

# Marine Flare Collection Calendar Alert

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October 7, 2024

By Monica Grant | October 7, 2024 | San Francisco Bay Area | [0](#)

It's that time of year again (yes, we're still doing it the old way). It's time to dig out those expired marine flares that you put aside until you could figure out what to do with them, as marine flare collection events are coming up in October and November.

Residents and boaters berthing their boats in Del Norte County, Humboldt County, Alameda County, West Contra Costa County, Marin County, L.A. County, and San Diego can take their expired marine flares to their county's designated marine flare collection events as follows:

## Southern California

Port of San Diego

October 26, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. — 2210 Shelter Island Dr., San Diego, CA 92106.

Port of Los Angeles

October 26, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. — Cabrillo Way Marina, 2293 Miner St., San Pedro, CA 90731.

City of Morro Bay

October 27, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. — 1196 Front St., Morro Bay, CA 93442.

## Northern California

West Contra Costa County

Oct 16–Nov 24, Wed–Sat 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. — 101 Pittsburg Ave., Richmond, CA 94801.

Del Norte County and Humboldt County

November 2, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. — 1700 State St., Crescent City, CA 95531,

Marin County

November 3, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. — Clipper Yacht Harbor, 310 Harbor Dr., Sausalito, CA 94965,

Alameda County

November 3. **By Appointment ONLY.** Sign up for an appointment at [www.stopwaste.org/marineflares](https://www.stopwaste.org/marineflares).

Only expired marine flares from residents and boaters berthing their boats in the covered areas will be accepted. No marine flares from commercial craft or an organization, or other forms of household hazardous waste (HHW), will be accepted during the special event. Proof of residence or eligibility is required (i.e., license, registration, or slip fee).

We received the above and the following information:

“This collection event has been organized by Alameda County, Del Norte County, West Contra Costa County, Marin County, the Ports of L.A. and San Diego, the City of Morro Bay, and the California Product Stewardship Council in partnership with CalRecycle, California State Parks and Coastal Commission’s California Boating Clean and Green Program, to collect expired marine flares and educate residents about marine flare management safety, including the advantages of reusable distress signals, to protect California communities and the local environment.

“The United States Coast Guard (USGC) requires boaters to carry several unexpired visual distress signals on board, day and night. Pyrotechnic marine flares are a common type of distress signal, but they are explosive hazardous waste and contain toxic chemicals, like perchlorate, that pose human health risks. Marine flares only work once and expire 36 to 42 months after the manufacture date.”



What to do with old marine flares? Put the collection dates on your calendar.  
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“For safety and environmental reasons, it is essential to manage single-use pyrotechnic marine flares carefully. Residents should never throw flares overboard into the environment or out in household trash. However, California resident boaters do not have access to an

ongoing expired marine flare disposal program, and recreational vessels generate about 174,000 pyrotechnic marine flares every year, according to the California Expired Marine Flare Working Group as estimated in 2012.

“In the absence of safe disposal options locally, the partners encourage resident boaters to consider an electronic visual distress signal device (eVDS) as a reusable distress signal alternative to the single-use pyrotechnic marine flare.”



Electronic Visual Distress Signal Devices won't sit in your garage awaiting their fate.

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For more information about expired marine flares, visit [dbw.parks.ca.gov/marineflares](http://dbw.parks.ca.gov/marineflares).

# ATTENTION CALIFORNIA BOATERS



Single-use marine flares contain hazardous chemicals that pose risks to human health and the environment. Special collection events for unwanted flares are being held across California.

**Open ONLY to residents and boaters with boats registered in the covered counties. Proof of residence or slip fee is required. No commercial flares accepted.**

### Southern California

**Port of San Diego**  
**October 26, 2024, from 8 AM to 12 PM** at 2210 Shelter Island Dr, San Diego, CA 92106

**Port of Los Angeles**  
**October 26, 2024, from 10 AM to 2 PM** at Cabrillo Way Marina, 2293 Miner St, San Pedro, CA 90731

**City of Morro Bay**  
**October 27, 2024, from 8 AM to 12 PM** at 1196 Front St, Morro Bay, CA 93442

### Northern California


**West Contra Costa County**  
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**Marin County**  
**November 3, 2024, from 8 AM to 12 PM** at Clipper Yacht Harbor, 310 Harbor Dr, Sausalito, CA 94965

**Alameda County**  
**November 3, 2024, By Appointment ONLY.** Sign-up for an appointment: [www.stopwaste.org/marineflares](http://www.stopwaste.org/marineflares)





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Yes, the weekend was HOT! But that didn't stop us and countless others heading to the Sausalito waterfront for the second annual Sausalito Boat Show.

Keep the Bay Blue

[This Thursday: City of S.F. Mayor Race Candidates and Blue Tech](#)

Meet the mayoral candidates to learn about the plan to support the local blue tech economy and keep the Bay clean.

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Starlink plans and pricing are confusing, and they change all the time. But the service is proving to be a valuable asset for offshore cruisers.

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