



PORT OF BELLINGHAM
Washington State

AUGUST & SEPTEMBER 2023

HARBOR NEWS

BLAINE AND SQUALICUM HARBORS' NEWSLETTER



UPCOMING EVENTS

Drayton Harbor Maritime Festival

August 5th - 13th

This family fun event includes a port visit by the tall ship Lady Washington, a street fair, food vendors and pirate-themed children's activities at Blaine's Marine Park playground on August 5th-6th. August 11th thru the 13th the Northwest Steam Society will celebrate their 50th Anniversary with steamboats and displays at Gate 2.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, [CLICK HERE](#)

Pink Boat Regatta

August 25th-27th

100% of Pink Boat Regatta's net proceeds are donated to The Breast Cancer Research Foundation (BCRF). Since 2012 The Pink Boat Regatta has raised over \$875,000 for breast cancer research and prevention.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, [CLICK HERE](#)

Pitch Regatta - Labor Day weekend

September 1st-4th

PITCH is an annual regatta held on Labor Day weekend on Bellingham Bay and has been a part of the Pacific Northwest racing scene for more than 30 years. The regatta is a Grand Prix qualifier and also one of the 48 Degrees North Top 25 Boats of Puget Sound events.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, [CLICK HERE](#)



Parking at the harbor

Please help us keep parking available for those in need and abide by parking signage at the harbor. The harbor loading zones are intended to provide convenient access for customers with short-term needs. If you're planning to be gone more than 3 days, please check-in at the harbor office and staff will direct you to the appropriate area for long-term parking and provide you with a long-term parking permit.

Marinas Transition to Electronic Statements

On June 27th we contacted customers either by mail or email that the Port is transitioning to electronic mailings effective August 1, 2023. We'd like to thank our customers for helping us update our email addresses to ensure you have convenient access to your marina billing statements, notices, and general correspondence we feel valuable to relay to our customers. Please contact the Harbor Office if you haven't updated your email address.



Harbor Offices Going Cashless

To improve efficiency, customer convenience and reduce theft and vandalism, the Port of Bellingham has begun converting coin operated showers, laundry, and visitor moorage pay stations to accept credit cards only. This transition is expected to be completed in both harbors by the end of the year. Repeated theft and vandalism has been costly to repair and eliminating the need to process coin collection will reduce our operating expenses while improving our customer's ability to use our amenities without coins. In addition, beginning January 1, 2024, both Harbor Offices will no longer be accepting cash transactions. Only checks and credit cards will be accepted. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.





Port of Bellingham Seeks Feedback on Public Open Spaces

The Port of Bellingham updates its **Recreation, Conservation and Public Access Plan** every six years to remain eligible for Boating Facility Grants and other grants offered through the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO). Public involvement and support are important considerations used by RCO to evaluate grant projects.

The Port has developed a survey to engage the public about its open space parks and facilities. In order to make the survey accessible to the widest possible audience

within Whatcom County the survey is available in English, Spanish, Eastern Punjabi and Russian.

The survey will open on Monday, July 17, 2023 and will remain open until Monday, August 21, 2023. There will be opportunities for additional public participation once a draft plan is developed. Please feel free to share this with anyone who might be interested.

Please go to the following link to take the survey and to see the current plan:

Park, Recreation and Public-Access Plan Survey

[CLICK HERE](#)



Lifejacket Loaner Program for Kids

Blaine and Squalicum Harbors participate in the Boat U.S. Foundation Lifejacket Loaner Program for Kids. A limited number of lifejackets for infants, children and young teens are available at the harbor office on a first come first serve basis. Please return the borrowed lifejackets as soon as possible so they are available for the next young boaters in need of a lifejacket.

Rules of the Road

As you are entering or exiting the harbor please do so cautiously and at a safe speed. Make sure you line up to the entrance squarely, favor the right side of the channel so that you can pass port-to-port with any oncoming vessels, and go slow enough that you don't cause a wake that can interfere with the maneuverability or safe moorage of nearby vessels. If visibility is impaired or in times of inclement weather it's advised that boaters give one prolonged horn blast before entering/exiting a harbor to make nearby boats aware of your presence.

Holding Tank Pump-outs

Thank you to all our customers for helping us keep our marine waters clean and safe by using the holding tank pump-out and adopting best management practices to eliminate discharges and pollution. Please feel free to contact the harbor office and staff would be happy to walk you through the steps of operating our equipment to pump-out your vessel's holding tank. For more information on pumping out and a list of locations [CLICK HERE](#)



Harbor Garbage and Recycling Services

In addition to accepting garbage and recycling generated aboard your boat, the harbors also recycle small amounts of boat related engine oil, spent antifreeze, bilge water, and old gasoline and diesel fuel. The harbor staff is also able to provide you resources for the disposal of additional items such as paint and chemicals. To help manage our garbage and recyclables, we'd like to remind everyone that only boating-related trash can go in the dumpsters. Please do not bring trash from home. If you suspect someone is dumping household garbage, please notify the harbor office with a description of the vehicle and the license plate number so staff can follow-up on the report.

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ENVIROSTARS



WASHINGTON
ENVIROSTARS CERTIFIED

MARINA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

You can contact your Marina Advisory Committee Representatives by calling either of the harbor offices.

Lisa Anderson, Peter Border, Robert Brooks, Paul Burrill, Stan Campbell, Dick Cathell, Loren Kapp, Jim Kyle, Ross Tennant, Julie Winkler and Faith Worthley