

**July 2007**

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**BLAINE HARBOR**  
*Port of Bellingham*

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## MARINA NEWS

### ENJOY AUG. 4 BLAINE EVENTS

#### DRAYTON HARBOR DAYS WOOD ON WATER FESTIVAL

This year, Drayton Harbor Days, formerly known as the Blaine Boardwalk Festival and the Wood on Water Festival will be held on Saturday, August 4.

The city of Blaine will have vendors and activities going on downtown and the harbor will host the popular steam boats that will be on display on the Visitor Dock both Saturday and Sunday. The George Raft Race will be Saturday at noon, so if you think you can hand-make a raft that will beat the Blaine Harbor Staff, then please join us for this fun-filled event.

Thank you for keeping your pet on a leash at all times.

#### ALSO AT THE HARBOR ON AUG. 4 : ONE OAR MUSIC OF THE SEA

Enjoy a day of Sea Music, Sea Lore, Sea Shanty workshops (sing along with singers from the Vancouver Folk Song Society), including free concerts in Peace Arch Park, Downtown Blaine and at Blaine Harbor with the Sometimes Sound Singers, Norwegian Male Chorus of Bellingham, Chris Roe, Stan James, Jon Pfaff all of Seattle, Brian Robertson of Vancouver, Mary Benson, Portland, Keith Carpenter/Lynne Givler, Everson, and John VanAmerongen, Vashon Is.

Performances will begin at 11am at Blaine Harbor on the Promenade and continue at Peace Arch Park at 4 pm.

#### GEAR SWAP

The annual Gear Swap will also be held during the Wood on Water Festival on Saturday, August 4th starting at 9am. We will have a section of the parking lot blocked off for you if you choose to participate.

The event is free of charge and is a good way for you to sell some of those items that just keep getting in the way! Contact the Harbor Staff for details. We hope to see you!



### NEW GATE 1 PARKING LOT OVERFLOW AVAILABLE NOW

We have added some additional parking to relieve the congestion currently experienced at the Gate 1 Parking Lot. There is an area on the south-end of Webhouse 2 that has been dedicated to the overflow parking. When using the lot, please pull straight onto the grassy area and park perpendicular to the logs.

Now that we have this additional parking, we will no longer allow parking along the parking lot side of the webblockers. Our commercial fishermen have been having some difficulty navigating the corners when vehicles are parked, so we are hoping this solution will be good for all parties involved.

We will be placing correction notices on vehicles parked in areas other than in the overflow parking area and letting them know of the new parking lot. We hope this will help on our tight parking situation. Stop by the Harbor Office and let us know what you think.

### NEW PUMPOUT AT GATE 3

The new pumpout at Gate 3 will be installed by the end of August. We ordered the same peristaltic pumps that we currently have at Gates 1 and 2. We have had great luck with these pumps so we are excited to get them installed.

We know that the current pumpout has been very cumbersome, so we appreciate your patience and look forward to your comments when it is installed.

### LABEL YOUR DINGHIES

We would like to remind you to label your dinghies if you are using our dinghy racks. Staff will be periodically inventorying the racks to make sure that the dinghies are labeled. If they are not, they will be removed and impounded.

Please help us keep the racks clean and free from abandoned dinghies.





## GREEN BOATING PRACTICES

As a five-star rated EnviroStars and Clean Marina, it is our job to educate the boating public on our policies and procedures on minimizing the impact on the marine environment and to give you tips on how you can be good stewards when out on the water.

Below are some tips taken from the Whatcom County Shore Stewards News, June 2007, Newsletter. The article was originally written by Scott Chase, Island County Shore Stewards Coordinator, and edited and updated for Whatcom County by Cheryl Lovato Niles, Shore Stewards Coordinator for Whatcom County.

### Don't Spill a Drop

One of the most common contributors to spills is the practice of "topping off the tank." Fuel vent overflow from a 25-gallon tank can be as much as 2 cups of fuel. Warm weather expands the volume of the fuel in your tank, and a nearly full tank on a boat that is rocking with the waves will often spill fuel from the vent. A good practice is to fill your tank to 90% of capacity.

### Bilge Over Troubled Waters

The bilge collects a number of different fluids: drips from an oil change, leaks from a loose fitting, fuel, antifreeze, etc. These are sometimes pumped overboard by automatic pumps. Any amount of discharge of grease, fuel, oil, soaps, detergent, bilge cleaners and degreasers is illegal and can bring a hefty fine. Even "biodegradable" cleaners increase the harmful effects, as cleaners just spread the pollution over a larger area of water, harming even more fish and marine life. If it discolors the surface water, it is pollution!

### Bottoms Up

Paint scrapings and many boat solvents and cleaners are toxic to fish and wildlife. When boats are hauled out of the water for painting and cleaning, much of what comes off the boat can end up in the water.

Use a "drop-cloth" or tarp to collect residue from sanding, painting and cleaning. Use hard antifouling paint or one of the new "non-fouling paints." Don't buy more paint than you use; reseal and keep for use at a later date. And if you scrub the hull while the boat is in the water, use a soft brush, as hard brushes can scrape off bits of paint that end up polluting the water.

**You can contact your Marina Advisory Representatives by calling either the Blaine or Squaticum Harbor offices.**

Mark Gumley	Hamilton Hayes	Jeffrey Hegedus
John Hollstein	Ryan Kapp	Stan Larson
Paul LeVelle	Tim Mumford	Sandra Palm
Raleigh Province	Michael Reed	Jim Splaine

### All Decked Out

Many products sold to clean boats contain toxic chemicals. Read the labels and avoid cleaners that include bleach. Look for cleaners that are non-toxic and phosphate free.



### Don't Let it Go to Your Head

You collect the human waste from your boat's "head" in a holding tank, to ensure that the sewage doesn't make it into the water. What about the water used for washing your clothes and dishes, or in the skin and shower?

If it does not go into the holding tank, be sure to use safe alternatives for all your washing. If you can't find soaps and detergents that meet your needs in the local chain grocery store, check a marine store or a store that carries organic and natural products.

Whatcom County Shore Stewards is a program of the WSU Beach Watchers, and is made possible by funding from the US Environmental Protection Agency and Washington State administered by the Puget Sound Action Team and the Northwest Straits Commission. Website: [www.shorestewards.org](http://www.shorestewards.org)

## FUELING OVER THE DOCK

Please remember that fueling your boat from a portable container is PROHIBITED in the harbor. There are designated fueling areas in the harbor so contact the Harbor Staff for those locations. Fueling from a portable container is dangerous so please keep our marina and fellow boaters safe. We thank you for your cooperation.

## KIDS DON'T FLOAT

When taking young children out on the docks, remember that Blaine Harbor has a program in place called "Life Jacket Loaner Program." This program, sponsored by a grant for the BOAT US Foundation, loans youth, toddler, and infant life jackets to people who need them.

The life jackets are available for check-out in the Harbor Office. We hope you will keep your youngsters safe and use one of the life vests.

### Blaine Harbor Office

235 Marine Drive, Blaine, WA 98230  
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