How to Dispose of an Abandoned or Derelict Boat

Questions?
Visit Our Website:
dnr.wa.gov/derelict-vessels

IF THE BOAT IS NOT YOURS

You can do one of the following:

- **Call your local law enforcement, file a report, and ask them to ticket the owner for illegal dumping and/or trespassing.** See if the officer can track down the owner by searching the registration number (WN #). Law enforcement can then ask them to remove the boat from your property.
- **If you do not find the last registered owner**, some counties will issue a "Junk Vehicle Affidavit" which will permit you to dispose of the boat without a title.
- **You can also take the boat to the dump yourself**, but you will need to follow the Lost and Found Property Laws under RCW 63.21 to gain legal custody. Call your local landfill for their requirements before taking the boat.
- **If you do not have a trailer to haul the boat,** contact a local tow or vessel transport company.
- **If the boat is in good enough condition,** and after you have gained legal possession of it by following RCW 63.21.010 you may then keep or sell it.

SEE WAC 308-93-275 AND RCW 46.55.230 FOR DETAILED INFORMATION.

IF YOU OWN THE BOAT

- **If you have the title to the vessel,** you can take it directly to a landfill, or rent a dumpster and dismantle the boat yourself after draining and disposing of any hazardous materials properly. Engines and trailers can be recycled at a metal recycler.
- **If you lost the title,** contact a Department of Licensing (DOL) agent and ask for an "Affidavit in Lieu of Title" to be used for the purpose of disposing the vessel.
- **Vessels on the water that are too big for a trailer,** contact your local boatyard to haul out and dispose of for you. Or you can have a boat transportation company take it to the landfill.

PRIVATE MOORAGE FACILITIES

If you are a private moorage facility, follow RCW 88.26 to gain custody. As a private moorage facility, you are required by law RCW 88.26.030 to obtain insurance coverage. You may also seek a contract with local government for the removal of vessels, see RCW 79.100.130.

Vessel Turn-In Program (VTIP)

If you are unable to dispose of your boat and do not have the financial means to do so, you may qualify for the VTIP. Go to DNR's website, review the Eligibility Criteria form, and fill out the application.

dnr.wa.gov/programs-and-services/aquatics/derelict-vessels/vessel-turn-program

SEE RCW 79.100.160 FOR DETAILED INFORMATION

DERELICT VESSEL REMOVAL PROGRAM AND VESSEL TURN-IN PROGRAM
360-902-BOAT (2628)

REPORT AN ABANDONED OR DERELICT VESSEL

1. **DOWNLOAD** and fill out the "Vessel of Concern Reporting Form" from: dnr.wa.gov/derelict-vessels

   and

2. **EMAIL** the form with photos included, to dvrp@dnr.wa.gov

   or

CALL
360-902-2628 *or*
360-902-1100 *or*

MAIL TO
1111 Washington St. SE
Mail Stop 47027
Olympia, WA 98504-7027

REPORT OIL SPILLS

Spills of oil or other hazardous materials must be reported.

U.S. NATIONAL RESPONSE CENTER
Call **800-424-8802**

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
24 hr. Response
Call **800-258-5990**

REPORT MARINE EMERGENCIES

USCG SECTOR PUGET SOUND
Pacific Ocean (north of Grays Harbor)
24 hr. Response
Call **206-217-6001**

USCG SECTOR COLUMBIA RIVER
Pacific Ocean (south of Grays Harbor, Columbia, Snake and Salmon Rivers)
Call **833-769-8724**

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WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DERELICT VESSEL REMOVAL (DVRP) and VESSEL TURN IN (VTIP) PROGRAMS