

MVPCC

Fall Newsletter

October 2008

Inside this issue:

| | |
|--|-----|
| Greetings and Website | 1 |
| Board Meetings | 2 |
| Fishing Regulations | 2 |
| Snohomish County | 3 |
| Dam Inspection | 3 |
| Park Committee | 3 |
| Lake Kayak Beavers | 4 |
| Water Quality | 4 |
| Park Access | 5 |
| Community Park | 5 |
| Wildlife: Cougars, Bears, Birds and Fish | 6-7 |
| Be Neighborly | 8 |
| Board Contact Info | |

2008-2010 Board

Greetings...

We hope you are enjoying the last days of Indian summer as we slip into fall. The recently elected 2008-2010 board of directors has been meeting regularly this summer and working on setting and accomplishing achievable goals as well as making headway on some key projects. Please check out the last page of the newsletter for a list of board members and their contact information.

Lake Kayak Web Site <http://www.mvpcc.com>

We would like to encourage everyone to visit our Mountain View Park Community Club (MVPCC) website regularly and continue to refer to it as a resource for information. We have posted some new information on the site and plan to keep it updated regularly.

The website contains the governing documents of MVPCC, general information, meeting schedules and minutes, Board of Directors contact list, Lake Kayak information, fishing regulations, and park rules. Because we are using a basic, free, public website format, it does not contain confidential information.

As you can imagine, along with the rest of the world we will be moving toward using the electronic mode of communication more often to get you current information most rapidly and help minimize the costs of mailing information.

We would like to get your email addresses to keep our files updated so please contact Molly at mollyg1@comcast.net with your email information.



**Board Meeting Dates:**

- January 13, 2009
- March 10, 2009
- May 12, 2009
- July 14, 2009
- August 11, 2009
- September 8, 2009

**2009 Annual
Meeting**

**June 13, 2009
2:00 pm
Park Picnic Shelter**

Board Meetings

Board meetings are held at 7pm at the park picnic shelter unless otherwise arranged.

The dates for the board meetings were established in July and the board met in August and September, the minutes are posted to the website once they are approved by the board. We will resume the scheduled meetings in January 2009.

Mark your calendar for the Annual Meeting. The annual community meeting is always the 2nd Saturday of June at 2pm.

Accomplishments and Plans:**August 2008**

- Held work party on beaver dam to lower lake water levels.
- Park Improvement Committee meetings, goals and work parties.
- Approved bid for brush clearing on dam to prepare for state inspection.

September 2008

- Approve park rules that were originally generated by the park committee in 2006.
- Approved fishing regulations originally generated in 1989.

- Ordered signs with park rules for installation in the park and at entrance gate.
- Hosted State safety inspection of the dam.

October 2008 Plans:

- Install new park signs
- Reinstall Lake Kayak sign at bus stop
- Continue park improvement work parties

November & December:

- Continue park improvements

Lake Kayak Fishing Regulations

- Daily limit of 4 fish not to exceed more than one Atlantic Salmon
- Season limit of 20 fish not to exceed more than 5 Atlantic Salmon
- In addition to the above limits all Rainbow trout may be kept as we do not want them to interbreed with the Cutthroat
- No live bait is to be used, such as worms, minnows or salmon eggs, as small fish will swallow them and will not be able to be unhooked and released without serious injury.
- All hooks used should be single barbless hooks only, no double or triple hooks.
- All fish under 10 inches should be released unless killed during unhooking

Please visit the website www.MVPCC.com for entire contents of the regulations

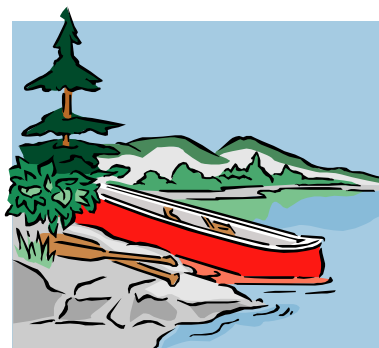


Snohomish County Growth Management Act - A New Chapter Adopted

Wetlands and Fish & Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas

As of August 2007 Snohomish County adopted the Wetlands and Fish & Wildlife Habitat Conservation Area Chapter (SCC 30.62A).

