

Replace or renew Boater Education Card online

- Life jackets? Check.
- Fire extinguisher? Check.
- Food and water? Check.
- Boater education card?

It's Friday at 11 p.m. and you're leaving at dawn for the lake when you realize, "Oh no, what did I do with it? Is it in the boat?"

No worries.

With the Marine Board's new online storefront (open 24/7), boat operators can order a replacement boater education card and print out a temporary permit and go boating right away. Boaters no longer have to call or visit the Salem office during business hours to verify they have a card, and then wait for snail mail for their replacement — which typically takes two to three weeks.

"This time every spring,



Ned Hickson/Siuslaw News

boaters get their boats and gear prepped, and sometimes panic when they realize they can't find their card," says MariAnn McKenzie, Boater Education Coordinator for the Marine Board. "It's easy to go to our online registration system to

order a replacement."

The cost of a replacement card is \$8 and the storefront accepts most major credit cards.

Go to www.boatoregon.com and click on the RegLine icon from the homepage. If boaters

have purchased an AIS permit, applied for a boater education card or registered a boat, the Marine Board's online storefront already has the boater's baseline data.

Simply register to create an account.

Once boaters establish a user name and password, they can login, and click on online services drop-down, and select the Boater Education Card replacement application link, then follow the directions.

Once payment is verified, boaters will have the option to print a temporary permit, which is valid for up to 60 days and must be carried onboard the boat. If you need assistance with the online process, contact the Education Section at the Marine Board at 503-378-8587.

The Mandatory Education

law was implemented in 2001 and requires boaters to take an approved boating safety course, apply for a boater education card and carry it with them on the water when operating a powerboat over 10 horsepower.

The program was phased in by age beginning in 2003, and after 2009, all boaters were required to take a boating safety course.

The card costs \$10 and is good for life. McKenzie adds, "Remember to make sure you have your card with you when you're out on the water. It's a Class D violation and boaters could get a \$110 fine."

To order a replacement boater education card or to set up an account with the Marine Board's online storefront for other permits or licenses, visit www.boatoregon.com.

View from 1B

insurance, and that insurance should come with roadside assistance or else you'll have to pay for RV-specific roadside help — even if you have roadside assistance for your cars.

It also helps to have another set of eyes on board (and no, your dog or cat does not count). You'll need someone to help you back in and out of tight situations and to remind you of all the things you forgot to do before taking off.

Make a checklist

Like any good pilot, you need a checklist of things to do before taking off and landing at your site. There are apps for this and lists on the internet, and they come in handy when you have about 20 things to shut off, like your water heater and pumps.

Also, you don't want to forget to lower your TV antenna before leaving the campsite, as they make terrible tree pruners.

Have a plan

Wanderlust can be a great thing, but you have to understand that you can no longer drive and/or park where you are used to driving and parking.

You need to research RV-specific routes that take into account things like your propane tank and the size of your vehicle. You don't want to drive 20 miles down a dirt road in, say, West Virginia only to encounter a small bridge intended for 19th-century mule traffic, with no space to turn around. Also, you might want to check up on the site you plan on visiting.

Good Sam is a RV resource online that offers trip planning and Frommer-like RV-park ratings.

Learn to love Walmart ... and baskets.

One of the few places that will welcome an RV with open arms is Walmart, where you can park without hassle (something you cannot do in most municipalities) and stock up on supplies, as they have a whole row dedicated to RVs.

Also they sell baskets, lots of them, which you'll need to put everything in because, remember, your house on wheels moves and things definitely will have shifted during the ride. Also, if you just got done camping, you are one of those people dressed weird in Walmart ... just saying.

Relax (or don't do it)

Take the slow road, and stop and see the world's largest ball of twine, have a sandwich at the beach and see the sights with your family and friends.

Sure, it gets a little Outward Bound at times, but in the end, the memories are what you're really buying.

Do your part and volunteer today to help support these local non-profit organizations in our community!

Volunteer • Get involved • Donate

Habitat for Humanity Restore

Staffed by volunteers, the ReStore accepts donated appliances, household items and building materials; fixes them, displays and sells them to raise funds for Habitat programs. Come and join the fun!
ReStore 541-997-583 • 2016 HWY 101, Florence

Helping Hands Coalition

Assisting those in need in our Community. Free Hot Meals Mon-Wed-Fri 11 AM - 2 PM
PO Box 1296 • 1339 Rhododendron Dr., Florence, OR 97439
Call 541-997-5057 to Volunteer

Meals on Wheels and Cafe 60

Meals on Wheels are available to people over the age of 60 who cannot get out much due to illness or advanced age and who are not eating properly, regardless of income. Cafe 60 is available for those who prefer to make new friends in a dining room setting.

1570 Kingwood
PO Box 2313, Florence
541-997-5673
laneseniormeals.org

Peace Harbor Volunteers

Join the Peace Harbor Hospital Volunteers, you will find an area of interest in a caring organization.
400 9th Street, Florence
541-997-8412 ext. 209

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maribob@oregonfast.net
www.ustoooflorence.org

COASST from 1B

effective marine conservation solutions.

Currently, more than 800 volunteers survey beaches in Washington, Oregon, California and Alaska. The training session will be held at Lane Community College Florence campus, 3149 Oak St., from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Reserve your training spot by calling COASST at 206-221-6893 or email coasst@uw.edu.

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garage sale GUIDE

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378 Kingwood St
furniture, household, books.

Moving Sale
Sat. 5/30
8:00am-?
89021 Sutton Lake Rd.
Lawn furniture, tools,
gun supplies

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