

Rocky Pointe Marina December Newsletter

Covid 19

Rocky Pointe Marina is in Multnomah County and there are strong rules and guidelines for protecting against further spreading of the virus. Our current procedures of one way ramps, stepping off to the side of docks to let others pass and keeping our office closed meets the requirements. There is also a strong suggestion to avoid gatherings and family events. In the marina environment this is even more important. Arriving guests do not know our safety procedures mentioned above and floating homes are more confined than larger land homes.

Please avoid gatherings with family and guests at the marina this year. We are only a few months away from vaccinations which should be well underway by our spring and summer season.

Winter Hours

Remember that the marina office is staffed during the posted hours of operation but people are not allowed inside the office.

The office will be closed on Sundays starting Nov 28th thru the end of February.

Saturday the office is staffed 11am to 3pm

Holiday Schedule

Closed

Nov 26-27 Thursday/Friday

December 24-25-26 Thursday/Friday/Saturday

Dec 31 to Jan 2nd Thursday/Friday/Saturday

Amazon Package Delivery

We have been working with Amazon Logistic Management to keep their drivers from wondering around our marina and to deliver all packages to the office drop box. Our reason is simple- marina and resident security and safety. Amazon drivers do not have a regular route like UPS or FedEx- it is rare that an Amazon driver has ever been to our marina before.

There are a handful of our residents who insist on having Amazon deliver directly to their house rather than to the office drop box. Before doing this please consider how this compromises the marina security for everyone.

-Amazon drivers are almost always here for their first time and some are part time Uber drivers. Now during the holiday season all companies will be using untrained seasonal drivers. Once you give your code to them they have access now and in the future. They do not know our Covid safety protocols for the ramps or docks and we see them without masks when passing residents on the ramps and docks. Many times they are in the wrong marina altogether or in the wrong section and they leave packages on boats, dock boxes on boat slips, wrong houses, etc.

Salting the Docks

We have put out an ample supply of salt for salting the docks on freezing temperature days. In all 3 sections of the marina there is a 55 gallon drum of salt and several 5 gallon buckets at the top of the ramps. There is also extra salt in the upper marina under the covered boat slips. We are thankful for the few volunteers who are up early and salt the docks.

Our staff will salt the docks on weekdays during business hours. The salt we put out can be used by any of our residents. Feel free to take a small bucket home to sprinkle on your front porch or salt as you walk up to the ramp.

The new ramps are made of aluminum and salt will corrode the metal. These new ramps have a patented design tread to provide traction in icy conditions

Boat registrations-Time to Pay

The Oregon State Marine Board has recently emailed and/or mailed boat registration bills for boats due for 2021-2022. They do not send another bill. What happens is the Multnomah County Sheriff River Patrol walks our docks in early spring and takes down numbers of boats without current registration and sends a citation to the owner. This is not an attempt by the River Patrol to generate extra money. Our marina board is funded by the boat registration fees and boat fuel taxes. A large portion of the OSMB budget funds a big portion of the River Patrols in all 36 Oregon Counties, including buying the patrol boats.

Thank you in advance for taking care of your registration. Our goal has been to have 100% compliance at Rocky Pointe and this current year we had all but 1 or 2 boats still working on it.

Derelict boats- HoBoaters-Small Craft Beware

The area upstream of Rocky Pointe Marina to the Sauvie Island Bridge is filling up with old derelict boats with people living on them, at least until they sink.

Many of you witnessed the derelict houseboat cluttered with junk stranded for a week in front of our marina last month. To keep this boater away from our marina and using our docks and ramps for access to land, we towed him up to Hadley's Landing dock about 3 miles upriver. You may also recall the old 42ft wooden power boat that was stuck on the beach just upstream of Rocky Pointe. As the river level increased this week from the rain, this boat was washed downstream along with another 26ft power boat. The US Coast Guard responded to the large boat because it was a hazard to navigation. They tied it off to a piling. That is the end of their responsibility. The USCG and River Patrol will only respond if a life is at risk, it is a navigational hazard or is leaking fuel. We also had a small dinghy filled with garbage floating in front of our marina that one of our residents tied to his dock. Ironically, the boat was stolen back, most likely from the previous user.

Unfortunately there is no agency to deal with these boat issues promptly. The Oregon State Marine Board has a small fund for disposal of the derelict boats but it takes many months to go through the process. Ditto for the Department of State Lands. Both agencies have nearly exhausted their budgets until late next year. There is no place to store these boats safely. No marina or boatyard will take them. So there they sit until funds become available for removal or they wash downstream to the ocean

What should you do? Nothing! except take pictures

As much as we all want to be good stewards, do not touch any of the boats or watercraft floating down the river. Push them away from your house and let them continue downstream. If you tie it up to your home it becomes your responsibility. There is nobody to call that will come and take care of this boat. It is OK to call 911 if you see a boat floating down the river. They will decide if it is a navigation hazard and contact either the USCG or Multnomah County River Patrol. If it is tied to your house or our marina they will not respond (unless it is a stolen boat).

Do take pictures of the small watercraft

Most all of the derelict boats have several dinghies, kayaks and other types of small boats to get to shore. Some have been seen patrolling around marinas during the day or at night. They may just be looking to get to shore or they may be looking to steal something. If you take a picture of a small boat and there has been a theft or crime at the marina, we can easily trace this small boat back to its mother ship. If you see someone tying up to our marina in one of these small boats, call 911.