



HARBOR NEWS

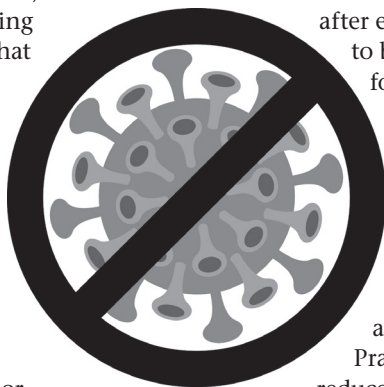
BLAINE AND SQUALICUM HARBORS' NEWSLETTER

Update on Marina Response to the COVID-19 VIRUS

The Port of Bellingham is closely watching the recommendations of the Whatcom County Health Department and the U.S. Center for Disease Control (CDC) with regards to the COVID-19 virus. On Friday, March 20, 2020 we sent an email notifying our marina customers that the Port had closed all Port offices for all non-essential services until further notice. The closure is consistent with the actions we have all seen across the U.S. The health of our customers and Port staff is paramount.

At this time the harbor offices are closed for walk-in customers however, moorage business can still be conducted by phone or email. The harbor will be operating with minimal staffing in order to maintain essential services such as safety and security. During this health emergency, the harbors will continue to be patrolled after-hours by security.

With the heightened concern regarding the spread of the COVID-19 virus, the Port has contracted its janitorial service to complete an additional mid-day sanitation service in all the restrooms, showers, and laundry facilities. This is in addition to the regular nightly cleaning services.



We are asking for your support and assistance in the effort to reduce the spread of COVID-19. When using either the shower or laundry facilities, please wipe down flat surfaces, handles, etc.

with a sanitizing wipe before and after each use. We had hoped to be able to provide wipes for you, but we have found that all the supply is being directed to the medical field.

The Port encourages everyone to educate themselves on CDC recommendations and adopt Best Management Practices and strategies to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

In addition to frequently washing your hands with soap and water, an important strategy for reducing the spread of COVID-19 is social distancing or limiting the amount of contact you have with others. More information is available at www.coronavirus.wa.gov

It takes a Community! And we have an excellent boating community in our harbors. We appreciate your understanding as we face these challenges together.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the harbor offices at the number and email addresses listed on the back of this newsletter.

Stay safe!

Pay your bill online

As a reminder, customers will still be able to pay their marina bills by credit card over the phone or by using the online payment tool at the Port's website. The online payment tool is a convenient way to pay your bill and allows our customer to:

- Register your information so you don't have to type it in each month.
- Pay now, or schedule a payment for a future date.
- Pay with credit/debit card or savings or checking account.
- Receive a receipt by email. No more wondering if the payment went through.

To access the online payment tool visit: www.portofbellingham.com/348/Pay-Your-Bill

Resources for Vessel Checks

Customers who are out of the area or unable to check on their vessels may consider hiring the services of one of the many local skilled marine trades. A list of Whatcom County Marine Trades can be found on the Port of Bellingham's website at: www.portofbellingham.com/513/Marine-Trades-Directory or by calling or emailing the harbor office.

Reminder - Annual Moorage Due in April

Annual moorage payments must be received before the end of April or your moorage will revert to monthly billing. If you have elected to pay automatically by credit card or checking account, and you wish to pay your annual moorage by another means, you **MUST** let the harbor office know before April 14th. If you would like to change from monthly to annual moorage, please notify the harbor office before April 30th.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please be aware that these future events may be cancelled or modified in response to the COVID-19 health emergency. For the most current information, please visit the websites listed or call the phone number listed.

Opening Day EVENTS

Saturday May 2, 2020

Blaine

Join the Officers of the International Yacht Club for the Opening Day ceremony at the Blaine Harbor Gate 2 flag pole. Afterwards, boaters are invited to muster in Semiahmoo Bay at noon for the commodore's sail past. For more information about the IYC, visit their website at www.iycbc.ca.

Bellingham

SQUALICUM YACHT CLUB - Everyone is invited to the 15th Annual Opening Day Breakfast 7:30am to 10:30am in the clubhouse at 2633 Harbor Loop Way. Enjoy scrambled eggs, pancakes, sausage, and beverages. Suggested donation is \$5.00 per person which benefits local charities. Visit www.squalicumyc.org.

BELLINGHAM YACHT CLUB - Public ceremony at 11:30am at the Bellingham Yacht Club Clubhouse. Boat parade starts at 1:30pm. For more information visit www.bycc.org.

Fishermen's Memorial Events at Both Harbors

Join us to wish our commercial fishermen a safe and successful season while remembering those lost at sea.

BLAINE, Sunday May 3rd 1:30pm.

Service and celebration followed by light refreshments. Call 360-647-6176 for more information.

BELLINGHAM, Saturday May 9th 11:00am

Service and celebration at Zuanich Park followed by a seafood barbecue and live music at the Squalicum Boathouse. For more information, or to volunteer, call (360) 510-5544 or visit the Whatcom Commercial Fishermen's Association on Facebook.

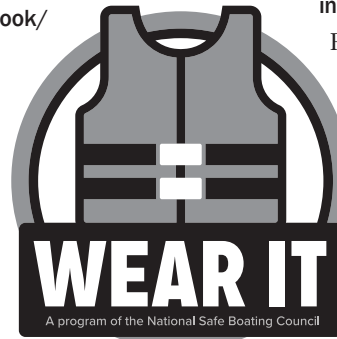
BOATING SAFETY SPECIAL EDITION

National Safe Boating Week May 16th-22nd

National Safe Boating Week promotes awareness for boating safety and education. Some ways to participate include:

- Review the Washington State Parks Adventures in Boating Handbook, which provides general information about safe vessel operation and laws. The booklet can be viewed free online at: www.boated.com/washington/handbook/book.html.
- Enroll in a boating safety course. Washington State law requires that vessel operators have satisfied the requirements of the Boater Education Safety Program.

- Complete an annual vessel safety check. Both the USCG and U.S. Power Squadron offer courtesy vessel safety checks. Visit the harbor office for more details.
- Wear a life jacket. Both harbor offices participate in the life jacket loaner program for children. Please return the borrowed lifejackets as soon as possible so they are available for the next boater in need.



For more information of boater safety, visit the Washington State Parks Boater Safety website at: www.parks.state.wa.us/450/Boater-Safety

Wear Your Life Jacket to Work Day May 15th

Hosted by the National Safe Boating Council, this annual event is a fun, educational way to heighten life jacket awareness and highlight the various styles just prior to the official launch of the Safe Boating Campaign. Wear your life jacket, snap a picture while at work and share on social media with the hashtags #lifejacket2work and #safeboating.



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MARINA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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

Jon Alexander, Lisa Anderson, Peter Border, Robert Brooks, Paul Burrill, Dick Cathell, Charlie Hawkins, Loren Kapp, Jim Kyle, Byron Richards, Ross Tenant, Linda Thomson and Julie Winkler