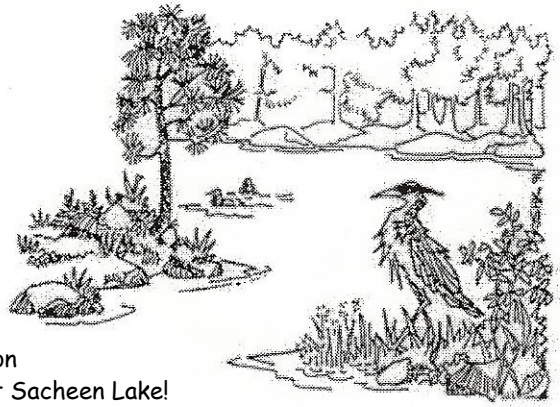


# SacheenSCOPE

Published by the Sacheen Lake Association  
Celebrating 58 Years of Stewardship and Friendship at Sacheen Lake!



Winter 2014-15

SacheenSCOPE . . . since 1988  
edited by Carol Hood

## Water & Sewer District News

**By Sheila Pearman**  
**District Manager**

I hope you are all having a healthy and prosperous 2015. It is hard to believe that we are nearing the end of February already. A big "Thank You" to all who supported the November Maintenance and Operation Levy, which allows us to continue our efforts to keep milfoil at bay, maintain the Myers/Harter Sanctuary, monitor lake water quality, keep up the beaver tubes and trap nuisance beavers as well as paying salaries and insuring the District and its volunteers. With the support of 68%, the Board is confident that it is working toward goals desired by the majority of District residents.

### **Milfoil:**

Last year's double application of herbicide looks to have been more effective than the previous year's.

We will again be using the services of Aquatechnex for herbicide application as well as using our divers for hand pulling.

Divers will survey as early as weather and water temperature permit and work with Aquatechnex to design a plan for dealing with problem areas. The middle to the end of June is usually when the milfoil can be seen growing up through the native plants on the bottom. Don't hesitate to pull milfoil yourself, just make sure you pull it from the roots and remove the whole plant away from the lake [including small pieces that break off].

The County Weed Board is again offering the Neighborhood Cooperative Weed Management Cost Share Assistance program. The program requires at least two property owners working together and can provide reimbursement of up to 50% of costs for a max of \$500. You must apply prior to the season. This grant money can be used for supplies to fight terrestrial weeds such as knapweed as well as milfoil removal. For complete information, contact Sharon Sorby [ssorby@pendorielle.org](mailto:ssorby@pendorielle.org).

### **Lake Level:**

Thanks to Don Hill and his rotating crew for their continued efforts in keeping the beaver tubes clear on all our behalf.

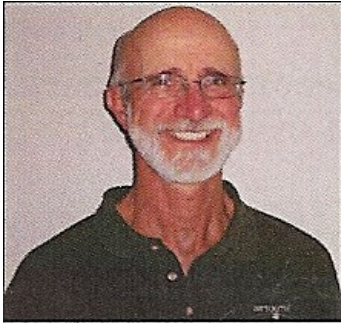
This past season saw a very consistent lower lake level which surely helps reduce erosion along the shoreline. We will be looking at re-aligning the tubes this spring with a possibility of a new hydraulics permit to address another dam that holds back water. By maintaining a more consistent water level there is less turbidity as well as less disruption in the wetlands downstream.

Also thanks to those downstream property owners who allow us to maintain the tubes.

Tommy Petrie has agreed to trap for us again after having problems the past two seasons. He had a trap stolen and then had his boat taken from below the bridge last season. Needless to say, he pulled out early last season with having trapped only a couple beavers. This year he will be prepared to be a bit more stealthy with the two legged creatures and hopefully will be able to reduce the nuisance beaver population a bit. By keeping the number of beavers down, it takes less effort to maintain and clean the beaver tubes. Tommy has an agreement with the Kalispels that allows him to use the trapped beavers as part of the tribe's study on predators.

