



Boat turn-in program frequently asked questions

What is the boat turn-in program?

This is a temporary program to provide free boat disposal. The program covers only boat disposal, not disposal of boat trailers. This program is in partnership with Metro, the Oregon State Marine Board, and the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office River Patrol. This program will be available until June 30, 2023, or until funds are exhausted.

How is this program funded?

The program is funded through the Oregon State Legislature [House Bill 5202](#), which was created to address the waste impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic. The funding enables Metro to partner with local governments, nonprofits and community organizations to more effectively tackle public dumping, litter, graffiti and abandoned vehicles. More information on these efforts can be found [here](#).

What is the goal of the Boat Turn-in Program?

This goal of this program is for boat owners to properly dispose of unseaworthy, damaged, or poor condition boats. When end-of-life boats in poor condition are given away or sold for a low price, they often end up abandoned or dumped in waterways and public spaces.

Who is eligible?

Only boats located in the Metro Service District Boundary in the greater Portland area are eligible for this program. The registered owner listed on the title is required to complete the application. If there are multiple owners, all registered owners must sign the application. If you are unsure if your boat is located within the service boundary, check the address of the boat location [here](#).

What do I receive for participating in the program?

Participation in this program is voluntary. All boats and their contents will be destroyed and disposed of. There is no tax break and surrendering a boat is not a charitable donation.

Do I need to have the title?

Ownership information is required to turn the boat in and will be confirmed by the Oregon State Marine Board. If you lost the title, information on how to obtain a new title can be found [here](#).

How do I surrender my boat?

Boat owners must complete a release of property ownership form and select the turn-in type. There are two options, "Express turn-in" or "Hardship turn-in."

An “Express Turn-in” is when the owner can deliver the boat to a turn-in location in the greater Portland area. This is the most efficient and cost-effective option for the program and will allow Metro and partners to help more community members.

A “Hardship turn-in” is when the owner cannot deliver the boat to a turn-in location and requires more program time and resources to coordinate.

How long is this process?

It depends on several factors, a fully completed application, having boat ownership documentation, and participating in the "Express turn-in" surrender is the fastest disposal process. Once the pre-application is submitted and ownership is determined, an “Express turn-in” is estimated to take 2-3 weeks to complete. We anticipate “Hardship turn-ins” to take longer. Applications are reviewed on a first come, first served basis. If Metro and partners receive many applications, the process could take longer.

What do I do with my boat trailer?

The disposal of boat trailers is not covered by this program. However, boat trailer disposal is available through the contracted disposal company. Surrender of trailers and payment of the \$100 trailer processing fee must be arranged between the owner and the disposal company.

What if I forgot something in my boat?

Upon surrender, all previous ownership interest in the boat and contents is void. At the time of surrender, it is your responsibility to remove all personal items. Please review release of property for more details.

Can I submit my neighbor’s boat or a dumped boat?

The boat owner, or owners are the only people able to participate in the program. Illegally dumped boats can be reported to the Metro RID Patrol [here](#).

If my application is denied, can I reapply?

Most applications will be denied due to inability to provide proper ownership. If a title can be produced after an initial denial, and the program is still open, another application may be considered.

What do I do with my boat if it is ineligible for the program?

If your boat is not eligible for this program, you can responsibly dispose of your boat at an authorized disposal facility. Oregon Department of Environmental Quality provides [a list of facilities permitted to accept and manage garbage](#) across Oregon. Please note not all facilities are able or willing to accept a boat, so please contact the facility to understand their acceptance criteria.