

LONG LAKE

liaison

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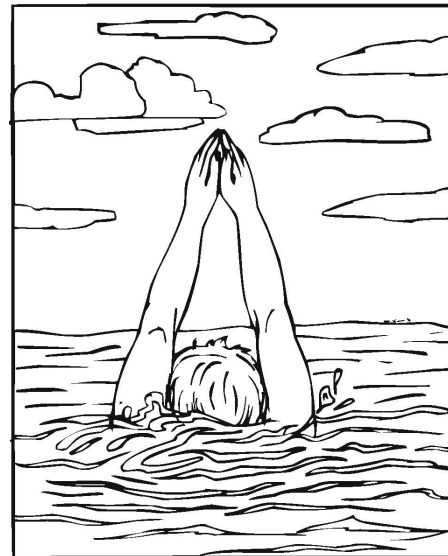
Keep Waters Clean and Disease Free

While the effect of a single vessel on Long Lake might seem insignificant, multiply that impact by the hundreds of vessels that visit our lake each year and the affect on the environment can be very damaging. Follow these easy tips to preserve and protect our lake.

- ◆ Don't throw any litter overboard. Bring all trash back on shore to dispose of properly. Be sure to retrieve anything that blows overboard.
- ◆ If your vessel is equipped with an installed toilet (marine sanitation device), make sure no sewage is discharged into the water. Empty the holding tanks only into pump-out stations.

- ◆ Fishing lines and plastics are deadly for fish and fowl and should never be discarded in the water or near shore.
- ◆ Plastic six-pack holders can trap or strangle birds, fish, and other wildlife. Always properly dispose of these on land by snipping each circle of the holders with scissors.

Remember, if you have room to take it, you have room to bring it back!



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2010 SPRING

IN THIS ISSUE

- Milfoil Patrol Time!
- Progress Made in LMD Renewal
- Safety Rules on the Water
- Boater Education Card Required
- Green Gardening
- Lake is Well Stocked
- Lake Speed Zone Map
- Getting the Jump on Pondweeds
- A Letter from Bill
- Keep Waters Clean and Disease Free



Also see the "lakes" button on www.co.thurston.wa.us/wwm

Long Lake Liaison is published by the Thurston County Resource Stewardship Department on behalf of the Long Lake Management District.

Milfoil Patrol Time!

By Janet Boyd, LMD Steering Committee

Speed limit is
5 mph around-the-clock,
April 24 – May 29

Another year has gone by and another opportunity is here for volunteers to monitor the public boat ramp on opening day of fishing season. Opening day is Saturday, April 24 this year and members of the Long Lake Steering Committee plan to be there bright and early.

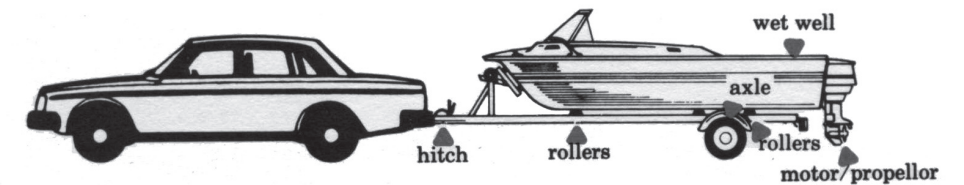
Our goal is to educate and remind people about the dangers of Eurasian Watermilfoil and other noxious weeds that can infest our lake and other lakes too. It can be very expensive to treat a lake for invasive weeds like milfoil, so we're working to not let that happen at Long Lake.

We invite everyone who cares about the health of our lake to join us on April 24.

Our previous efforts have been rewarded. It is nice to see fishermen and boaters check boats, trailers, and gear for weed fragments before entering our lake or surrounding lakes. With everyone doing their part, our contractors have found only small numbers of milfoil when the annual surveys are conducted.

Happy fishing and boating. We look forward to a milfoil-free year in Long Lake!

Check These Areas for Milfoil



Help prevent the spread of Eurasian Watermilfoil by removing weeds from trailers, boats, motors/propellers and anchors before and after leaving the water. Take special care to remove weeds from the wet wells of trailered boats and the interior of cartop boats and canoes.



Graphic courtesy Diamond Lake Improvement Association.

LMD Steering Committee

We meet the fourth Tuesday of each month from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Lacey Community Center, 6729 Pacific Ave. S.E.

Afflerbaugh Island

Janet Boyd 456-2066
Penny Thomas 438-3811

Holmes Island

Bill Joplin (president) 456-2072
Vacant

Lake Forest

Jeff Heard ★ 412-6008
Vacant

Lakeridge/Panorama Point

Mark Groening 438-6648
Don Cole ★ 456-5563

Long Lake Drive North

Wayne Hardy 491-1101
Rocky Van Scyoc 455-9335

Long Lake Drive South/Arbors

Ronald Lyse 412-1531
Vacant

Mayes Road

Ken Kanikeberg 456-3479
Vacant

Timberlake

Jerry Bennett 491-2981
Yvonne Shevalier 455-0432

Reflection Point/20th Ave.

