



Cowlitz County

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 17, 2025

Cowlitz County Auditor's Office Issues Notice on Department of Licensing Mailing and Fee Errors

Kelso, WA – The Cowlitz County Auditor's Office has been notified of recent errors associated with vehicle registration renewal notices issued by the Washington State Department of Licensing (DOL).

In August 2025, DOL transitioned from mailing renewal letters to sending renewal postcards and email notices. This notification system is managed entirely by the Department of Licensing, not by county auditor offices.

DOL has since identified two errors in this process:

- 1) **Mailing Address Error** – Renewal postcards were sent to customers' residential addresses instead of the mailing addresses on file.
- 2) **Fee Calculation Error** – The "State Parks Donation Fee" was miscalculated on some renewal notices.

The Cowlitz County Auditor's Office remains committed to assisting residents with vehicle licensing and registration services. Our staff are available to answer questions and address concerns, and residents are encouraged to call us at (360) 577-3002 for assistance. Customers may also visit the Department of Licensing website at dol.wa.gov for more information.

The Cowlitz County Auditor's Office sincerely apologizes for any confusion this issue may cause and appreciates the community's understanding as the Department of Licensing works to resolve these errors.

Contact

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