Saturday’s Earth Day celebration to restore Qwuloolt Estuary

Snohomish County’s Surface Water Management Division will celebrate Earth Day this Saturday by co-hosting an estuary restoration project near Marysville.

Residents are welcome to join the AQWA Team (Allen Quilceda Watershed Action Team) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for this free event along the Qwuloolt Estuary. Participants are asked to meet at Harborview Park, 4700 60th St. NE, Marysville.

“Earth Day is a great way to raise awareness of the steps we must take to protect the environment,” Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon said.

The public event offers many fun activities for both children and adults, including a chance to plant a native tree or shrub to help restore the Qwuloolt Estuary. Along the way, they’ll learn more about salmon, native trees, water pollution and steps they can take to keep their streams healthy.

The first 200 participants will receive a free Earth Day 2012 shirt that can be stamped with all the parts of a healthy environment. Snacks and water will be provided to volunteers as well as tools and gloves for planting.

April 13, 2012

www.snoco.org

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Sincerely,
The AQWA Team is a partnership of local agencies and organizations working together to restore and protect the health of Allen and Quilceda creeks. AQWA Team members include Snohomish County Surface Water Management, Sound Salmon Solutions, Adopt-A-Stream Foundation, city of Marysville, city of Arlington, the state Department of Ecology, Snohomish Conservation District, the Tulalip Tribes, Evergreen Fly Fishing Club, the Marysville School District and local citizens. For more information, click here.

Residents asked for input on future parks planning

Snohomish County residents and community groups are invited to share their thoughts on what the county’s Parks and Recreation system should look like during the next six years.

To better understand what residents want in their county parks system, Snohomish County is again seeking feedback, and will host a public meeting 6:30-8:30 p.m. May 1 at the Evergreen State Fairgrounds’ 4-H Building, located at 14405 179th Ave. SE, Monroe. This is the last in a series of public meetings the county’s Parks and Recreation Department has held to discuss the update.

Parks’ Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Plan is routinely updated to direct park activities and improvements during the next six-year cycle. The updated plan will include an inventory of the current parks system, an analysis of needs based on public input and will suggest ways to make improvements during the current economic climate. It also will reflect population growth and the recreation interests of Snohomish County residents.

Input now helps the county know exactly what residents hope to see in their county parks system and how they plan to use it. For months, the county has collected comments, and this meeting will provide one final opportunity for the public to comment on the direction of the plan.

Comments on the future of the parks system also can be submitted by mail or email.
Housing Hope offers nonprofits revenue-building tips

Lean economic times and the corresponding reduction in state and federal funding are forcing nonprofit organizations to look at new ways to generate revenue, and to do it on a sustainable basis.

One approach, called “social enterprise,” is to develop revenue-generating business that can earn unrestricted income and increase visibility. HopeWorks Social Enterprises, established in 2010 by Housing Hope, is hosting a series of workshops to assist nonprofits in understanding the opportunities and challenges associated with successful social enterprise.

The workshops will be conducted at the Housing Hope Village, 5908 Evergreen Way, Everett, offering dynamic, interactive sessions featuring technical training, featured speakers and updates from local social enterprise initiatives. They will include case studies and best practices from the field, technical training, input from fellow participants and guest speakers.

- **David Simienski, Founding and Managing Director of Credit Advantage** is the featured speaker – May 2, 2012
  David shares experiences of creating social enterprise for banking solutions for low-income and “unbanked” customers.

- **Writing a Business Plan - June 6, 2012**
  This hands-on workshop will provide technical assistance for creating a social-enterprise business plan.

The cost for each is $10. Agencies are encouraged to send multiple staff members. To register, contact Mary Jonasen at maryjonasen@hopewrks.org or 425-347-6556, ext. 242.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read my electronic newsletter.

If you would like to send me your comments and feedback, or if you would like to unsubscribe, simply reply to this message.

You may also contact me directly by phone at 425.388.3460.