Continued on page 4

## The President's Message



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I hope our mild winter has been good to you, and you join me in looking forward to a pleasant spring and summer at Sacheen Lake. Last summer certainly had its share of challenges for many of us, so let's hope for a less eventful year, at least weather-wise.

The loss of so many trees around the lake in the devastating wind storms will be felt and seen for many years to come, and I certainly sympathize with those who suffered serious property damage. I hope we can all make a concerted effort to re-plant native trees in place of those we lost, and work to restore our beautiful woodland lakeshore. The Sacheen Lake Association Board will be looking into cost-effective options for obtaining replacement saplings, and will keep you posted on what we learn.

On the plus side of the past year, the lake level was fairly easy to keep in control, due in part to low in-flow. Nonetheless, our volunteers worked diligently through the summer and fall to maintain the beaver tubes and achieve the lowest lake level in many years. The resulting reduced shoreline erosion appears to have resulted in much-improved water clarity through late summer and fall. We'll try for the same results this year!

As most of you are aware, progress on the sewer project has been substantial, and we very much appreciate the tireless efforts of our Water & Sewer District Commissioners to guide this challenging task. Refer to the update from Sheila Pearman, District Manager, in this edition of the SCOPE.

You may have noticed the new street light at the intersection of Fertile Valley Road and Highway 211, installed for the safety and convenience of residents. Just another example of our Sacheen Lake Association working to improve things here at the lake. If you haven't already done so, please send in your membership renewal and annual dues to help support initiatives such as this.

Best Wishes for a fun and safe summer at Sacheen Lake

Don Hill  
President,  
Sacheen Lake Association  
*Plant a Tree, Pull Knapweed, Watch your Wake, Be a Good Neighbor...*

## You Can Shop Year Round!

Sacheen Lake merchandise is normally sold at the Community Picnic and Annual Meeting. New items have been ordered, including women's tee-shirts, women's hooded fleece vests, men's microfleece half-zip pullovers, and insulated grocery totes—all with Sacheen Lake logos.

If you are unable to attend these events or would like to buy something any time of the year, please call me and arrange a time to come to my home to shop.

Virginia Hill,  
Merchandise chairperson  
509/447-0960

Please support the Sacheen Lake Association by making your annual dues of \$10 (single) or \$25 (family). Your dues help to fund Sacheen Lake-related activities like the annual information meeting, the picnic, and beaver damage mitigation. Your dues also help to fund the advertisement-free SacheenSCOPE. Your community newsletter is published three times a year. It costs approximately \$5.66 annually (3 issues) to print and mail the SCOPE to each property owner in the Sacheen Lake community.

### Sacheen Lake Association Membership Renewal Form

Dues for 2015 are still only \$10 for an individual, or \$25 for a family.

NAME:	
MAILING ADDRESS:	
LAKE ADDRESS:	
HOME PHONE:	
LAKE PHONE:	
EMAIL ADDRESS:	

Please fill out the form and mail with your check, payable to:

Sacheen Lake Association  
c/o Jerry Johnsen, Treasurer  
PO Box 401  
Newport, WA 99156-0401

PLEASE make sure to give us  
your correct current email  
address!

**W**ith the weather feeling a bit more like spring we will start seeing more burn piles. No one truly knows what the weather will bring; it could snow or rain many inches tomorrow. Even if it does, the key to burning safely is to follow the rules and not underestimate the conditions around you.

In 2014 the two largest fires in Pend Oreille County were a 14.5-acre grass-and-brush fire on March 22 in the South County off Camden road, and on April 7<sup>th</sup> an 11-acre grass-and-brush fire in the North County near Ione. No other fire in Pend Oreille County for all of 2014 was over 5 acres.

I know for a fact the fire off Camden road was started from a back yard burn that they didn't expect to escape the fire area.

Every year we see a good handful of fires just after most of the snow melts and just before we get the good heavy spring rains. People think that since there is a little snow on the ground here and there and it has been cold out that is safe to burn. Normally it is when everybody follows the rules. The problem is when they don't.

