

WindWord

The Newsletter of the Footloose Sailing Association

Leave your disability at the dock

2024 Loose Screw Award



Our thanks and recognition go out to Andrew Shroyer (left) and Matt Fraser, the recipients of the 2024 Footloose Loose Screw Award. The Award is made annually to people who have made a major and significant contribution to Footloose through their actions.

Andrew was the Manager of Leschi for several years until the end of the 2024 season. He was very responsive to Footloose’s needs and insured we were not adversely impacted by the upgrades and changes being made to the marina. Last summer he also provided a great bar-be-que lunch during a sail day.

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Upcoming Events

April 26 – setup day
10:00a.m. at Leschi

May 3 – first sail day

See Page 6 for the full schedule

Footloose is a member of



Move United is the national leader in community adaptive sports.

Footloose is an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) organization funded entirely by donations.

2024 Loose Screw Award

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Matt joined Footloose in 2022. Always willing to help with whatever is needed, he has skippered, crewed and spent many hours on the water in the chase boat keeping an eye on all of us. He has also assisted with the administration of the organization, including serving on the Board for two years. He has promised to return this season. Our heartfelt thanks to both Andrew and Matt.

At The Tiller Spring 2025



Ahoy Footloose sailors!

Spring sun and winds are carrying us toward another safe and fun filled sailing summer. Our mid winter potluck was a success with 22 people attending. There was a sailboat race that day on Puget Sound so our numbers were reduced from normal.

As last year, the event reservation system on the website will be used again. New participants will still have to contact Footloose through e-mail info@footloosedisabledsailing.org to answer questions, discuss needs and decide on the right boat. The past participants will be able to pick a day and a boat, make a reservation and prepay through PayPal. Please print out and bring the paper reservation and liability forms from the

Footloose website with you to the event. The forms only need to be done once a year.

Footloose volunteers also need to print out and bring the paper reservation and liability forms from the Footloose website to the event (done just once a year) and also be processed through the Move United background check and disability sensitivity program.

Our two night camping trip to Blake Island will be July 27,28,29 this summer. Reservations for that will be separate from the website reservation system and will be processed through me at info@footloosedisabledsailing.org

Footloose is currently looking for secure summer storage near north Leschi for our big black trailer that has all the event stuff in it. And someone to tow it to the events. Footloose is also perennially looking for an accessible home on the water with good parking where we can have our sailing events, have some office space, store our boats and equipment, have meetings and generally hang out.

Footloose has ongoing efforts by volunteers in events, meetings, fund raising, administration, outreach, paperwork, accounting, maintenance, trailer and boat sales. A big thank you to the Footloose Volunteers as well as all the businesses and organizations that support us!

You can keep up with Footloose on our facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/FootlooseSailingAssociation/>
 or at our website:
footloosedisabledsailing.org.

fair winds, Captain Bob

Footloose Donors

The Winter 2025 Wind Word did not include
West Marine
on the list of 2024 donors. Our apologies
and a belated thank-you.



Footloose is funded entirely by the
generous contributions of individuals and
organizations. For this we thank you.

Footloose thanks the Imperial Sovereign Court
of Snohomish County Empire of Dreams for
donating a portion of their 41st Annual Gay
Everett Pageant proceeds to our cause.

The Magic of Volunteers



With volunteers a saggy old wet tarp becomes an efficient, fully functioning and supportive
boat cover, much the same as the Footloose organization. If any one you know may be
interested in volunteering, please have them come out to a sail day.

Off Season



The season doesn't stop after the October haul-out day for the maintenance volunteers. Motors have to be serviced, dinghies cleaned and repaired, covers and sails repaired and replaced, and, on an ongoing basis, the in-water boats have to be checked. Here a new fender has been installed to prevent Joe's Vision from going under the dock during low water. If you are interested in volunteering during the off-season, to help with the physical or administrative work, please let us know.

