

ROCKY POINTE MARINA

AUGUST 2022 NEWSLETTER

Covid

It is still around unfortunately so we are continuing our best practices of 1-way traffic on the ramps, stepping off to another dock when passing others and keeping the office mostly closed to the public. 😞

Summer is Here

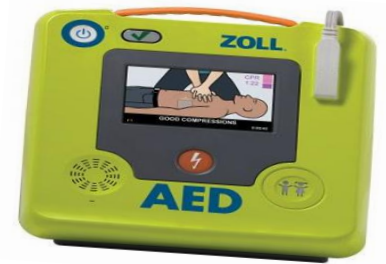
Finally, some good weather but fuel prices remain high along with the river levels. Take caution for floating debris. Our boatyard has already repaired several boats who hit stuff.



Annual Emergency Training

We are going to do something different this year. We will not be offering all resident hands-on emergency training. Instead, we are going to do it just for the new residents in the past 12 months. We will contact them directly. Next month we will include with the newsletter an updated emergency and fire plan. You can find the current version on our website. In addition, we are adding some new safety features in the next few months.

- We are installing **5 fire alarm sirens** around the marina as a means to alert people of an emergency. If you hear a siren go on for a short time or multiple short times during the summer, do not worry, these will be tests. In a real emergency, the sirens will stay on for a long period of time. More to come as we get these installed.
- **AED and CPR-** We are going to purchase 3 AED units, one for each section of the marina. They will most likely be located at the clubhouse, middle marina in the new utility shed and in the lower marina somewhere near or on the restroom making it accessible to residents and our boatyard. We are working with the Scappoose Fire Department to train all our residents in both the AED and CPR. We are still working on the details and will keep you posted. Our goal is to have at least 1 training for the seasonal residents before they leave for the season.



Guest Parking Area

If you are in the upper marina please make sure that your guests park in the guest parking area.

Cruising on the Columbia River- Downriver to Astoria

Next month I will write about going up the Columbia. Last month I mentioned the St Helens docks and a little further downstream on the Washington side a private old log pond called Martins Slough. Continuing downriver about 5 miles from Martin Slough is-

- The Port of Kalama. There is an overnight courtesy dock and McMenamin's has a brand-new restaurant there which is their very first built from the ground up restaurant.



- There is a dock across the river from Kalama at Goble and they have a tiny store. It is old and rarely visited but was once a refuge for a boat I was on that bent a prop.

-About 10 more miles downriver is the City of Rainier public dock where you can spend the night. There is also a restaurant and bar. It is not the most desirable place to spend the night as the dock faces the open river and there are lots of wakes.

- About 5 miles past the Longview Bridge on the Washington side is the entrance to Fisher Island Slough. There are a few private docks and Willow Grove Marina. There are limited services. Longview Yacht Club is also located there, and they are known to be very helpful to fellow boaters.

-Fisher's slough continues downstream and will exit into the Columbia River. However, if you go directly across to Oregon from the upriver side, there is a nice dock on the inside of Walker Island when you enter from the downstream side. The dock belongs to Columbia River Yacht Club that anyone can use. There is only dinghy access to shore. I personally stop here a lot coming back from Astoria as it is so easy in and out with no wasted time.

-Batwater Station is a few miles downstream and you enter somewhere near Bradbury Slough inside Crimes Island. I have never been there myself, but people who have been there, consider it a highlight of their trip. It is a quirky small dock with a few facilities shared with the owners of the property. It sounds almost like a B&B for boats.

- Another 6-8 miles downriver is Clatskanie. This is for an advanced mariner.

-About 5 more miles down is the popular Cathlamet boat moorage. You can now only enter from downstream. You should call in advance for slip reservations. There are several restaurants, grocery store and a brew pub.

-There is a brand-new facility in Westport that you would have passed about halfway down Cathlamet Island. It is on the Oregon side where the only Ferry boat on the Columbia that goes from Oregon to Washington stops. This new facility was completed in 2022 and includes special launching canals for kayaks. Easy place to tie up and spend the night but there are no services.

-Most people jump from Cathlamet to Astoria which is about 28 miles. There are some popular places to stay for the more advanced boater like Steamboat Slough, Warren Slough and Lois Island. When leaving Cathlamet, it is best to leave near the top of the high tide. It helps get you out of the marina and gives you a big push downstream to Astoria. The Port of Astoria Public Boat Moorage is just past the Astoria Bridge by a couple hundred ft. The water moves fast and there is a steel sea wall. Watch for exiting boats and use your horn (5 second blast) just prior to entering. The guest dock is next to the fuel dock which is to your starboard (right) when entering. It is best to call ahead for reservations. Once inside the mooring basin the water is calm, so it is fairly easy to move around unless the afternoon winds are blowing. Good restaurants along the boardwalk and a free trolley train that travels a couple miles back and forth. A great farmers market and street fair on Sundays.

-Going downstream further you reach the Skippanon River where Warrenton Marina is at. Not much public services there anymore.



-Just a bit further down the Columbia is Hammond Boat Basin. Busy place during fishing season being the closest spot to the ocean.

- Lastly is Ilwaco on the Washington side. It is about 10 miles downstream from Astoria. You must follow the channel markers and bring your boat to a crawl when passing the Coast Guard Station. Again, best to call prior for reservations. There are a few restaurants on the boardwalk. It is truly a fishing town. There is a regular shuttle that will take you to Long Beach where there is much to do. Great hiking from Ilwaco out to Cape Disappointment.

-At the entrance to Ilwaco you are at the famous Bouy 10 which is the beginning of the Columbia River Bar, AKA, The Graveyard of the Pacific. Before attempting this please discuss with several experienced boaters familiar with the bar crossing and ocean conditions.