



If a beacon is inadvertently activated, use of registration data may help to determine this before SAR personnel are dispatched on an unnecessary, expensive or dangerous rescue mission.

### What happens next?

You will be mailed a proof of registration letter. Review the registration information carefully (including the beacon UIN) and, if necessary, correct it online or by calling **888-212-7283**. If you do not receive your proof of registration within two weeks, call the number above.

Every two years, NOAA will contact you to verify your registration information. You can update or add to your information any time; the easiest way to do this is online. Be sure the information is always accurate. If you obtain a beacon that has been registered to someone else, or sell or take your beacon out of service, update the registration to reflect the change.

### Remember—Beacon Registration:

- Might save your life;
- Is required;
- Must be accurate; and
- Involves updates, some of which are mandatory.

## How can I improve my chances of being found?

Beacon users are encouraged to purchase a GPS-equipped beacon whose location can be detected near instantaneously. The small additional cost for these beacons is a wise investment.



## Beacon and Battery Disposal

Beacons no longer in use can generate false alerts that trigger costly SAR responses and their batteries can be hazardous to health and the environment; proper disposal is important.

Never discard a beacon or store it for a long time with an installed battery. Consult the manufacturer or beacon service center about battery removal, and consult a service center or local authorities about recycling the battery.

Certain aftermarket replacement battery packs have been shown to be of inferior quality and may pose a safety risk and/or result in the failure of the beacon to function properly. NOAA recommends that beacon owners always use manufacturer approved battery packs.

# Register Your 406 MHz Distress Beacon!

*Beacon Registration is intended to help save your life*







## What types of beacons are covered in this brochure?

This information applies to all U.S.-coded personal locator beacons (PLB), emergency locator transmitters (ELT) or emergency position-indicating radio beacons (EPIRB) that transmit on the frequency 406 MHz.

**Ensure that you obtain a U.S.-coded beacon;** otherwise, you will not be able to register the beacon in the U.S. Non U.S.-coded beacons should be registered with the country for which the beacon is coded.

## Why should I register my beacon?

Registration is free and can result in a more efficient search and rescue (SAR) effort.

Unlike registration for a manufacturer warranty, beacon information is used by Search and Rescue (SAR) authorities along with the distress signal from your beacon, solely to help locate you and save your life in an emergency.

Beacon registration is required by Federal regulations (Title 47 of the CFR , Parts 80, 87 and 95). Failure to register the beacon, or to notify the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) of a change in beacon ownership, could result in penalties and/or fines issued to the owner by the Federal Communications Commission.

## How do I register my beacon?

Preferably register online at:

**[www.beaconregistration.noaa.gov](http://www.beaconregistration.noaa.gov)**

However, you can also mail or fax the signed registration form but this may delay registration by up to two weeks due to federal mail routing in the Washington DC region. Send mail and faxes to:

### NOAA

SARSAT/BEACON REGISTRATION

NSOF E/SPO53

1315 East West Highway

Silver Spring, MD 20910

Fax: 301-817-4565

New beacons come with a registration form. Please check the address before mailing and send to the address above, as older beacons may come with pre-paid envelopes addressed to our previous mailing address. For pre-owned beacons, a registration form may be downloaded from the website above or faxed by calling:

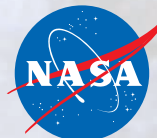
**888-212-7283**

## What information is needed?

Registration information includes who you are and how to contact you. One important entry relates to your 24 hour/day emergency point of contact... someone who knows you, how you're traveling, where you might be, what you might be expected to do, etc.

If you wish, in the remarks section, add any information that might help with SAR, such as a specific description of your vessel or aircraft, known medical conditions, or even information pertaining to a particular trip or outing.

Beacon registration information is used solely to support SAR authorities; it is protected from use for other purposes by the Privacy Act (5 USC 552a) and relevant Federal policies.



## What is a UIN?

Pay close attention to your beacon's 15-digit Unique Identification Number (UIN). When activated, your beacon will send the UIN which is used to retrieve your registration data. This information will be sent with the distress alert to SAR authorities. It is the only means of linking the individual distress beacon to the registration database.

***It is critical that your beacon UIN be entered correctly when you register your beacon.***

You can imagine the problems that accidentally registering someone else's beacon UIN could cause.

## Where do I find the UIN?

If it's not pre-printed on the registration form, it should be available on the beacon or materials provided with the beacon.

## How is registration information used?

Experience has shown that registration information often helps provide better or faster assistance to people in distress; it might help to establish:

- Where the distress situation is located (the location might otherwise be unavailable);
- What to search for

If additional information is provided, the registration could help identify:

- How many people need assistance;
- What type of help might be needed; and
- Other ways to contact the owner.

