

# Pine Tree Plate Frequently Asked Questions



## 1. A resident has come to renew their registration but reserved their license plate number which hasn't yet arrived. Do they need to show their new license plate first?

No. Ask them to continue using their Chickadee license plate until the reserved plates arrives in the mail. They should place new stickers onto a Chickadee license plate. Issue them a second set of stickers to be placed on the new plate when they receive it in the mail. An e-mail was sent to you on June 26, 2025, describing the detailed processing instructions.

## 2. Before I renew a registration do I need to send someone home to complete a Pine Tree or No Tree license plate reservation?

No.

- **If the license plates they want to reserve have not yet expired:** While at your office, have them call the registration section at **207-624-9000 Ext. 52149** to reserve their plate. They will need to pay the one-time \$25 fee over the phone using a credit or debit card. Once our registration section has confirmed the reservation, you can then process the renewal and provide month and year stickers.
  - This registrant will use their current Chickadee license plates until their new ones arrive in the mail. Please tell them to place these new stickers onto their current Chickadee license plate. Issue them a second set of stickers to be placed on the new plate when they receive it in the mail. An e-mail was sent to you on June 26, 2025, describing the detailed processing instructions.
- **If the license plates they want to reserve have expired:** You must first renew their registration using the Chickadee license plates since inactive plates cannot be reserved. You will then issue them month and year stickers. After this, have the registrant call the BMV registration section at **207-624-9000 Ext. 52149** to reserve their new plates over the phone. They will need to pay the one-time \$25 fee over the phone using a credit or debit card.
  - This registrant will use their current Chickadee license plates until their new plates arrive in the mail. Please tell them to place these new stickers onto their current Chickadee license plate.
- **If the registrant does not have a credit or debit card:** You should renew their current registration, if needed, using their Chickadee license plates and issue them month and year stickers. Provide the registrant with a Reserved Plate Application (MV-62) and instruct them to mail it in to the BMV registration section, which is detailed on the form itself.

## 3. Why are some registrants receiving "VOID" or blank stickers and should they put them onto their license plates?

If a registrant is renewing a non-Chickadee plate, they will receive blank month stickers or month stickers marked "VOID." This is because they do not need new month stickers for their current license plate. Please remind them NOT to place the blank or VOID stickers onto their license plates and simply throw them away.

#### **4. A registration is expired, will the BMV still reserve the plate numbers?**

A license plate number cannot be reserved until it is active. The registration would need to be renewed first in this case.

#### **5. Should a registrant place their renewal stickers on their old Chickadee license plate?**

If they do not have their new license plates yet, yes. They should put their renewal stickers on their old Chickadee plate. Issue them a second set of stickers to be placed on the new plate when they receive it in the mail. An e-mail was sent to you on June 26, 2025, describing the detailed processing instructions.

#### **6. A customer is here to re-register and wants to reserve their current Chickadee license plate number. What should I do?**

**Does your town participate in Rapid Renewal?**

- **Yes.** You can offer that service to them. With Rapid Renewal they can pay excise tax, renew, reserve, and receive their new license plates and stickers in one transaction.
- **No.** If this is not an option or they choose not to, then check if the plate is expired. See question 2 of this FAQ guide for instructions of what to do if their plates have not expired, have expired, or if they do not have a way to make a payment over to phone to the BMV.

#### **7. A registrant reserved their license plate, and they have not been delivered yet. Do I still collect their excise tax and renew their registration?**

While a registrant's reserved Pine Tree or Classic (No Tree) license plates may not have arrived yet, you may still renew their registration if your town has the ability to do so. We recommend waiting to renew a registration until the expiration month, though.

##### **To contact the municipal coordinators:**

207-624-9000 Ext. 52163

Fax 207-624-9037

[municipal.bmv@maine.gov](mailto:municipal.bmv@maine.gov)

##### **To contact the BMV's stockroom:**

207-624-9030

Fax 207-624-9035

[npistockroom.bmv@maine.gov](mailto:npistockroom.bmv@maine.gov)