

ShoreScore Update

Sept. 6, 2011



Draft Shoreline Management Program – *Review to Continue*

After a month's recess, the City Planning Commission will recommence its review of staff's draft SMP on Sept. 14th (6:30PM, City Hall). The draft is lengthy (more than 350 pages), so its anticipated review will carry well into the fall. For those who submitted input at the May Public Hearing, response to comments has begun to appear at the City's website. [Click Here](#) and scroll down the center section which lists specific agenda material and look for *responses to comments*. (Bookmark this page for easy return to check for future release of comments).

Lake Water Levels – *A Return to Normal?*

After a spring with water levels higher than normal Lake Sammamish and Phantom Lake residents have seen their lakes drop toward normal levels. In Lake Sammamish's case, King County has begun trimming the growth in the river channel beyond the weir at Marymoor Park. This should be complete in the next several weeks providing drainage across nearly the full width of the river when wet weather returns. While remaining debris and sediment that's accumulated to several feet over the last decade won't be addressed this year, we believe WSSA and shoreline resident efforts have been successful so far.

Figure 1 – Sammamish River Weir Prior to Trimming



To view YouTube footage of clearing efforts – [Click Here](#) (Thanks to resident John Strong for video!)

WSSA Board member and Phantom Lake Neighborhood Association's new president, Brian Parks, reports that, after nearly 15 years, the City Utilities Dept. undertook efforts this spring to clean the outlet weir, the outlet channel and culvert pipe, as well as Pond A at the lake inlet. Maintenance, plus operating the weir (which is adjustable) according to the original consultant design, has resulted in lower water levels and less saturation of lakeside lawns.

Figure 2 – Phantom Lake Outlet & Weir Prior to Cleaning



Eco-Fads – Essential Reading to Understand “Hidden” Environmental Disasters

Ever wonder what to call those light prisms that used to be required on new and resurfaced docks? How about that suggestion that Christmas trees be tossed in the lake as fish habitat? Well, Todd Myers of the Washington Policy Center has an appropriate name – they're Eco-Fads. Like next year's fashions, Myers traces the decisions to institute these fads to “looking good” ...simply to follow a popular trend. BUT the danger, he reports, is that it's done without much forethought and at great expense to the taxpayer.

The surprise? Myers brings experience from a front row seat. Prior to joining the Policy Center, he served as communications director for the Department of Natural Resources.

Myers' book, “Eco-Fads: How the Rise of Trendy Environmentalism is Harming the Environment,” is available through the [WA Policy Center](#) or Amazon.com Review some of the book by [Clicking Here.](#)

Your Continued Support –

While WSSA continues to request your support, we're urging you to familiarize yourself with candidates running for local offices. Support those who understand our issues and support WSSA's *Sensible Plan.*