

# ***Most Frequently Asked Questions***

***Who is WSA?***

**About the WSA**

## **Our Beginnings**

In 1992, a group of dedicated SCUBA divers formed Washington SCUBA Alliance to advocate for underwater parks. This mission has expanded to advocate for and to be actively involved in promoting a wide range of divers interests including healthy marine ecosystems, safe shoreline access, and underwater parks.

WSA's work is funded by memberships and contributions. WSA is a 501 c(3) corporation. Contributions are tax deductible.

## **Goals**

WSA is committed to working with officials of State, County, City, and Local Departments, and volunteer divers to establish a series of underwater parks that divers and snorkelers may enjoy. Underwater preserves will help prevent the loss of marine biodiversity by creating "safe havens" for all marine life.

WSA strives to create a unified group of divers, as dive clubs, dive stores, and charter operators who work together on projects. These projects make our waters a better place for its inhabitants to live and for divers to visit.

***When will the license plate go on sale?***

Before the license plate can go on sale we need to meet certain conditions;

1. We must collect signatures representing 3,500 vehicles. This includes cars, trucks, motorcycles, motor homes/campers and trailers.
2. Receive approval from the Special License Plate Review Board.
3. Passage of legislation supporting the creation of the plate

Our goal is to collect the signatures by the end of August 2007.

When we make our goal, receive approval by the board and achieve the legislation the plate will be available beginning ***January 1, 2009***

***If I sign up today am I committed to purchase the plates when they become available?***

No you are not committed to purchase the plates, but we are asking that you sign the form only if you are seriously considering purchasing the plates when they become available.

***How much will the new plates cost?***

The original cost to purchase a Washington Divers special plate is \$40.00 plus and applicable licensing fees. When the vehicle registration becomes due, you will need to pay an additional \$30.00 to keep the plates on your vehicle even if you have not had the plates for a full year. The DOL highly recommends you renew your vehicle registration at the same time you purchase your new special license plate or wait to purchase the plates when your registration is due.

***Is any part of the cost tax-deductible?***

Yes, \$28.00 of the original cost and \$28.00 of the annual renewal cost is tax deductible as a charitable contribution.

***If I purchase the plates, do the special fees benefit the sponsoring organization?***

Yes, \$28.00 of the initial and annual plate renewal fee will benefit the Washington Scuba Alliance programs for our divers and the dive environment.

***Can I personalize my Washington Diver license plate?***

Yes, you will be able to personalize your license plate

***What happens to the special plates when I sell my vehicle?***

The special plates are issued to the individual and are not transferable to another person. If you sell your vehicle and purchase a new vehicle, you may pay a transfer fee and transfer the plates to your new vehicle. If you choose not to keep your Washington Diver plates, you may leave them on the vehicle and the new vehicle owner will take possession of those plates with the purchase of the vehicle.

***Will plates be issued numerically in the order in which they are applied for?***

Yes. The plates will be issued in numerical order by the main DOL computer system. However, the first 25 plates will be pre-assigned.