A new chapter of the Growth Management Act specifically covers development management around wetland areas specifying a protection buffer of 150' around most wetland areas. All of our community wetlands (Lake Kayak and streams) fall within this 150' specification. The regulation generally has no relevance for property that's already been cleared and developed, but as with any regulation there are exceptions, so it's always best to contact the Snohomish County Permit office with questions. (425-388-3411).



The Regulation is available online at the Snohomish County website at

http://www.co.snohomish.wa.us/documents/Departments/PDS/Code_Development/Chapter30.62AasadoptedbyCouncil.pdf

Dam Inspection

The State of Washington Department of Ecology inspected the dam in September and appeared to be satisfied with the dam integrity and appearance. To minimize any potential weakening of the dam from animal burrows, all of the vegetation from the front of the dam and additional

brush may need to be cleared in other areas.

The States specific recommendations will be in their report, including a risk assessment and downstream impact evaluation. We will most likely be asked to provide an Operation and Maintenance Plan and

updated Emergency Action Plan for the State to review.

Anyone who is interested in working with the board to develop these plans contact Molly or Lisa.

**Interested in working
with the board to
develop
maintenance and
emergency action
plans for the dam?
Contact Molly or Lisa**

Park Improvement Committee

The Park Improvement Committee (PIC) is chaired by Lisa Mallant and the group has established goals for 2008

- Clear the brush to establish walking trails, replant missing trees
- Purchase and plant privacy screen trees for honey bucket

- Install new park rules signs and reinstall Lake Kayak entrance sign at bus-stop
- If time permits, explore bat conservation project.

The committee is meeting every other Sunday at 10 am at the park for approximately 1 hour.

Upcoming dates are Oct 26 & Nov 9th - 10 am and we will resume regular sessions in the spring.

The park committee welcomes your participation, ideas and interest in the park to help make the community area an enjoyable spot year round.



Lake Kayak and the Beavers.....



The lake levels were higher than usual this spring and summer due to beaver activity in the south spillway/canal area. The beaver deceiver that was installed last year was enhanced with additional outflow pipes in August to ensure the deceiver is working properly to help maintain a safe water level.

Many thanks to the following volunteers for doing this work:

Terrie Foote; Mary Morgan, Kody Morgan, Kirk Adams, Jim Guintini, Molly Graham, Beverly Jacobson, Lisa Mallant, Tom Morgan, Mike Pearson

Lake Water Quality

Water Quality Presentation

Marissa Burghdoff, Water Quality Analyst – Snohomish County, gave this year's water quality presentation. If you would like to contact Marissa she can be reached at 425-388-3464 – ext 4639. You can also visit the Surface Water Management website at www.lakes.surfacewater.info/.

[lakes.surfacewater.info/](http://www.lakes.surfacewater.info/).

Lake Ecology

Lakes become stratified in the summer. This means that the upper layer (Epilimnion) is warm and contains a lot of oxygen. This is where the algae will be located. The lower layer (Hypolimnion) is dark & cold with very little oxygen. It is the place where debris collects and nutrients settle.

Lakes are classified by Eutrophication. Our lake is in the Mesotrophic state which means that the condition is good.

However, we need to be aware of the things that could cause our lake to deteriorate to a less acceptable condition. Marissa told us that our

lake could be at risk due to:

- Warning signs of high nutrient levels
- Our lake is impounded which means it has a higher risk of filling in
- Our watershed is susceptible to development

Nutrients

One of the biggest risks to the health of our lake is introduction of nutrients.