Most of the time when we arrive at a fire we will hear, "I only left it for 10 – 15 minutes", "I didn't think it would go anywhere". It will and it does.

Grass and light small brush are called 1 hour fuels. That means on a sunny day with some wind it only takes one hour to change the moisture content of the fuel. After a couple hours of watching your burn pile people think it's fine, the fire has died down, and it hasn't spread. During those three or four hours of watching the fire all the fuels around it have been drying out. Now add a light breeze to the day and your little burn pile has gone from small and contained to consuming 15 acres of land. Yes it can happen that fast.

If you have a fire escape, do not wait to call 911. Most people try to extinguish the fire themselves first. Take the 30 seconds to call 911 and get help coming, we would much rather get there and have you tell us you put the fire out, than let the fire grow for 10 minutes while someone tries to put it out. The sooner fire resources get there, the less likely we are to have a large fire in our area.

If you follow the burning safety rules listed below you will greatly reduce the risk of having a fire escape your burn pile.

- **Call** 1-800-323-burn before you burn to make sure the burn season is still open, and call Pend Oreille Fire Dispatch at 447-3151 Ext. 2 to inform them you're burning so they do not send fire resources to check on your burn pile
- Burn one pile at a time no larger than 10' x 10' in Pend Oreille County during DNR Rule Burn Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> – June 30<sup>th</sup>. 4' x 4' x 3' July 1<sup>st</sup> – Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> when burn season is open
- Only natural vegetation may be burned
- Burn barrels are illegal
- Never leave your fire unattended
- Do not burn when it is windy
- Always have a water source available to extinguish the fire
- Always ensure the fire is out and cold to the touch
- If you are burning bigger piles, more than one at a time, or clearing land, you **MUST** contact DNR and get a permit to burn from DNR before you burn

Lastly, mark your calendars—the annual Pancake Feed will be on April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015 from 7am – 11am. It will be located at our Fire Station #34 at Fertile Valley Rd & Jermain Rd.

If you have any questions on: burning, or if you would be interested in serving your community as a member of the volunteer fire district please contact me at 447-5305, or on-line at [www.spofo.org](http://www.spofo.org).

*[Editor's Note: 30 min. after Chief Nokes sent me that article they went to a 2-3 acre grass fire off Horseshoe Lake Road that was started by an escaped burn pile ...Crazy timing.]*

Thank you,

Mike Nokes, Fire Chief



**Sewer Project:**

Work has continued throughout the winter months in all areas of the project.

**Schedule A: Treatment Plant & Irrigation** (40% complete per value basis)

The treatment site has been challenging. The Department of Ecology has **recommended** we install what is called an “underdrain” to insure that our lagoon liners are not floated by elevated ground water. This underdrain routes any water that might infiltrate the lagoons from under the liners through a rock layer into perforated pipe that then allows it to flow outside of the lagoons and dikes to an outflow structure. Unfortunately, this underdrain structure will cost the project an additional \$1.2 million. Ecology has added most of the underdrain’s cost to our 0% interest loan, but we will likely need to also tap into a bit more of our Public Works Trust Fund Loan.

**Schedule B: Main Line** (80% complete per value basis)

Mainline installation is complete and pressure tested from the access road of the treatment site to the lift station at the Myers/Harter Sanctuary.

Approximately 3,700 feet of mainline is left to install along Fertile Valley Road. The crew moved off of Fertile Valley for safety reasons when the snow came.

Work on the mainline should be complete when you read this on the back side of the lake on Cedar Drive, Bayview and Granite to the end of the project boundary. Cedar Drive had some of the hardest rock the contractor says he has ever seen. Bayview proved to be a challenge working around all the utilities already installed in such close proximity.

Mainline was bored much of the way along Hwy 211 above East Shore Road

**Schedule C: On-site Improvements** (50% complete per value basis)

Installation of pump units and service lines along Fertile Valley will continue with the mainline installation of the remaining 3,700 feet.

