



PORT OF BELLINGHAM
Washington State

OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2023

HARBOR NEWS

BLAINE AND SQUALICUM HARBORS' NEWSLETTER



Bellingham Seafest

October 14-15, 2023

The Port is excited to host the 7th annual Bellingham SeaFeast at Squalicum Harbor's Zuanich Park and Fisherman's Pavilion. Enjoy food, live music, art, educational booths and more on October 14th from 10am to 5pm and October 15th from 11am to 5pm.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, [CLICK HERE](#).

30 Day Notice Required for Moorage Cancelation

If you are considering canceling your moorage, please remember to include the Port's 30 day notice in your timeline and plans. As a reminder, all moorage cancelations must be in writing and can be accepted either at the harbor office or by email. Please feel free to contact the Harbor Office if you have any questions.

Cats on the Loose



Harbor staff has received complaints about cats roaming the docks unattended. While this may seem completely normal in a traditional dryland neighborhood, unsupervised cats roaming the marina have been known to cause problems on neighboring boats including claw damage to expensive canvas and synthetic decking and boats being used as a litter box. To help reduce the impacts on your neighbors the harbor is asking that you please do not let your pet leave your vessel unsupervised.



Report Suspicious Behavior

We need your help to help keep our facilities safe.

- Report suspicious behavior immediately. If you have any concern about someone actively trying to access the secured facilities, please contact the harbor office at the numbers listed on this newsletter. If you see something, say something.
- Be prepared to provide a detailed description of the suspect or vehicle and license plate number. If you are involved in an emergency, contact 911 immediately. After hours, harbor security can be contacted at the phone numbers listed on the bottom of the back page.
- Do not confront suspicious people. Contact the harbor office or call 911 for Police assistance.
- Report thefts in a timely manner to help the police solve ongoing cases.

PREPARE FOR

WINTER WEATHER

Properly preparing your boat for winter can save you from a phone call from the harbor office during a storm or worse, expensive repairs this spring. Here are some suggestions for winter preparedness:

- CHECK YOUR VESSEL REGULARLY** and contact the harbor office if you see a safety hazard on a neighboring boat.
- REMOVE YOUR DINGHY** from the water when you have taken the last cruise of the season. This will keep it clear of marine growth and prevent it from filling with rainwater.
- CHECK YOUR DOCK LINES** and fenders regularly for chafe.
- INSPECT YOUR SHORE-POWER CORD** and replace immediately if any defects are discovered. Only marine rated shore-power cords are permitted. The use of household extension cords is prohibited.
- HEATERS** should not be left unattended. When operating a diesel furnace ensure the exhaust is free and clear of combustible materials.
- REMOVE YOUR SAILS, SECURE YOUR HALYARDS AND CANVAS** as high winds can cause considerable damage on roller furling sails. Tie your halyards away from your mast to reduce chafe and wear.
- CHECK SCUPPERS AND COCKPIT DRAINS** routinely to ensure they can clear water quickly.
- BILGE PUMPS** should be checked to ensure they are in good operating condition. Keep your float switches free from debris and make sure your bilge is clean of fuel and oil.
- BURGLAR PROOF** your vessel and remove all of the valuables you have on board and keep them secure at home. Small outboards are attractive to thieves. Take them home or make sure they are locked securely. Make sure all hatches and companionways are secure and locked.
- ARRANGE FOR SOMEONE TO WATCH YOUR BOAT** if you are going to be away.
- USE CAUTION WHILE WALKING AND DRIVING.** Surfaces may become slippery, especially when icy or wet.
- UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION** with the office.

Boating Safety Course Starts October 2nd

Bellingham Sail and Power Squadron is offering nine week boating skills and safety courses starting October 2nd in partnership with the Bellingham Technical College. These courses cover basic boating knowledge (meeting the requirements for the Washington State Boater Education Card) as well as marine navigation and weather. More details available by emailing: seo@boatingisfun.org

Dockside Housekeeping

We are asking our customers to help us prepare for the change in weather.

- Please disconnect your dock hose. This reduces the chances of frozen water in a hose expanding and causing damage to the faucet and your vessel's water system.
- Please keep the docks clear of stored items. Dock clutter creates trip hazards and blocks emergency access. High winds can blow loose gear into the water. If you have a boat related item you no longer need or don't know how to dispose of properly, harbor staff may be able to suggest a solution to your problem.
- Please label your dinghy. Dinghies stored in the dinghy racks must be in good condition and the ownership must be clearly identifiable with the owner's name or primary vessel's name. Dinghies requiring more than two bars will not be permitted. Please make sure your dinghy is stored securely so it will not fill with rain water or blow out of the rack in high winds.



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ENVIROSTARS



CLEAN MARINA

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