Rod Egolf ★ 456-2291
Greg Tippetts ★ 493-0707

Shorewood Villa/Carpenter Road

Burt Pride 491-3228
Vacant

Walthew Drive/Kyro Road

Doug Karman (vice pres.) 491-5152
Susan Draper (recorder) ★ 491-7024

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Progress Made in LMD Renewal

By Penny Thomas, LMD Steering Committee

One more step is complete in the path to renewing our Lake Management District (LMD) for another 5-year term. We're now nearly halfway there!

Steering Committee members gathered nearly 250 signatures in support of the 2011-2015 LMD, which is just over 20 percent of the property owners in the district.

Thanks to everyone involved in supporting the ongoing work of the LMD. The petitions were received by Thurston County, and the Board of County Commissioners initiated the next steps in the renewal process when they adopted our Resolution of Intention on March 30.

Public Hearing – May 11

The Board has set a public hearing for May 11 at 5:30 p.m. in Building One of the Thurston County Courthouse to consider whether to establish the new LMD. Property owners in the LMD will receive a formal notice of the hearing in the mail and public notices will be published in the local newspaper. Please come out and show your support for the work accomplished by your LMD under our integrated aquatic vegetation management plan.

No Rate Increase

Rates used to calculate charges for the LMD have not changed during the entire term of the current LMD and your Steering Committee is holding rates steady again for 2010. That's no increase in the past five years and no increase is planned for the next LMD.

The Steering Committee has worked hard to accomplish noticeable improvements in lake quality without raising rates, and has no plans to change this successful approach if the LMD is renewed.

Again, if the LMD is not renewed, there is no revenue to do any work. We all pay a fair share to care for our lake. You can find your contribution to the Lake Management District on the postcard you receive each year from Thurston County with your local taxes itemized in a list.

The LMD Steering Committee appreciates your support and looks forward to continuing to work together with you for the long-term health and quality of our lake.



Did You Know ?

Milfoil made its first appearance in Long Lake in 1987. By 1991, the plant covered 150 acres of the lake's surface, ensnaring boat props in plant colonies that stretched 20 feet to the floor of the lake. Although a harvesting program had already been in place on Long Lake since 1985, it became clear that harvesting alone wouldn't solve the milfoil problem. By 1991, harvesting machines were removing 1,000 tons of vegetation a year. Over the ensuing years, the Long Lake Management District aggressively tackled the weeds and today milfoil growth in Long Lake is minimal.

Getting the Jump on Pondweeds

By Doug Karman, Vice President

In the spring of 2009, your Steering Committee implemented an herbicide program to control pondweeds and other submerged, aquatic nuisance plants; however, Thurston County's prescription for Long Lake included timing requirements that did not prove to be conducive to effective pondweed control.



Specifically, the prescription for Long Lake required us to identify areas for treatment in March, and also required that the plants be within four feet of the surface before treatment could begin.

We need to have the herbicide in the lake as soon as pondweeds start to sprout and grow so they absorb as much herbicide as possible; therefore, we successfully requested a change in the prescription. Our Long Lake LMD can now identify areas for treatment in the fall and begin to treat the weeds at the beginning stages of growth in the early spring. This should provide the opportunity for the pondweed to absorb more of the Sonar and eliminate more of the living plants.

The areas to be treated this April have already been determined and the first treatment was scheduled to start April 19. Last year, the first treatment was applied much later – during the first week of June.

We will apply three applications of Sonar to maintain concentration over a 60 to 90 day period. Notices will be mailed to LMD members and posted on waterfront property when the treatments are to take place. Residents should refrain from using lakewater for irrigation during treatment. Please read the notices carefully.

The non-native white water lilies have been treated over the past five years and have been nearly eradicated; however, some stubborn plants still need to be treated. This year, we will spray the remaining patches and hope to call the program complete and a success.

A Letter from Bill

By Bill Joplin, President, LMD Steering Committee

The Steering Committee was very encouraged by January's standing-room-only meeting, when we discussed the state of the current Long Lake Management District and the coming formation of a new LMD for 2011-2015. Not only was the meeting informative, it was instrumental in recruiting neighborhood representatives. The new Steering Committee members have quickly engaged in LMD work. (The names of new members are indicated by stars on page 2.)

Here's a brief update on the challenges I addressed in the last newsletter.

New water rights and wells proposed by the cities of Lacey, Olympia and Tumwater will likely impact lake levels

We have had very productive discussions with the City of Lacey. Pending final details and formal approvals, we have identified two ways Lacey can mitigate possible decreases in lake levels: 1) provide a variety of lake monitoring and testing protocols that will help document the current lake level and health of our lake; and 2) contribute financially to potential increased lake management costs as the three phases of their water rights application are approved by the Department of Ecology.

Root mats resulting from treatment of noxious white/fragrant waterlilies

As noxious waterlilies die, their roots and rhizomes fill with gases and float to the surface along with muck and sediment that covers them. Our February lake survey identified mat removal areas. Work has already started and is expected to be completed soon.

Timing of weed treatment

Please see Doug Karman's article above for good news on this issue.

Long Lake will be well stocked with fish this season, as explained on page 4. See you on the lake!

