

## **Come Celebrate National Marina Day with a Family-Fun Event**

Mark your calendars for Saturday August 8<sup>th</sup> to come out and enjoy a great day on the water for a Family Fun Poker Run event. This event is about getting boaters out on the water to have fun, learn about the boating lifestyle and the important role that marinas play in providing boating services and access to our waterways. What better way than to play poker as you motor from location to location! Eight different Portland certified clean marinas will be participating in this event.

The event kicks off in the morning at 8:30am at the Waterside Marina with breakfast, hosted by the Fort Vancouver Sail and Power Squadron. During breakfast, boaters will receive route map packets with their first card with instructions. The poker run instructs boaters to take a self-guided tour to the eight marinas on and around Hayden Island. At each marina, boaters will pull up to a pre-designated dock location where they will receive a playing card sealed inside an envelope. After all eight playing cards are collected, boaters will make way to the Tomahawk Bay Marina for the finale, where at 5 p.m. a BBQ celebration will be hosted and boaters will “play” their best hand with the hopes of winning great prizes. Booths with various boating organizations will also be on hand, accompanied by music from local musician Stephanie Schneiderman, playing on the Columbia Crossings stage at 7:30 p.m.

The second Saturday of each August is designated “National Marina Day,” thanks to the Association of Marina Industries. This is the first year Oregon marinas are taking part in the nationwide celebration since the declaration was made in 2001. The planning committee includes eight Portland-area certified Clean Marinas, the Oregon State Marine Board, Columbia River Yachting Association, Fort Vancouver Sail and Power Squadron, Multnomah County Sheriff Marine Patrol, Boat U.S. / Vessel Assist and Freshwater News.

Over the next few months, Freshwater News will be announcing more information about the poker run and will highlight the participating Clean Marinas for the event including: Jantzen Bay Marina, Tomahawk Bay Marina, Pier 99, Portland Yacht Club, Rose City Yacht Club, McCuddys Island Marina, McCuddys Marine Drive Marina and the Waterside Marina. A clean marina is a marina that has voluntarily enrolled into an environmental certification program run by the Oregon State Marine Board. Clean marinas are facilities that have gone above and beyond just the minimum environmental compliance; they are the leaders of local marina communities and take pride in managing their facilities to protect the environment.

For more information about the Family Fun Poker Run, contact Glenn Dolphin, Clean Marina Coordinator for the Marine Board at 503-378-2625.

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