May	Thu	05:36/0.53	12:24/0.06	18:22/0.49	
11-May	Fri		00:47/0.12	06:37/0.53	19:22/0.52
12-May	Sat		01:59/0.08	07:41/0.54	20:22/0.57
13-May	Sun		03:00/0.04	08:46/0.55	21:20/0.62
14-May	Mon		03:57/-0.00	09:47/0.56	22:14/0.67
15-May	Tue		04:53/-0.04	10:43/0.57	23:05/0.70
16-May	Wed		05:48/-0.06	11:37/0.58	23:55/0.71
17-May	Thu		06:41/-0.08	12:29/0.57	
18-May	Fri	00:45/0.71	07:33/-0.07	13:22/0.56	
19-May	Sat	01:36/0.68	08:23/-0.05	14:18/0.54	
20-May	Sun	02:30/0.64	09:13/-0.02	15:16/0.52	
21-May	Mon	03:26/0.60	10:04/0.01	16:14/0.50	
22-May	Tue	04:22/0.56	10:59/0.04	17:09/0.49	
23-May	Wed	05:16/0.53	11:56/0.07	18:03/0.49	
24-May	Thu		00:08/0.14	06:08/0.50	18:54/0.49
25-May	Fri		01:12/0.14	07:00/0.48	19:46/0.51
26-May	Sat		02:09/0.12	07:53/0.46	20:36/0.52
27-May	Sun		02:59/0.10	08:46/0.46	21:23/0.55
28-May	Mon		03:46/0.08	09:38/0.46	22:06/0.57
29-May	Tue		04:31/0.06	10:25/0.47	22:47/0.59
30-May	Wed		05:15/0.04	11:08/0.47	23:24/0.

Foley: Open Space Buy Protects Terrell's River Supervisor Sees Community Park on East Moriches Property

Brookhaven Town Supervisor Brian X. Foley and Councilwoman Carol Bissonette announced at a press conference Tuesday, May 15 that the town has purchased the former Smith Osip Duck Farm in East Moriches, adding an important piece to the preserved open spaces along the Terrell's river.

This is the first acquisition the town is making on the east side of the Terrell's River as part of a larger preservation effort to establish a greenbelt of publicly-owned lands on that side of the river. Much of the west side of the river is protected by Suffolk County's Terrell's River County Park.

The nine-acre farm was purchased by the town with \$2,180,000 in funds from the 2004 Clean Water Open Space Bond Act. It is located at the corner of Montauk Highway and Bay Avenue in East Moriches.

"Preserving open space along our important waterways has been an important focus of our preservation efforts," said Supervisor Foley. "We want to do everything we can to protect and improve the quality of our waters, and preserving open space along those waterways is the best way to do that."

"We hope to create a community park on this property, a park where residents can enjoy walking paths and bird-watching or perhaps just stop by for a picnic on a beautiful piece of waterfront property. There

are several historic buildings on the property, and we hope to find uses for these buildings that will benefit the public and contribute to the value of this community park."

"I am delighted that we are acquiring the Smith Osip Farm," said Councilwoman Bissonette. "This acquisition is environmentally and historically significant. It is another positive step in preserving the Terrell's River from impacts of overdevelopment. We are also able to preserve three historic structures in the East Moriches Historic District. The Smith Osip Farm is an ideal educational, environmental and historic site that residents will be able to enjoy as an open space vista today and in the future."

The purchase of the Smith property continues the town's efforts to protect open space along the Terrell's River. The town last year purchased the development rights for 31 acres of Camp Paquatuck in East Moriches. That agreement saves the land, located at the headwaters of the Terrell's River, and assures that the Camp can continue its mission of serving special needs children. The camp is run by the Moriches Rotary Health Camp, Inc.

The town is in contract to purchase an additional 17 acres along the Terrell's River, and is looking at the possibility of purchasing several other properties in the area totaling approximately 93 acres.