Setup Day, April 26, 2005

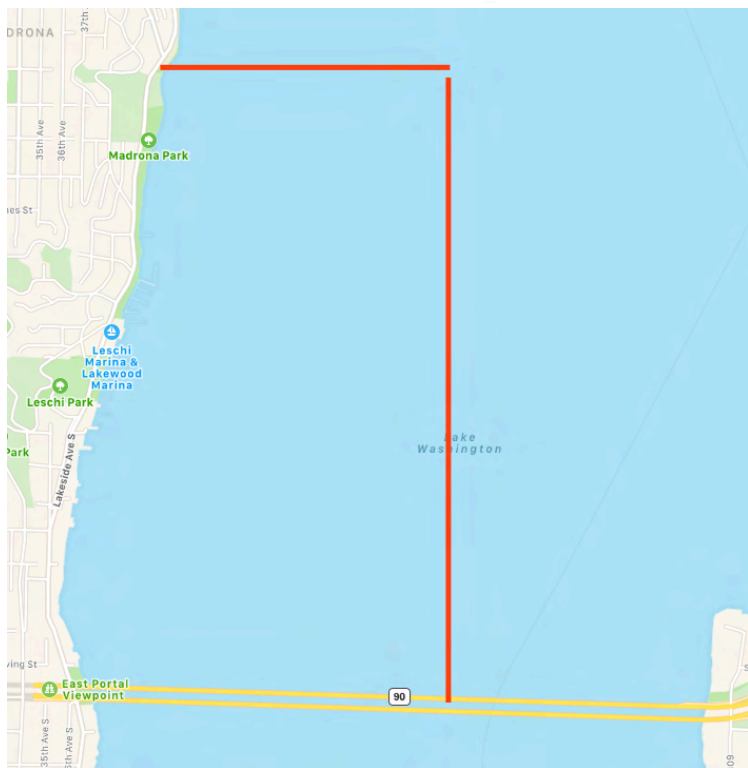


Setup Day will include some of the activities shown on the photo to the left, and much more. The Martins and the chase boat will be towed from their winter storage, rigged up at the Stanley Sayres Memorial Park, launched, and weather permitting, sailed to Leschi. (no, the chase boat will motor).

Surprise, Inspiration and Joe's Vision will have the winter crud cleaned off and motors and sails will be reinstalled. The Access dinghies, if Tim hasn't already taken care of them, will be cleaned.

If you are interested in helping, the crew will meet at Leschi at 10:00 a.m.

Reminders for the 2025 Sailing Season



Dinghy sailing limits

Please note the following sailing limits that must be adhered to for safety reasons.

Keelboats

- south limit - I-90 bridge
- east limit – east side of the lake at Medina and Mercer Island
- north limit – 520 bridge

Dinghies

- south limit – I-90 bridge
- east limit – halfway across the lake at Mercer Island
- north limit – the north end of Madrona Park, where the houses start.

Safety

For us to have a safe sailing season we need everyone to follow the rules and look out for each other. If you see someone has forgotten their life jacket or aren't wearing it properly, please speak up. If you see someone being helped on or off a boat without proper assistance, please speak up.

If a volunteer is assisting you in what you consider to be in an unsafe manner, please let them know. They are there to help.

We want to get people on the water as quickly as possible. However rushing can mean wheelchair safety belts not being undone prior to going onto the dock, safety straps not being installed properly or someone slipping on a wet surface. Take your time, watch out and we will all have a great season.

The Footloose Safety and Behavioral Policies can be found on the website. Click on About on the main menu, then click on Policies on the drop-down menu.

Footloose Training Manual

The Footloose Training Manual contains information on how the sail days are run, how the boats are set up and the responsibilities of specific volunteer positions. It also contains a number of other items that help the reader understand how the organization runs. It can also be found on the Policies page on the web site. Click on "Footloose Training Manual."

All volunteers expecting to participate in more than three (3) sailing events will need to be screened, have a back-ground check and take a sexual abuse awareness training course. This is a requirement of Move United, the organization through which we obtain our insurance. More information will be distributed once the details are finalized.



Footloose 2025 Sailing Schedule

April 26 – setup 10 a.m. – no sailing

May 3 – day sail

May 17 – day sail

May 31 – day sail

June 14 – day sail

June 28 – day sail

July 12 – day sail

July 27, 28, 29 – Blake Island camping trip

August 9 – day sail

August 23 – day sail

September 6 – day sail

September 20 – last day sail

October 4 – Shut down 10 a.m. – no sailing

Day Sail

Volunteers at 10 a.m.

Sailors at 11 a.m.

Start loading boats 11:30

First sail 12:00 to 2:00

Second sail 2:30 to 4:30