Installation of pump units and service lines on back side of lake basically complete.

East Shore work has started up with installation of pump units and service lines.

Some service lines still need to be installed where pump units have already been installed on Fertile Valley.

There are occasional services that will be installed at the same time their current systems are decommissioned due to logistics of installation.

We appreciate the cooperation and patience that residents have given to the contractors as they work on your property and in your neighborhood. Many “interesting” septic systems have been found along the way.

As a reminder, it is the homeowner’s responsibility to make the connection from the system’s control unit (with the red light) to your home’s electrical panel. If your control panel has been installed, the connection can be made at any time by your electrician. They system requirement is 30 amp 220 volt 4 wire service.

Several residents from the Mt. View Estates and Mt. View 1<sup>st</sup> Addition have approached the Board with requests for inclusion in the sewer project. The current project’s budget could not accommodate the additional cost of the line and connections so an application was submitted to the Department of Ecology for a Phase II project. It was ranked #39 on the draft list published this week, but more information and discussion with Ecology will need to take place to determine if it will be financially feasible.

We continue to look for ways to reduce the District’s debt for the sewer project, but remain committed to the need for the project.

**Twice the damage at Myers/Harter Park**

After last summer’s windstorms, a great group of volunteers went into the Myers/Harter Sanctuary and did a marvelous job of cleaning up the downed trees and branches in time for the annual SLA picnic. Unfortunately, later in August there was a misunderstanding that resulted in 19 trees being taken down just within the park’s fence line by (Continued on next page)

some of the neighboring property owners. They have promised restitution, and we are working toward a solution that will have replacement trees and shrubbery installed to regain the desired buffer.

Finally, the Board position held by Gary Garrett will expire this year. The filing period for elected positions is May 11-May 15. Please consider serving your community in a positive manner on the Water and Sewer Board.

Remember, you can view approved SLWSD Board minutes on the SLA website [www.sacheenlake.com](http://www.sacheenlake.com).

## New Planner at PO Community Development

By Mike Lithgow

**A**ndy Huddleston is the newly hired Assistant Planner for the Pend Oreille County Community Development Department. In this role, Andy works as a team member of a highly motivated department that provides guidance to landowners in attaining their goals and objectives as they relate to planning and development. Andy is no stranger to Pend Oreille County having lived in the area for many years working for local entities and non-profit organizations that provide customer service and project planning for area landowners.

Andy is a family man with a wife of twenty two years and two sons who all enjoy the unique characteristics of rural living. It is the deep respect and appreciation of this rural lifestyle that motivates Andy to work in public service.

You can contact Andy Huddleston at the Pend Oreille County Community Development Department Office at; 625 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street Newport, WA 99156 or you can call or email at 509-447-6462 or [ahuddleston@pendoreille.org](mailto:ahuddleston@pendoreille.org)

★ **P**lease observe and obey the posted speed limit on Fertile Valley Road. It is 25 mph from the bridge all the way to Highway 211. Keep yourself, your neighbors, and the construction workers safe. Thank you.

### 2014-2015 Lake Level Readings (ft.)

Week	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
1	8.5	8.24	7.93	8.02	8.02	8.39	7.96	8.12	8.33
2	8.5	8.21	7.92	8.00	8.04	7.96	7.96	8.14	9.01
3	8.6	8.17	8.07	8.00	8.41	7.92	8.04	8.16	
4	8.47	8.05	8.01	7.97	8.65	8.00	n/a	8.16	



### Ladies of the Lake News

**I**n an article in The Newport Miner, December 24, 2014, page 9A, it was reported that "The Ladies of the Lake group at Sacheen Lake disbanded last summer, citing a decline in membership."

### Nice Thought

**A**pologizing does not always mean that you are wrong and the other person is right. It just means that you value your relationship more than your ego. ~ Unknown

After last summer's storms many of us will be thinking about replanting and replacing trees and plants. Here are the very best choices for success in our area from the light green history book for those who still have one!

