



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**PORTLAND'S MILK CARTON BOAT RACE RETURNS JUNE 24**  
*Start Saving Milk Jugs Now for this Popular Rose Festival Competition!*

PORTLAND, ORE. – A unique Portland tradition dating back to 1973, the Royal Rosarians Milk Carton Boat Race will welcome boaters back to the historic Westmoreland Park Casting Pond on Sunday, June 24, 2018. The Rose Festival event will be produced by the Royal Rosarians and presented by the Oregon Dairy and Nutrition Council.

"The Royal Rosarians are proud to presenting this great community event, and registration is open now," said Adam Baker, Royal Rosarian Prime Minister. "So drink your milk and start saving up those milk cartons and jugs!"

Aptly named, the Milk Carton Boat Race features large, hand-made, human-powered boats that float entirely by means of recycled milk cartons and jugs. Racers young and old compete with their creatively constructed watercraft in seven classes ranging from sleek and slim boats built for speed to the whimsical showboat class. There is even a corporate category for businesses. All compete for the coveted Best in Show milk can trophy.

"This is a great way to wrap up the Rose Festival season!" says Brett Baker, Portland Rose Festival Foundation President. "There are some pretty creative boat designs that come from these milk carton builders and thanks to the Royal Rosarians and Oregon Dairy and Nutrition Council it's open to everybody."

The race will take place at the Westmoreland Park Casting Pond in the Sellwood Neighborhood of southeast Portland on June 24 at 11:00 a.m. It is free to attend and participate in the races, and it promises to be a fun event for all ages.

"We look forward to seeing the sleek, unique, and downright hilarious boat designs in this year's event," said Josh Thomas, Senior Director of Communications for the Oregon Dairy and Nutrition Council. "It's always a great way to celebrate June Dairy Month, and this year is extra special since it marks our organization's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary."

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The fine people at Kroger's Swan Island Dairy and Darigold provided a limited supply of recycled milk jugs and cartons for race participants. The event promotes reuse and recycling, and participants who choose not to keep their boats for future years will be encouraged to dismantle and recycle them at their home.

For race information or free registration, go to: <http://royalrosarians.com/page/milk-carton-boat-race>

Want to learn the basics of building a Milk Carton Race Boat? Go to: <https://youtu.be/xEbBqRp7-Mg>

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### **About the Royal Rosarians**

*In distinctive white suits and straw hats, the Royal Rosarians serve by Mayoral Declaration as the "Official Greeters and Ambassadors of Goodwill for the City of Portland." Formed in 1912, the Royal Rosarians promote the best interests of the City of Portland and the Portland Rose Festival. Royal Rosarians welcome visiting dignitaries from around the world and host hundreds of out-of-town visitors each year. Representing the outstanding character of the citizens of Portland, members march in parades throughout the world, promoting the Rose as the Queen of Flowers and Portland as the Rose Capital of the World. The Royal Rosarians are a volunteer organization dedicated to community service in charitable projects through the Royal Rosarian Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization.*

### **About the Oregon Dairy and Nutrition Council**

*The Oregon Dairy and Nutrition Council is funded and directed by the Oregon dairy industry, with governance by a ten-member Board of Commissioners and oversight by the Oregon Department of Agriculture. Oregon is home to 228 dairy farm families and 31 dairy processors who provide more than \$1 billion in economic impacts annually, along with delicious, award-winning cheeses, ice creams, yogurts, fluid milk and other high quality dairy products.*

### **About the Portland Rose Festival Foundation**

*The Portland Rose Festival has made Portland, Oregon a better place to live and visit for 111 years. As Portland's Official Festival, the Rose Festival attracts over one million people to the Pacific Northwest every year and generates more than \$70 million for the region's economy and local businesses.*

*The Rose Festival Foundation is a non-profit that serves the community by providing families with events and programs that promote the arts, education and volunteerism. We value environmental responsibility, cultural diversity, patriotism and our floral heritage.*