

Waterfront Community Centers



There are approximately 50 Waterfront Community Centers in the country, 38 of which conform to the rigorous standards of the US Sailing accreditation program.

Some programs are small dealing with a few hundred people and some provide services to 20,000 to 30,000 participants yearly.

Typical features:

- **Not-for-profit 501(c)(3)**
- **Open to anyone regardless of race, creed, gender, or economic status**
- **Special focus on empowering youth**
- **Education component**
- **Collaboration with school districts, colleges, and public service organizations**
- **Self-sustaining operations**
- **Free or low cost training and use of boats and equipment**
- **Heavy reliance on volunteers and mentors**

Waterfront Community Centers have given millions of people access to the water.



Typical programs:

- Sailing
- Power boating
- Paddle boards
- Kayak/canoe
- Water Skiing
- Fishing
- Wind surfing
- Rowing
- Ecology education
- Boat building/repair/ maintenance
- Business/community organization programming-facility rental

Milwaukee Opens Sailing Facility

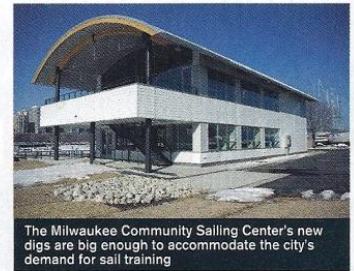
The Milwaukee Community Sailing Center (MCSC), perched on the shores of Lake Michigan, is celebrating the completion of a new 6,000 ft² building that includes everything from expanded classroom facilities to indoor plumbing. Nice!

Founded in 1979, MCSC offers sailing classes for adults and sailing programs for at-risk kids. It maintains a fleet of about 75 boats, comprised of everything from Ensigns and J/24s to JY Club Trainers.

According to MCSC executive director Peter Rieck, the center outgrew its original 800 ft² space long ago and has been working on the new building since around 2003. Donors include Harken USA, based in nearby Pewaukee, Wisconsin, which helped get the project off the ground with some early seed money, and then came through with additional funds to help with actual construction.

"We just didn't have the space to do all we wanted to do," Rieck said. "We were making it work, but it was a bit much." He said he remembers one day, in particular, when a series of thunderstorms came through trapping about 70 students in the old single-classroom building for about three hours. And remember—no indoor plumbing. (In the interest of full disclosure, I kept a Lightning at the center for years when I lived in Milwaukee, and remember that old Porta Potti well!)

MCSC is still raising funds for a new workshop to help it maintain its fleet. For more on the center, visit sailingcenter.org. —AC



US Sailing Accredited Community Centers

Bourne Community Boating Inc.	www.bournecommunityboating.org	Bourne, MA
Community Boating Center	www.communityboating.com	Providence, RI
Community Boating Center Inc.	www.communityboating.org	New Bedford, MA
Community Boating, Inc.	www.community-boating.org	Boston, MA
Community Sailing of Colorado	www.communitysailing.org	Denver, CO
Courageous Sailing Center	www.courageoussailing.org	Charlston, MA
DC Sail	www.dcsail.org	Washington, DC
Downtown Sailing Center	www.downtownsailing.org	Baltimore, MD
Duxbury Bay Maritime School	www.dbms.org	Duxbury, MA
Edison Sailing Center	www.edisonsailingcenter.org	Fort Myers, FL
Hudson River Community Sailing	www.hudsonsailing.org	New York, NY
Lake Champlain Community Sailing Center	www.communitysailingcenter.org	Burlington, VT
Lake Forrest Sailing	www.cityoflakeforest.com/cs/rec/cs_rec2d16.htm	Lake Forest, IL
LifeSail	www.lifesail.com	Van Nuys, CA
Milwaukee Community Sailing Center	www.sailingcenter.org	Milwaukee, WI
Mission Bay Aquatic Center	www.mbaquaticcenter.com	San Diego, CA
Mystic Seaport Sail Education Programs	www.mysticseaport.org	Mystic, CT
Nantucket Community Sailing, Inc.	www.nantucketcommunitysailing.org	Nantucket, MA
New England Science & Sailing Foundation	www.nessf.org	Stonington, CT
Piers Park Sailing Center	www.pierssailing.org	Boston, MA
Regatta Point Community Sailing	www.freeyellow.com/members2/rpcs/	Shrewsbury, MA
Renton Sailing Center	www.rentonsailingcenter.org	Renton, WA
Rocking the Boat	www.rockingtheboat.org	Bronx, NY
Sail Cape Cod, Inc.	www.sailcapecod.org	Hyannis, MA
Sail Nauticus	www.sailnauticus.org	Norfolk, VA
Sail Sand Point	www.sailsandpoint.org	Seattle, WA
Sea Star Base Galveston	www.ssbgalveston.org/	Galveston, TX
Sheboygan Youth Sailing Center	www.sheboyganyouthsailing.com	Sheboygan, WI
Sheridan Shore Sailing School	www.sheridanshoresailingschool.org	Wilmett, IL
Sodus Bay Junior Sailing Assoc..	www.sbjasa.org	Sodus Pt., NY
SUNY Maritime College	www.sunymaritime.edu	Bronx, NY
The Waterfront Center	www.thewaterfrontcenter.org	Oyster Bay, NY
Treasure Island Sailing Center	www.tisailing.org	San Francisco, CA
US Sailing Center-Long Beach, CA	www.usclub.org	Long Beach, CA
US Sailing Center of Martin County	www.uscmc.org	Jensen Beach, CA
Wayzata Community Sailing Center	www.wayzatasailing.org	Wayzata, MN
Westwind Sailing	www.westwindsailing.com	San Juan Capistrano, CA