The sources of nutrients are attributed to:

1. *Watershed sources*

- Poorly maintained septic systems
- Fertilizers
- Soil erosion
- Animal wastes (pets included)
- Road runoff
- Runoff from roofs, driveways & patios

2. *In-Lake Sources*

- Waterfowl
- Recycling from lake sediments

Actions we can take

1. *Stop the runoff into the lake*

- Create a buffer of native vegetation

between yard and lake (this also discourages geese)

- Collect runoff water from the house – rain gardens, rain barrels, etc.

2. *Avoid phosphorus containing fertilizers*
3. *Clean up after pets*
4. *Check septic systems*
5. *If doing landscaping/construction, prevent sediment runoff*
6. *Avoid having yard waste enter the lake*

Water Monitoring

Our lake has been monitored since 1999. Lisa Mallant has been our primary monitor and takes samples every month which are submitted to the county.



Park Access and Guest Pass

As we know the community park often attracts non-members, particularly in the warm summer months for swimming and parties. These groups are often noisy, leave their cans and garbage, vandalize the park and burn or damage trees. Residents living closest to the park have been persistent and very successful this summer, explaining the member only policy, asking any strangers who they know in the community and then typically asking them to leave. Access by non-members is a liability for the community in case of a

fire, injury or damage and enforcing park access is a challenge the board has discussed this summer.

The board is evaluating reinstituting a policy that worked well for the community many years ago – that of a guest pass. The concept would be that each member lot is given a guest pass each year when the dues are paid (2 lots = 2 passes). The pass could be used by friends going to the park if the members are not accompanying the guests during their visit to the park. Members would not

need to carry the guest pass, but guests would need to take it with them so that they could show the pass if any member is curious about their presence at the park.

The pass would contain the Members name, Lot number and the year issued and may be implemented for 2009. Stay tuned for the spring newsletter...



Guests must be accompanied by a member or they will be asked to leave the park

These are the recently approved Community Park Rules that were originally generated several years ago. The rules have been incorporated on signs at the entrance to the park and inside the park by the future location of the honey bucket and tree screen. Another new sign is the 'no lifeguard on duty' sign near the beach.

Mountain View Community Park Rules

Park Access is for Members only
Lock the gate behind you

1. Guests must be accompanied by the member or they will be asked to leave.
2. Pack it in & pack it out. All garbage including cigarette butts.
3. Fires allowed only in the fire pit. Drown your fire
4. Swim at your own risk.
5. No motorized vehicles allowed on the trails.
6. Parking only in designated areas.
7. Overnight camping allowed only in designated areas.
8. No fireworks allowed.
9. Boats are to be stored at the boat launch area only.
10. No loud parties allowed after 10:00 PM.
11. Follow the Lake Kayak Fishing Guidelines.
12. Please respect the wildlife, plants & trees in the park.

A **new sign** has been installed on the road into the park, at the recently resurrected chain located by the boat launch. In accordance with historic policies, there is currently no parking allowed inside the park. The 'No Vehicles Beyond This Point' means that once you have unloaded your vehicle, please park your vehicles outside the chain either at the boat launch or on the street.

Living with Wildlife: Cougars (Mountain Lions) by Peter Jones

As some of you may have heard for yourself or seen evidence of, there have been some recent observations of some large wildlife around the lake and near our homes, as in bears and cougars, so here is some helpful information from the Fish and Wildlife website. The site also has detailed information about Bears too. For the full story, go to <http://wdfw.wa.gov/wlm/living/cougars.htm>.

Encountering a Cougar

Relatively few people will ever catch a glimpse of a cougar much less confront one. If you come face to face with a cougar, your actions can either help or hinder a quick retreat by the animal.

