

# Gray Whale License Plates Available in Oregon

The Oregon State University Marine Mammal Institute Gray Whale vehicle license plate is available for Oregon vehicles starting February 1.

The plate is only for passenger vehicles titled and registered in Oregon.

In addition to regular title, registration, and plate manufacturing fees, the Gray Whale plate has a \$40 surcharge due when you first order the plate and at each registration renewal. The surcharge is the same amount for four-year or two-year registration periods.

Surcharge funds will go to the OSU Marine Mammal Institute to help fund marine mammal research and education. For more information on the foundation, visit <https://mmi.oregonstate.edu>.

Custom (vanity) and Amateur Radio Operator (HAM radio) versions will be available on the Gray Whale plate. DMV cannot reserve specific number-letter configurations for license plates. Also, DMV does not sell "sample" versions of license plates.

People can apply for the plates by mail, at DMV field offices, online, or through licensed vehicle dealers when they purchase a car. Customers cannot apply for a Gray Whale plate online if they are submitting a pre-paid voucher. Customers cannot replace vehicle plates through DEQ emissions testing stations (emissions tests are required only in parts of the Portland and Medford metropolitan areas).

The cost of a set of plates

depends upon when and how a vehicle owner applies for a new set. Here are two common scenarios:

1. Plates ordered within 120 days before a vehicle's stickers expire:

- Gray Whale surcharge: \$40 (also paid at every renewal)
- Plate fee: \$24 for the pair
- Plate replacement fee: \$5
- Registration renewal: \$112 (Multnomah County residents add \$38; Washington County residents add \$60)

2. Plates ordered more than 120 days before a vehicle's stickers expire:

- Gray Whale surcharge: \$40 (also paid at every two-year renewal)
- Plate fee: \$24 for the pair
- Plate replacement fee: \$10
- Total : \$74

People who purchase a new or used vehicle from a licensed dealer may order Gray Whale plates as part of the car-buying process. Dealers file title and registration applications with DMV on behalf of car buyers. When buying a car, there are charges in addition to those listed above, such as title fees and dealer processing charges.

To order new plates from DMV more than 120 days before a vehicle's stickers expire, customers need to fill out an Application for Registration, Renewal, Replacement, or Transfer of Plates and/or Stickers, Form 268. Customers can get this form at their



local DMV office to apply for the plate in person, or they can save a trip to DMV by downloading it at OregonDMV.

com and apply online or by mailing in the application and fees.

Before going to any DMV office, the agency suggests that you first check OregonDMV.com to make sure you have everything you need and view current wait times for the large DMV offices. Common transactions such as renewing vehicle registration, changing your address, and reporting the sale of a vehicle can be done online.

## Loggers Making Miracles

At the 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Associated Oregon Loggers (AOL) Convention, Log A Load for Kids held their annual Silent & Live Auctions on Friday, January 18. They raised \$80,535 with the help of main sponsor Liberty Mutual Insurance and the generous members.

One dessert went as high as \$3,700. The dessert auction totaled \$18,500, the oral auction total was \$28,000, and the silent auction items totaled \$6,915.

100% of the money raised, including all the sponsorship money, goes to the three Children's Miracle Network Hospitals in Oregon - Doernbecher's Children Hospital Foundation, Sa-

cred Heart Medical Center, and Asante Rogue Regional Medical Center.

Since 1996, with member donations during AOL's membership renewal, the live and silent auction, and a golf tournament, AOL has contributed a total of \$2,063,307.87 to our three Children's Miracle Network Hospitals.



Vernonia's Voice is published on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday. Look for our next issue on February 21.

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