

June 2009

Issue 9

Lake Sutherland Community Newsletter

A Letter from the Lake Sutherland Management District 2 Steering Committee

Dear Lake Sutherland property owners:

Lake Sutherland's "Weed Warriors" continue to turn back the invasion of Eurasian milfoil in our lake and now hope that you will support us in gaining a county extension to keep up the battle.

It is a real battle and one that has no end, because only one piece of Eurasian milfoil in the lake can spread along the lake's shallows. If unchecked, the plant could expand to fill all shallow areas, engulf docks and effectively prevent recreational use of our lake.

Cathy Lucero, Clallam County's noxious weeds specialist, and many of the lake's volunteer "Weed Warriors" will attend a public hearing on July 21 at 10:30 a.m. to ask the Commissioners to extend the lake weed abatement district's life for five years.

In its first five years, the district's volunteers have so reduced the milfoil invasion that last summer all efforts collected only four bucketfuls of the plant. In previous summers, Cathy Lucero said the divers often filled 10 buckets in one day in just one small area. In addition to pulling plants, the work has included blocking plants from sunlight with underwater barriers and mapping the entire lake to identify "hot" spots.

More than 6,100 volunteer hours over the five-year period have made this possible. The reward is a lake environment that remains one of the most attractive lakes for recreational activity in the state of Washington, a lake once listed as a prime recreational site by Conde Naste magazine.

Cathy Lucero said about two-thirds of the volunteer hours were by friends of the lake, including divers, who have no direct relationship to Lake Sutherland as property owners or residents. In all, she says nearly 300 people have contributed to the milfoil battle over the past five years.

The work has been made possible by a \$50 per year assessment on each lake property. The assessment has been used for nothing else and is not proposed to be increased. The only thing the lake district steering committee will ask the County Commissioners to do is to extend the district for another five years so the work can continue to receive county staff support. The staff time has averaged 200 hours a year over the past five years.

It is hard to imagine a more efficient use of our dollars than the one we have achieved at Lake Sutherland. Please support our request to the County Commissioners by attending the public hearing or sending a message or letter to the commissioners, Mike Doherty, Steve Tharinger and Mike Chapman. They can be reached via electronic mail through the county Web site, www.clallam.net/Board/ or by writing to the county at 223 E. Fourth St., Port Angeles, WA 98362.

Sincerely,

Mike Price	Gene Unger	Jim Haguewood	Judy Ware
Don Nunley	Marilyn Parris	Lon Riggs	Jan Snyder
John Marrs	Marie Marrs	Theresa Schmid	

Milfoil Marauders 2009 Events Calendar

Tuesday, August 4
Steering Committee
Meeting
6 P.M.
Old Courthouse Foyer

Saturday, August 8
First Survey
Meets at Maple Grove
9 A.M. - 4 P.M.

Lunch provide by Maple Grove
Residents
contact Gene Unger

Tuesday, Sept. 8
Steering Committee
Meeting
6 P.M.
Old Courthouse Foyer

Saturday, Sept. 12
Second Survey
Meets at Maple Grove
9 A.M. - 4 P.M.
South Shore Road &
Longfellow Road
residents will be
providing lunch,
contact Theresa Schmid or
Mike Price

Steering Committee Members

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Cathy Lucero--

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GET INVOLVED

If you would like to help during one or more of our dive days this summer we could really use you.

We need divers, skimmers, boat operators, survey teams, documenters, potluck providers and organizers, or just come out and see what we are doing.

Contact Cathy Lucero at (360) 417-2442 or clucero@co.clallam.wa.us

Boating Safety Tips and Requirements

We love our volunteers and we want to keep you safe, so here are a few safety tips and requirements to observe while on the lake

1. All boats regardless of size must have a life jacket for each person on board. (ages 12 and under must actually wear theirs)
2. All boats must have a sound device, (whistle, horn, or bell).
3. All gas powered boats with enclosed compartments must have a fire extinguisher.

Boater Education Cards are now required for anyone 25 years and younger who operate a power driven boat or PWC if it is equipped with a 15hp motor or larger. For more information on this requirement call 360-902-8844 or go to www.parks.wa.gov/boating.



Lake Sutherland Management District #2
Steering Committee
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