Here are some things to remember:

- Stop, pick up small children immediately, and don't run. Running and rapid movements may trigger an attack. Remember, at close range, a cougar's instinct is to chase.
- Face the cougar. Talk to it firmly while slowly backing away. Always leave the animal an escape route.
- Try to appear larger than the cougar. Get above it (e.g., step up onto a rock or stump). If wearing a jacket, hold it open to further increase your apparent size. If you are in a group, stand shoulder-to-shoulder to appear intimidating.
- Do not take your eyes off the cougar or turn your back. Do not crouch down or try to hide.
- Never approach the cougar, especially if it is near a kill or with kittens, and never offer it food.
- If the cougar does not flee, be more assertive. If it shows signs of aggression (crouches with ears back, teeth bared, hissing, tail twitching, and hind feet pumping in preparation to jump), shout, wave your arms and throw anything you have available

(water bottle, book, backpack). The idea is to convince the cougar that you are not prey, but a potential danger.

- If the cougar attacks, fight back. Be aggressive and try to stay on your feet. Cougars have been driven away by people who have fought back using anything within reach, including sticks, rocks, shovels, backpacks, and clothing—even bare hands. If you are aggressive enough, a cougar will flee, realizing it has made a mistake. Pepper spray in the cougar's face is also effective in the extreme unlikelihood of a close encounter with a cougar.

Professional Assistance

Wildlife offices throughout Washington respond to cougar sightings when there is a threat to public safety or property. Problem cougars may be live-trapped by trained fish and wildlife personnel and moved to more remote areas; however, such removals are expensive, time consuming, and seldom effective. Using tranquilizing drugs on cougars to facilitate removal is difficult and dangerous for cougars and humans. When other methods have failed, lethal removal of problem animals may be the only alternative.

Contact your local wildlife office for additional information, and in the case of an immediate emergency, call 911 or any local law enforcement office, such as the state patrol.

Do's and Don'ts in Cougar Country

While recreating in cougar habitat, you should:

1. Hike in small groups and make enough noise to avoid surprising a cougar.
2. Keep your camp clean and store food and garbage in double plastic bags.



3. Keep small children close to the group, preferably in plain sight just ahead of you. Do not approach dead animals, especially deer or elk; they could have been cougar prey left for a later meal.

If you encounter a cougar:

1. Stop, stand tall and don't run. Pick up small children. Don't run. A cougar's instinct is to chase.
2. Do not approach the animal, especially if it is near a kill or with kittens.
3. Try to appear larger than the cougar. Never take your eyes off the animal or turn your back. Do not crouch down or try to hide.
4. If the animal displays aggressive behavior, shout, wave your arms and throw rocks. The idea is to convince the cougar that you are not prey, but a potential danger. If the cougar attacks, fight back aggressively and try to stay on your feet. Cougars have been driven away by people who have fought back.

Cougars and Kids

Children seem to be more at risk than adults to cougar attacks, possibly because their high-pitched voices, small size, and erratic movements make it difficult for cougars to identify them as human and not prey. To prevent a problem from occurring:

- Talk to children and teach them what to do if they encounter a cougar.
- Encourage children to play outdoors in groups, and supervise children playing outdoors.
- Consider getting a dog for your children as an early-warning system. A dog can see, smell, and hear a cougar sooner than we can. Although dogs offer little value as a deterrent to cougars, they may distract a cougar from attacking a human.
- Consider erecting a fence around play areas. (See "[Modify the habitat around your home.](#)")
- Keep a radio playing when children are outside, as noise usually deters cougars.
- Make sure children are home before dusk and stay inside until after dawn.
- If there have been cougar sightings, escort children to the bus stop in the early morning. Clear shrubs away around the bus stop, making an area with a 30-foot radius. Have a light installed as a general safety precaution.

Living with Wildlife: Cougars (Mountain Lions) and Bears

(continued from page 6)



The Department of Fish and Wildlife responds to cougar and bear sightings when there is a threat to public safety or property. If it is an emergency, dial 911.

If you experience a cougar or black bear problem, and it is not an emergency, contact the nearest [regional Department of Fish and Wildlife office](#) between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Snohomish County PUD is 425 783 1000 Customer Service 8-5:30 Weekdays or toll free 1 877-783-1000. King County 425 775 1311.

If you need to report a non-emergency problem when Department of Fish and Wildlife offices are closed, contact the Washington State Patrol or nearest law enforcement agency.

