

# Stillaguamish River Clean Water District Advisory Board

June 28, 2012

## BOARD MEMBERS

*Single Family-North Fork  
Stillaguamish*  
Vacant

*Single Family-South Fork  
Stillaguamish*  
Vacant

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Sean Edwards

*Snohomish Health District Staff*  
Brent Raasna

Snohomish County Public Works,  
Surface Water Management  
3000 Rockefeller Avenue,  
Everett, WA 98201  
(425) 388-3464  
[www.cwd.surfacewater.info](http://www.cwd.surfacewater.info)

Monte Marti, Manager  
Snohomish Conservation District  
528 91st Ave. N.E. Suite A  
Lake Stevens, WA 98258

Dear Mr. Marti,

Pursuant to Snohomish County Code Title 25A.30.030, the Stillaguamish Clean Water District (CWD) Advisory Board offers the following recommendations for the Snohomish Conservation District (SCD) 2013 Work Plan:

### Referral and Compliance

As noted in our 2012 recommendations to SWM, small-scale agricultural activities are increasing in the Stillaguamish valley, and often are not as effectively regulated for water quality as the larger, commercial farms. Such cases are generally referred to SCD for resource management assistance to the landowner. Of particular concern to the Board are horse-barn waste piles that are not being properly disposed of and impact water quality. **The Board reiterates its recommendation** that SCD, Snohomish County Surface Water Management (SWM), and the Department of Ecology (DOE) work together to clarify the referral and compliance procedure in order to increase landowner cooperation.

### Farm Survey Follow-up

The SCD farm surveys in the CWD provide valuable information for focusing our water quality effort. **The Board recommends** the SCD follow up on its farm surveys of previous years, to assess the progress and effectiveness of the current water quality programs relating to agriculture.

### Low Impact Development (LID)

**The Board recommends** continuation in 2013 of SCD technical assistance for LID projects on residential properties and private lands. We encourage SCD to pursue opportunities to bring its program of LID support to the attention of professional landscapers, architects, and designers.

### Education and Outreach

SCD workshops and publications are crucial to the CWD Education and Outreach Strategic Plan, supporting such programs as Shellfish Protection, Microbial Water Quality Assessment, and the Discretionary Fund. The Board supports the Mud and Manure Management workshops and the septic training ("Septic 101") workshops that SCD was able to provide in 2012. The recent Jane Myers lecture featured in the *Nexus* was particularly impressive. **The Board recommends** that SCD build on this success by continuing these workshops in 2013, and coordinate with the Snohomish Health District on septic education.

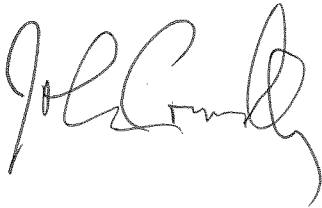
Manure Spreader Rental

Last year, the CWD provided you funding for the purchase of a small manure spreader to facilitate proper disposal of barn waste. This spreader was to be made available at Skagit Farmers Supply in Stanwood for use by CWD residents only. However, farms outside of the CWD are now asking to use it too, and Farmers Supply does not want the unpopular role of gatekeeper. Because of the Board's longstanding position that CWD funds must be spent in the CWD, we request that SCD confer with the Board to find an acceptable solution to this problem.

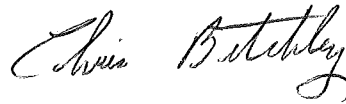
The Board values the work of SCD in the Stillaguamish watershed. We hope these recommendations will assist you in forming your 2013 Work Plan and annual contract with SWM, and request your written response by our July Board meeting. Thank you.

Respectfully,

John Connolly, Chair



Chris Betchley, Vice Chair



Cc: Debbie Terwilleger, Director SWM  
Ralph Svrjcek, DOE  
Kevin Plemel, SHD