



PORT OF BELLINGHAM
Washington State

✱ FEBRUARY & MARCH ✱

HARBOR NEWS

Blaine and Squalicum Harbors' Newsletter

MARINE FIRE SAFETY RESOURCES AVAILABLE

In December, we sent out a Marina Fire Safety brochure to our customers. This brochure was a collaboration with the Bellingham Fire Department, North Whatcom Fire Rescue and the Port of Bellingham. The brochure contains important fire prevention and safety information to help keep our boating community safe. If you haven't already, please take a moment to read it and discuss marina fire safety with your boating friends and family. If you have any questions or concerns or would like another copy of the Marina Fire Safety brochure, please contact the Harbor Office. The brochure is also available at the Port's website at www.portofbellingham.com/firesafety

SAFETY LADDERS COMING TO ALL DOCKS



We have begun installation of dock safety ladders at both harbors. As soon as ladder installation is complete, we will provide a dock map so you can familiarize yourself with ladder locations. Look for more information in our next newsletter.

We encourage everyone to consider their personal safety around the water and to wear a life jacket with a loud whistle when working and playing around the water.

ANNUAL MOORAGE PAYMENTS DUE IN APRIL

A reminder to all our customers who choose to pay for moorage annually, yearly moorage statements will be sent out on April 1 and payments are due before the last day of April. This year the discount for annual moorage is 2.5%.

Moorage payments can be made online at the Port's website or at the Harbor Office during business hours. A reminder that all payments made with the after-hours drop box will be posted to your account the next business day.

BOATERS ENJOY ACCESS TO LOCAL MARINE TRADES

The marine trades are a thriving and growing part of our local economy. Our customers are fortunate to have easy access to a diverse and professional group of marine businesses. Their services range from new sails and canvas work, engine and outboard repair and replacement, welding, painting, varnishing, haul-outs and storage, electronics, and chandlery and supplies.

For more information on our local marine services, please visit our website at <http://www.portofbellingham.com/BusinessDirectoryll.aspx>

BRIEFLY INFORMATIVE

WATER MAY BE TURNED OFF IN WINTER

Water service to the docks could be shut-down with little notice to prevent freeze damage. Please plan ahead for temporary water outages during the winter months. We will endeavor to restore water as soon as possible.

DO NOT DISCHARGE SEWAGE

Our facilities are no-discharge harbors. Empty your port-a-potty or holding tank at one of the convenient pump-outs located throughout both harbors. Operating instructions are available at each pump-out station. Please contact the Harbor Office if you have any questions on how to operate the pump-out: Squalicum Office (360) 676-2542 or Blaine Office (360) 647-6176.

DO NOT STORE ITEMS ON THE DOCKS

Please do not store items such as kayaks, canoes, bikes, dock carts or crab pots on the docks. These items are a trip hazard to your fellow boaters and to first responders who may need to access the docks. Small docksteps that can be stored aboard your vessel when not in use are allowed.

PARTICIPATE IN LOAN-A-SLIP OR SUBLEASE PROGRAMS

Consider making your slip available to visiting boaters or a friend through the loan-a-slip or sublease programs.

Contact the Harbor Office for more information: Squalicum Office (360) 676-2542 or Blaine Office (360) 647-6176.

BLAINE HARBOR NEWS

BOAT LAUNCH RINSE STATION PROJECT UPDATE

Our contractor has been working steadily to install new piping and valves to update the Blaine rinse station. Once this project is complete, rinse water from trailer boats will be directed to the sanitary sewer for wastewater processing. It is important for all boat launch users to remember that the rinse station is not a boat wash; we do not permit pressure washing, bottom cleaning or boat repair and maintenance at our boat launch. These types of activities must take place at a permitted boatyard or at your home.

BLAINE END PIER TEMPORARILY CLOSED

The Blaine End Pier closed in January for approximately six weeks. IMCO Construction will drive new piling and complete structural repairs to the pier deck which will extend the life of the dock. Working with the contractor to ensure everyone's safety, the last few hundred feet of Marine Drive is closed to vehicle traffic during the construction because of heavy equipment and the lack of a vehicle turn-around area. We are excited about the work taking place and look forward to the re-opening of the pier when the project is completed.

DO NOT FEED ANIMALS OR BIRDS IN THE HARBORS



Seagulls can take years to break the habit after they are trained to expect a quick and easy meal. Uneaten food also attracts rats.

From time to time we hear about customers and harbor visitors who feed the seagulls and pigeons. Please do not feed the wildlife in the harbor. Feeding the birds encourages them to roost on boats with the expectation of a meal. Uneaten food on the docks and parking lots can attract rats.

Seagulls have a long life span and it can take years to break the habit after training them to expect a quick and easy meal. Your fellow boaters thank you for your consideration.

SQUALICUM HARBOR NEWS

WHALER REPLACEMENT PROJECT UPDATE

Squalicum Harbor has begun an extensive inner harbor whaler replacement project on Gate 6 and Gate 8. We appreciate all the help from our boaters who have had to move temporarily, and look forward to the positive change this upgrade will be to the harbor.

CONSTRUCTION WILL IMPROVE GILL NET LOADING ZONE

The gill-net loading zone has been undergoing installation of new fender piles, and will have new bull rails as well. These repairs will improve this vital work dock for our commercial fisherman, and ensure its continued use in the future.

WINTER WEATHER CAUSES PIPE DAMAGE

Late November and December delivered freezing temperatures that caused the Harbor to suffer multiple broken pipes. Repair work took time because the fittings were difficult to acquire. In all aspects of this issue, we appreciate your patience and are now exploring new options for spigots to prevent broken pipes in the future.

OWNERS MUST BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR DOGS ACTIVITIES IN THE HARBOR

We strive to be a dog-friendly facility, however there are still a number of dog owners who leave their animal's feces on the docks without picking it up. Please remember to pick up after your dog. Pick up bags are provided on all of the docks. It's simply the right thing to do. Please remember to keep your dog on a leash throughout the Harbor; many boaters have noted dogs running free on the docks, which pose safety concerns for both the dog and people on the docks.

Squalicum Harbor Office

722 Coho Way, Bellingham

(360) 676-2542

or after hours (360) 739-8131

Dan Stahl, Director of Maritime

Pam Taft, Special Projects Administrator

Chris Tibbe, Harbormaster

Marine Service Representatives:

Bill Vonk, Patty Paus, Paul Knippel,

Lynda Lamoureux, and Greg Hoffman

Blaine Harbor Office

235 Marine Drive, Blaine

Or mail to: PO Box 1245, Blaine, 98231

(360) 647-6176

or after hours: (360) 303-7110

Dan Stahl, Director of Maritime

Pam Taft, Special Projects Administrator

Andy Peterson, Harbormaster

Marine Service Representatives:

Tony Flaherty, Roland Montoure and Bryson Tripp



Marina Advisory Committee

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

Peter Border • William Douglas • Elizabeth Kilanowski • Jim Kyle
Ron Kleinknecht • Brian Pemberton • Ian Puchlik • Doug Sterrett
Jerry Writer • Jim Young