Rare Bird Sighting at Lake Kayak!!

By Riitta Kivirinta and Chuck Briggs

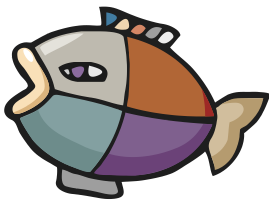


Photo by: ©Chuck Briggs 2008. All Rights Reserved.

We are very excited to share our latest wildlife observation and have identified a new rare bird in Lake Kayak!! The Audubon Society and Cornell University have confirmed that it is a very rare “Leucistic Dark Eyed Junco” meaning it is partially albino. We have been avid back yard bird watchers since we moved here two years ago, and during that time frame we have been able to identify 64 different species of birds. The local Audubon Society has informed us that it is twice as many birds as any other local member who keeps records of their back yard bird observations. If anybody is interested in seeing our documentation of our Lake Kayak birds and other wildlife, please feel free to visit Chuck’s website at <http://www.betterphoto.com/Premium/Default.aspx?id=275673&mp=V1> or you can also go to www.Betterphoto.com and search “Chuck Briggs.” We feel extremely fortunate to live in such an unique place as “Lake Kayak” that has so much wildlife and to be able to see such rare sights as “Leucistic Dark Eyed Junco !”

Stay tuned for more information about Lake Kayak wildlife in the upcoming newsletters....

Lake Kayak Creek Re-Classification by Riitta Kivirinta



The creek located in the northwest corner of Lake Kayak has been re-classified by the state as “Fish Producing Creek.” This means that any permitted activity within 150 feet of the creek should be done with great care (and some activities will be restricted now), and as with all wetlands in our community, the county should be contacted for the permits according to the new “Wetlands and Fish & Wildlife Habit Conservation” regulation. Contact the Snohomish County Permit office with questions (425-388-3411).



Newsletter Articles

If you have a topic you would like included in the next newsletter, please write your article and submit it to: Molly Graham
mollyg1@comcast.net

Community Web Site

<http://www.mvpcc.com/>

Be Neighborly - Be Courteous

Please be considerate of the community residents when you, your family or pets may be generating noises or doing things that could disturb your neighbors or impact their safety. Be sensitive of the time of day that you may be generating noises - very early mornings, very late evenings, and night-time since you may not have the same work and sleep schedules that your neighbors do.

Since we live in this rural area, all sounds can carry a long distance on the lake and from the woods. All community members need to properly muffler dirt bikes, follow the laws for street riding, control incessant barking from dogs, follow the posted speed limits (25mph on Lake Kayak Drives) and be courteous and respectful of your neighbors.

Please handle disturbances with your neighbors directly, or refer the issue to the appropriate authorities if you cannot resolve the issue.

MVPCC Board of Directors (2008-2010)

| <u>Position</u> | <u>Name</u> | <u>Phone #</u> | <u>Email Address</u> |
|-----------------|-----------------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| President: | Lisa Mallant | 425-327-9948 | lisamallant@earthlink.net |
| Vice-President: | Peter Jones | 360-794-0772 | impeterjones@earthlink.net |
| Treasurer: | Beverly Jacobson | 360-863-1180 | beverlybkj@earthlink.net |
| Secretary: | Molly Graham | 206-779-3750 | mollyg1@comcast.net |
| Director: | John Chilkotowsky | 360-805-0554 | bearhawk@hughes.net |
| Director: | Jim Giuntini | 425-643-1580 | ginmartini4@msn.com |
| Director: | Riittaliisa Kivirinta | 360-805-3100 | rkivirinta@kivirinta.com |
| Director: | Andi Kucirek | 360-863-0393 | andi_wa@msn.com |
| Director: | Shellie Monson | 360-794-4297 | shelliemonson@gmail.com |
| Director: | Tom Morgan | 360-805-1755 | |
| Director: | Mike Pearson | 425-314-2550 | mtnbvrkyak@aol.com |

