South Florida Seawall Publishes 2026 Saltwater Boat Lift Guide

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BOCA RATON, FL - August 27, 2026 -
South Florida Seawall, a licensed marine contractor serving Broward and Palm Beach counties, announced the publication of its 2026 Saltwater Boat Lift Guide, a comprehensive educational resource for waterfront property owners considering a boat lift or maintaining an existing one. The full guide is available now on their blog.

As the guide explains, the residential canal networks of Broward and Palm Beach counties are tidal salt water connected to the Intracoastal Waterway, and vessels moored in them face the same relentless pressures: barnacle growth, hull blistering, galvanic corrosion of running gear, and the accelerated wear that salt inflicts on cables, motors, and hardware. The new guide was written to give boat owners a clear, current picture of what a properly specified saltwater lift involves in 2026, from the first sizing calculation through decades of scheduled maintenance.

The guide opens with an explanation of the lift configurations most common on South Florida waterways, including the four-post cradle lift that remains the regional workhorse, seawall-mounted elevator lifts for properties without room for outboard pilings, no-profile systems that disappear below deck level, beamless

cantilever designs, personal watercraft platforms, and engineered yacht lifts rated above 50,000 pounds. Each configuration is matched to the site conditions it suits best, because the right choice depends less on the boat than on the waterway it sits on.

Readers will also find installed pricing estimates for 2026, drawn from the company's own recent project quotes and installations in Broward and Palm Beach counties. Based on that experience, the guide estimates that most residential saltwater lifts run between $12,000 and $35,000 installed, while large-capacity units, elevator systems, and projects requiring new pilings can exceed $75,000, with final pricing depending on site conditions, capacity, and electrical scope. The guide explains how capacity should be calculated from a vessel's true wet load, including engines, fuel, water, and gear, plus a safety margin of 20 to 25 percent, a step the company reports is skipped surprisingly often and one it frequently identifies when called to service lifts with worn cables or burned-out motors.

Permitting receives particular attention. The guide walks through the county and municipal approvals that commonly apply across Broward and Palm Beach counties, cautions that local building approvals typically still apply even when a project qualifies for a state environmental resource permitting exemption, and, based on the company's recent permitting experience in the two counties, suggests owners plan for approval timelines in the range of two to eight weeks, noting that individual municipalities and project scopes vary. A dedicated hurricane section explains the storm-preparation procedure the company recommends to lift owners before a named storm: raising the vessel to its maximum safe height, pulling the drain plug, and strapping the hull to the cradle fore and aft.

For owners in Fort Lauderdale, the guide is complemented by the company's dedicated Fort Lauderdale boat lift resource at https://sflseawall.com/boat-lifts-fort-lauderdale, which applies the same principles to the specific conditions of the roughly 165 miles of navigable waterways the City of Fort Lauderdale has long cited in describing its canal system. That page details how the City of Fort Lauderdale's waterway projection rules shape which lift types can be permitted on narrow finger canals, why elevator and no-profile lifts dominate neighborhoods such as Las Olas Isles and Idlewyld, and what owners in the self-proclaimed Boating Capital of the World should expect from the permitting process.

"Fort Lauderdale owners face constraints that simply do not exist elsewhere in the state, and a lift that would be routine on a wide waterway can be unpermittable three canals over," the company noted in the guide. The city page and the 2026 guide are designed to work together, giving owners both the regional fundamentals and the street-level specifics before a single dollar is spent.

South Florida Seawall is an authorized AMF and Hurricane boat lift dealer with licensed electrical work performed in-house. Every installation the company performs includes capacity sizing, permit preparation and filing, inspection scheduling, full load testing, and operational training at handover. The company also services and repairs all major lift brands and offers annual maintenance programs designed around the demands of constant saltwater exposure.

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For more information about South Florida Seawall, contact the company here:South Florida SeawallAlex Ray754-732-9255info@sflseawall.com5635 Rico DriveBoca Raton, FL 33487

South Florida Seawall

South Florida Seawall provides elite marine construction in Palm Beach and Broward. Specializing in engineered seawalls, docks, and boat lifts, the firm brings commercial discipline and transparent pricing to waterfront property protection.

Website: https://sflseawall.com/

Email: info@sflseawall.com

Phone: 754-732-9255