Sacheen Lake Historical and Natural Study and General Information, Written by Maury Cain and Kathy Hutson in 1990-1991

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## COMMON WOODY PLANTS OF SACHEEN LAKE

Aspen ( <i>Populus aspen</i> )	Western Trumpet Honeysuckle ( <i>Lonicera ciriosa</i> )
Cottonwood ( <i>Populus spp.</i> )	Shinyleaf Spirea ( <i>Spirea lucida</i> )
Willows ( <i>Salix spp.</i> )	Douglas spirea ( <i>Spirea douglasii</i> )
Water Birch ( <i>Betula glandulosa</i> )	Creambush Rock Spirea ( <i>Holodiscus discolor</i> )
Boxwood ( <i>Bexus sempervirens</i> )	Mallow Ninebark ( <i>Physocarpus malvacues</i> )
Bog Birch ( <i>Betula glandulosa</i> )	Bush Cinquefoil ( <i>Potentilla fruticosa</i> )
Red-osier Dogwood ( <i>Cornus stolonifera</i> )	

## COMMON EVERGREEN TREES OF SACHEEN LAKE

Jeffrey Pine (Western Yellow Pine) ( <i>Pinus jeffreyi</i> )	Red Fir ( <i>Abies magnifica</i> )
Western White Pine ( <i>Pinus monticola</i> Doug.)	Douglas Fir ( <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i> )
Ponderosa Pine (Blackjack Pine) ( <i>Pinus ponderosa</i> Doug.)	Western Hemlock (Pacific Hemlock) ( <i>Tsuga heterophylla</i> )
Lodgepole Pine ( <i>Pinus contorta</i> Doug.)	Western Redcedar ( <i>Thuja plicata</i> )
Grand Fir ( <i>Abies grandis</i> )	

## DECIDUOUS NEEDLE-LEAF TREES OF SACHEEN LAKE

Western Larch (Western Tamarack) (*Larix Occidentalis* Nutt.)

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## COMMON BERRIED PLANTS OF SACHEEN LAKE

- . Rough-fruited Fairy bell (*Disporum trachycasum*)
- . Hooker's Fairy Bell (*Disporum hookeri*)

Both edible and once gathered by Indians, Fairy Bells are now mostly eaten by grouse and chipmunks.

- . Oregon Grape (*Berberis nervosa* Pursh) and (*B. ripens* Lindl)
- Both jelly and wine can be made from the mature fruit.

- . Service Berry, Saskatoons (*Amelanchier alnifolia* Nutt)  
(*Amelanchier cusickii*)

Clusters of large white flowers appear early in spring on these tall shrubs. Red berries turn blackish when ripe. These make great pies, jams and jellies. They mix well with huckleberries. Pimmican, a dried meat, fat and berries mix was made into small cakes by Native Americans. These are stored for winter use.

- . Wild Strawberries (*Fragaria* spp.)

There are no domestic strawberries that compare to the flavor of the tiny berries. This is the parent plant of all hybrid varieties.

- . Wild Rose (*Rosa* spp.)

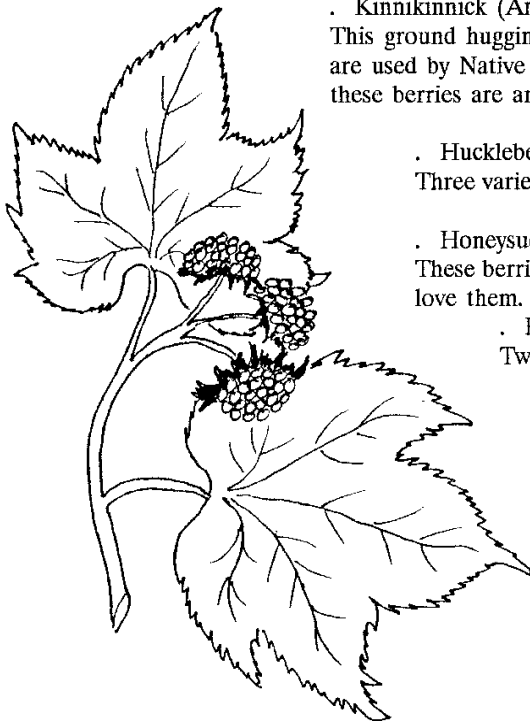
By August, the bright red hip appears to be ready for picking, but the Vitamin C content is higher if frost nips them. October is an ideal time to pick. Make some wonderful jelly or syrup for biscuits or pancakes.

