

Lights Over Untroubled Waters



LED piling-cap dock lighting lines the piling structure along a pier walkway. Recessed fixtures provide subtle illumination onto composite decking.

Downlighting onto fish cleaning station provides ample lighting in a space specifically designed for cleaning fish.



Whatever he says he can deliver, he can, even if you're the first person to have asked for that particular lighting or dock facet in that particular way. He's proved it time after time. "It's all about R&D," he says. "I understand the ins-and-outs of what light can do, the spectrums, and just how to get you what you want in functionality and mood. And I love doing it." The heavy lifting on the R&D with these innovative products comes from an amazing lighting company, Coastal Source. Their partnership with Reynolds allows for the creation of a majority of these cool "one of a kind" dock designs.

Dock life can include a secluded bench near the end of the dock, water lapping gently just beyond your fingertips, or it can provide an extension of the land as you normally experience it. Maybe you want an audio system, a bird-deterrent sprinkler, integrated site lighting, a fish-cleaning station. It's all possible, including the lighting that transforms the night – and, of course, all those fish on their own nature channel right off your own dock. – *Annaliese Jakimides*

Over 4,000 years ago, the first known docks were built – for work. Pleasure docks, or piers (the terms are synonymous in the United States), didn't surface until the early 1800s. In the 200 years since then, the dock that the family uses to tie up its boat or enjoy summer swims has changed very little.

Until now.

Dock lighting, a specialty area that only a few contractors across the country are exploring, is at the heart of this shift.

The options are many, but if you opt to include fish-attracting lights in the mix, "it's like having the Discovery Channel out your back door," says Tanek Hood. "With the right components and the right design, lights can attract and illuminate fish in the most spectacular ways. It's really amazing." Hood is the manager of Reynolds Lighting, a division of Reynolds Landscaping & Garden Shop in Manahawkin, and the hands-on designer of all the landscape lighting and waterfront improvements that the company has installed in recent years.

Any good design, Hood says, must blend into the dayscape as well as the nightscape. And docks are no different. The wiring and piping are concealed. Only the best materials are used. Family function is the driving force in creating the perfect "over water" space.

The goal for both day and night is to extend and maximize how you can use your dock, which up until recently has been merely a way to access water. Once Hood has a conversation with you, he can get an immediate sense of what you want from your dock: boating, fishing, entertaining, late-night access. Then he figures out how to get you the version of that system that is right for you.

Green fish-attracting light provides hours of enjoyment for kids and increased attraction of baitfish for the next day on the water.



Odd Duck Art Photography