



PORT OF BELLINGHAM
Washington State

JUNE & JULY 2020

HARBOR NEWS

BLAINE AND SQUALICUM HARBORS' NEWSLETTER

CHARTING A COURSE During COVID-19



We hope this newsletter finds you well and in good spirits during these unprecedented times as we all respond to the COVID-19 health emergency.

We would like to thank you for your patience and understanding as we work together adapting our marina operations to safely serve our customers. 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. While the Port has closed all Port offices for all non-essential services, we are doing everything we can to continue operating the marinas and reopen the harbor offices as soon as possible. Like many businesses you visit in our community, things may look or feel a little different as we evolve and adopt procedures necessary to protect everyone's health and safety. The health of our customers and Port staff is paramount.

Harbor staff is currently adapting plans to safely staff and reopen the harbor offices for walk-in customers. Some examples of changes you will encounter are plexiglass sneeze guards at the office counters, a limit for customers in the office lobby, and designated queues for those waiting to enter the office. You will also notice signs in the gatehouses, washrooms, and public spaces providing guidance on ways to safely enjoy our

facilities. While we work through these plans we want to remind everyone that moorage business can still be conducted by phone or email daily between 8:00am to 5:00pm. Even though the office is closed, the harbor staff is at work in the marina in an operational capacity and the harbors will continue to be patrolled after-hours by security.

We encourage everyone visiting the marinas to observe the recommended guidelines to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus such as washing your hands frequently, observing social distance recommendations and wearing masks.

The Whatcom County Health Department has directed citizens to wear masks to minimize transmission of the virus that causes COVID-19.

More information about the use of face masks is available at www.whatcomcounty.us/3404/Directive-To-Wear-Face-Coverings

The harbors will continue to provide a mid-day sanitation janitorial service in all the restrooms, showers, and laundry facilities. This is in addition to the regular nightly cleaning services. While some cleaning and safety supplies remain scarce, we are working to provide some basic shared sanitizers for dock cart handles. While we wait for those supplies to become available, we suggest

that you consider bringing gloves or personal sanitizer from home when you visit the marina. 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 are asking for your support and assistance in the effort to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

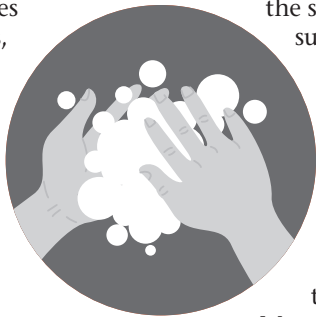
The Port encourages everyone to educate themselves on CDC recommendations and adopt Best Management Practices and strategies to reduce the spread of COVID-19. More information for reducing the spread of COVID-19 is available at coronavirus.wa.gov/

6ft.

While the boating season has had an unexpected start, we will get through this working together. We have an excellent boating community in our harbors. By following the recommended guidelines and adapting to conditions, we hope that all our

boaters are able to safely resume boating, fishing and crabbing on our local waters. We appreciate your understanding as we face these challenges together.

If you have any questions or ideas that might benefit our customers during this transition, please contact the harbor offices at the number and email addresses listed on the back of this newsletter. **STAY SAFE AND HEALTHY!**





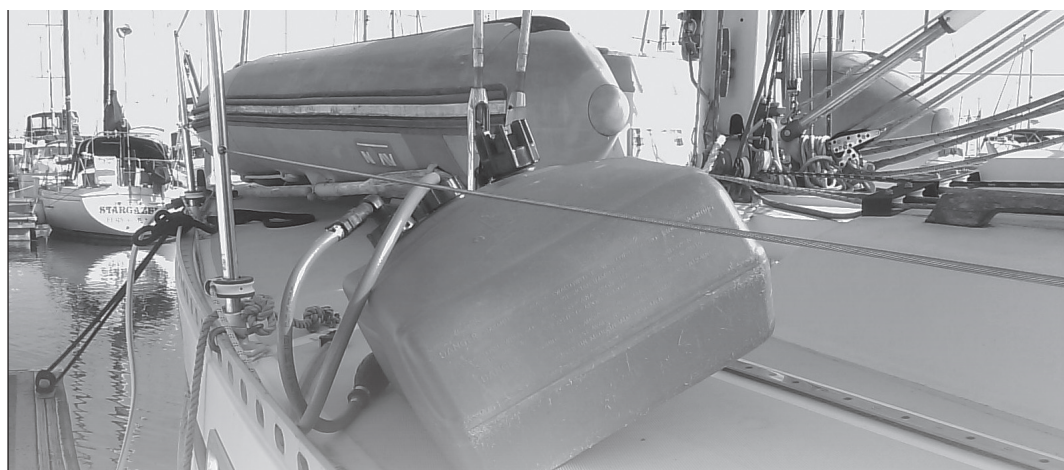
Renew Your Vessel Registration

Washington State vessel registrations expire June 30, 2020. Be sure to renew your registration and correctly display your registration sticker aboard your vessel. More information on the proper display of registration can be found at www.dol.wa.gov

Long-term Parking at the Harbor



If you are planning to park your vehicle at the harbor more than 3 days, please check-in with the harbor office and staff will direct you to the appropriate area for long-term parking.



TIPS TO AVOID FUEL SPILLS

- **DO NOT TOP OFF FUEL TANKS.** Leave some room for fuel expansion. As the air temperature warms up expanding fuel can leak out of caps and fuel fittings and find its way into your bilge or the water.
- **USE CAUTION** when leaving portable gas tanks and fuel hoses in the sun.
- **MAKE SURE TO ADJUST THE VENT** on your portable fuel tank to allow built up pressure to escape.
- **DISCONNECT YOUR HOSES** from your outboard when not in use.
- **IF YOU SEE A SPILL, PLEASE REPORT IT** to the harbor office immediately.



Don't Touch Marine Mammals

This time of year we often receive reports of baby seals that appear to be abandoned. Please do not touch or approach the mammal as it may cause the mother to abandon it. If you find a newborn seal pup or a stranded or deceased marine mammal, call the Northwest Wildlife Rehabilitation Center at 360-966-8845 and stay at least 100 yards from it. Whatcom Marine Mammal Stranding Network is a local non-profit organization. Learn more at wmsn.org

Fuel dock discount at Blaine

We'd like to remind you the Semiahmoo Marina fuel dock, in Blaine Washington, offers a 20 cent/gal discount on fuel purchases by Port of Bellingham moorage customers. To redeem your discount, simply present a copy of your current Port moorage statement before making a fuel purchase at the Semiahmoo fuel dock. The fuel dock is open daily from 8am to 5pm and can be contacted directly on VHF channel 68 for the quickest service. If you don't have a VHF radio, you can reach them at 360-332-0440. Updated fuel prices are available at www.semiahmoomarina.com.

**THANK YOU,
Frontline
and Essential
Workers!**

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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