- . Thimbleberry (*Rubus parviflorus* Nutt)

A rather bland taste and uneven ripening makes these berries less desirable than other wild varieties. They mix well with raspberries or blackberries.

- . Mountain Ash (*Sorbus* spp.)

The berries of these native shrubs are brighter in color than the European Mountain Ash Tree. Birds love the fermented fruit and will get drunk from eating them. Mountain Ash are members of the Rose Family and are therefore, edible. The flavor is bland and improved by making them into jams.



- . Kinnikinnick (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*) Bearberry

This ground hugging shrub has spoon-shaped leaves and red berries. The leaves are used by Native Americans as a tobacco for the sacred pipes. Though edible, these berries are an important food for small mammals and birds.

- . Huckleberry (*Vaccinium* spp.)

Three varieties grow around Sacheen Lake, though not in great abundance.

- . Honeysuckle (*Lonicera ciliosa* Pursh)

These berries are not palatable to humans, but birds, bears and chipmunks love them.

- . Red Twinberry (*Lonicera utahensis* Wats)

Twinberries are edible and tasty, but too few per bush to use.

- . Blue-berry Elder (*Sambucus cerulea* Raf.)

This tree-like shrub produces creamy white clusters of flowers that make excellent batter-fried fritters in the spring. After a couple of frosts in the fall, the powdered blue berries can be gathered to make a superb jam or jelly. Red Elderberries, which grow on the west coast, are not recommended for eating. Some people have become ill from eating red elderberries.

#### Sacheen Lake Association Board

President:	Don Hill 509/447-0960 DVJH@aol.com	Eastshore
Vice Chair:	Brian Hood 509/447-3124 LakesEnd@gmail.com	Sacheen Shores/ West End
Secretary:	Beryl Pielli 509/447-3793 lbpielli@povn.com	At-large
Treasurer:	Jerry Johnsen, 509/447-4587 jj_at_lake@yahoo.com	Schaefer's Beach
•	Lance Barklen, 509/447-0247	Mt. View
•	Mary Maxfield, 509/993-5117 spokanemary@yahoo.com	Eisenbarth's Addition
•	Karen White 509/447-0151 dankaren89@gmail.com	At large
•	John Pargman, 509/447-0735 gjpargman@yahoo.com	At large
•	Jeanne Holman, 509/599-7234 larryandjeanne70@Yahoo.com	The Narrows
•	Al Pool, 509/447-0221 alberthpool@gmail.com	Terrace

**STAY INFORMED~** Receive important notices and updates~  
Join the SLA email list.

If you aren't on the SLA email list already, please send your  
request to be added to: [lakesend@gmail.com](mailto:lakesend@gmail.com)

**ADDRESS CORRECTIONS~**

If you would like to be removed, submit changes or  
corrections, please let us know at [lakesend@gmail.com](mailto:lakesend@gmail.com)

#### Special dates of interest:

- **W&SD general meetings, first Wednesday of the month, 7:00 p.m. at the Sacheen Fire Station on Hwy 211**
- **05-06-15 – 09:00-12:00 Myers/Harter Park Trim Day**
- **06-13-15 – 09:00 Fertile Valley Road cleanup (meet at park)**
- **06-20-15 – 09:00 Sacheen Lake Assn Annual Meeting at Fire Station on Hwy 211**
- **08-15-15 – 11:30 Sacheen Lake Community Picnic (BBQ 12-2pm) at Myers/Harter Park**
- **TBD – Highway 211 Cleanups**