



## News Release

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### Moonshine in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

**PORTLAND, Ore.** – When we think of prohibition-era moonshine, the terms “backwoods stills,” “knock you off your feet,” and “rot-gut” come to mind because of the cheap bootleg products made illegally during prohibition.



Today, the Oregon Liquor Control Commission carries nearly 40 different kinds of un-aged, white whiskey (also referred to as white dog and moonshine), including six from local Oregon Distillers:

[White Owl Whiskey](#), CPR Distillery in Hillsboro

[Sweet Baby Moonshine](#), Hard Times Distillery

[White Dog Whiskey](#), House Spirits in Portland

[Steinshine](#), Stein Distillery

[Unaked Rye Whiskey](#) and [Unaked Oat Whiskey](#), Stone Barn Brandyworks

“Modern White Dog Whiskey is so much better than illegal Moonshine because it has to be, and we have the tools and knowledge to make it better - starting with a clean and orderly facility, free of bacterial contamination,” says Christian

Krogstad, Co-owner/Founder House Spirits.

Clark McCool, Director of Winery and Distillery Operations at McMenamins adds, “We released our White Owl from CPR to start the conversation about our Whiskey program and because it tastes good as a stand - alone spirit. We bottle it right out of the still to preserve the fresh aromas of wheat and barley malts. Unaltered by aging in oak barrels, White Owl Whiskey retains a crystal clarity that belies the intensity of its flavor, and at 98.6 proof it is sure to warm your bones.”

“Going legit means being regulated,” adds Krogstad. “Which brings with it a certain base line of quality or at least lack of toxicity - as would happen in that shed in the Holler. And selling a legit product means creating a brand, which moves the quality even higher than mere legal quality minimums would as that brand needs to compete with other brands, largely on the basis of quality.”

The days of rum-running and bathtub gin are long gone. Distillers who make moonshine in the 21<sup>st</sup> century not only make a product that is much more pleasant and tasty, but they are operating legally within state and federal laws.

“Who would have thought eighty years ago that we'd be selling legal moonshine in Oregon liquor stores?” says Merle Lindsey, OLCC Deputy Director. “We take the time to help small businesses like House Spirits and CPR Spirits through the liquor licensing process and help them navigate Oregon’s liquor laws so they can be successful.”

In addition to moonshine, OLCC carries over 400 products by local Oregon distillers ranging from vodka and gin to brandy and whiskey. McCool adds, “We have found that our White Dog products fit well into our extensive cocktail programs at our locations as well as serve as a conversation starter about our Whiskey program at both our CPR and Edgefield Distilleries.”

Finding products available in Oregon is easy. Type in the name or type of product you want at [www.OregonLiquorSearch.com](http://www.OregonLiquorSearch.com) for a list of the products and which stores currently have it in stock. As long as it’s available to be shipped into the state, the liquor store owner at any of the 248 liquor stores in Oregon can order a bottle or two to be picked up at the store, at no extra cost to you, the customer.

For information on how to start your own craft distillery, [visit OLCC’s webpage](#). Oregon distilled spirits sales make up 12% of the total spirits sales in the state.

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*Did you know that in the last two years, the OLCC distributed more than **\$397 million** to Oregon’s General Fund, Cities, Counties, and Drug and Alcohol Abuse Programs? [See the distribution of dollars on OLCC’s Website.](#)*