



## Eldean Shipyard

A modern marvel on Lake Macatawa. BY COLLEEN H. TROUPIS

**W**ith easy access to Lake Michigan, Eldean Shipyard sits in a protected cove just inside Lake Macatawa. The marina is known for its dedication to its customers.

"As a family-owned and -operated business, we take a lot of pride in our business," explains Wade Eldean, vice president of the marina. "Most of the Eldeans live on site. When you live where you work, you really want to create a place where customers are happy to see you and are excited about the marina."

Established in 1901 as Jesiek Bros. Shipyard, the marina is one of the oldest active shipyard/marina complexes in the United States. But that's not to say that it feels its age. Since being purchased by brothers Herb and Roger Eldean in 1973, the marina has undergone quite a transformation. "Over the past 33 years, the Eldeans have completely rebuilt the marina," says Wade, who is Herb's son. In 1976, a 10,000-square-foot

building was added to house the ship's store, boat sales, general office and one of the marina's two shower facilities. "Thirty years after completion, this bathhouse still receives compliments," Wade says. A recently added second bathhouse lives up to its predecessor, with granite counters, skylights and 20-foot ceilings. Renovations also included tearing down all of the old storage buildings and replacing them with new ones that offer 150,000 square feet of indoor heated storage.

Certified as a Michigan Clean Marina in 2006, Eldean boasts 310 slips and eight moorings. There are typically about 40 transient slips available, and while reservations are not required, they are recommended. Berths run about 30 to 45 feet in length, but the marina can accommodate a vessel up to 140 feet long. Water depth ranges from 3 to 25 feet.

Piper Restaurant, an upscale, eclectic eatery located on site, is the only remaining waterfront public restaurant on Macatawa. Also on the grounds is a pool, two hot tubs,

indoor parking, gas grills, picnic areas and a playground.

There is plenty to do in the area. Big Red, the lighthouse that marks the Holland Harbor entrance, is a half-mile walk away. Visit in May for the annual Tulip Time Festival or in June for the Waterfront Film Festival.

### in the harbor

Transient slips.....	Yes
Pumpout.....	Yes
Gas.....	Yes
Diesel.....	Yes
Lifts.....	Yes
Launch ramp.....	Nearby
Engine repair.....	Yes
Hull repair.....	Yes
Marine store.....	Yes
Restaurant.....	Yes
Showers.....	Yes
Laundromat.....	Yes

Eldean Shipyard | 616-335-5843 | [eldean.com](http://eldean.com)