

Sacheen SCOPE

Published by the Sacheen Lake Association

Celebrating 64 Years of Stewardship and Friendship at Sacheen Lake!

HOPE

Summer - Fall 2021

Sandra J. Smith, Editor

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE August 2021



I hope this Issue of the Scope finds you well and not too "overdone" from the intense heat we have endured this summer. As I look at the thermometer on my deck it reads 101 degrees F which seems like a "cold wave" from just a few weeks ago.

The SLA Board has continued to meet since May with all the Covid precautions. We decided to cancel this year's Picnic for two reasons: One was to protect the children from any possibility of catching the Covid 19 virus, and secondly two of our Board members who had been in charge of the picnic retired. Hopefully, we will be able to enjoy one next summer. We could use volunteers. If you are willing to step up and help, contact one of the Board members.

We are planning on having our Annual Meeting August 28, at the Fire Station starting at 9:00 a.m. At this meeting a presentation from the Washington Department of Natural Resources. Also, our own Sacheen Lake Water and Sewer will make a presentation and answer questions. Please come. We will continue to monitor State and CDC rules about meetings and gatherings.

Thank you,

Albert Pool

President Sacheen Lake Association



"On May 22nd, a small but hardy crew met at the Meyers-Harter Sanctuary for the Lake Association's annual park cleanup. We raked, picked up limbs and cut up a few trees that had fallen over the winter. The result was a much better looking park and the creation of three large burn piles that will be burned next winter. Remember, this is your community park located toward the eastern end of Fertile Valley Road – open from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

Seen in the photo are, from left to right: Jubilee Johnson, Nathan Johnson, Al Pool, Gina Fiocchi, Grant Miller, Carol and Brian Hood, Austin Johnson and Mary Maxfield. Photograph by Rosmond Langberg."

Sacheen Lake
Association



is now on
FACEBOOK

SACHEENLAKE.COM

Don't forget to check out our beautiful website. It is a wonderful way to stay connected with our community, lake and sewer news, and the wildlife around the lake. To share your photos and info, contact Carl Gross at carlfgross@gmail.com.



Mike Nokes Fire Chief
South Pend Oreille Fire and Rescue

Volunteers Needed

Over the years, the Sacheen Lake area was blessed with many local responders like past members Perry and Joe Pearman, Brad Wear, Leonard Pielli, Joani Suttle, Blaine McMurray, Glenn Janson, Jim Wood, Joe Onley, and Ron Schmidt, to name a few. (Sorry if I forgot anybody) All spent years responding to emergencies at all hours of the day or night helping their community.

I'm not one who usually uses shock tactics, but I wanted to make sure everybody understands our situation. One of our most understaffed

stations is the Sacheen Lake Fire Station. Right now we only have three outstanding current volunteer members at this station Russ Brickner, Jennifer Krusing, and Nathan Johnson. Unfortunately, we have no volunteer EMTs at the Sacheen Lake Station at this time.

Five days a week during daytime work hours, there is usually a paid Firefighter/EMT at the Sacheen Lake Station, but that also leaves a lot of time when there is not. This means during most emergencies, the closest EMT is coming from the Fertile Valley Fire Station, or maybe Diamond Lake, or Newport.

We are a small rural community that relies on volunteerism to provide Fire & EMS services to our community. We need volunteers, EMTs especially and urgently in the Sacheen Lake Community.

We all understand the time commitment isn't easy. Everybody nowadays is strapped for time. Most families have both adults working. Add in the time necessary to spend with family, any other activities you enjoy, and most people think there isn't enough time to eat and sleep.

Being a member of the fire district typically will not consume more than 3 hours a week. Is there a lot of time upfront to learn the job? Yes. You're looking at approximately 160 hours to be trained as an EMT, more if you want to fight a fire as well but are not required to do so. The EMT training is the same you would get in the big city because the job is the same.

Currently, we have members who have: kids in school, have more than one job, who are retired and like to travel, and enjoy numerous

outdoor hobbies, and all still have the time to keep their skills current by attending drills and respond to emergencies when they can.

It doesn't matter how great the fire station is or how great our equipment is; we need you to use it and make a difference.

If you have any questions or if you would be interested in serving your community as a member of the fire district, please contact me at 447-5305 or online at www.spofr.org.

Thank you,

Mike Nokes – Fire Chief

Sacheen Lake Association Membership Renewal Form

Dues for 2021 are still only \$10 for an individual / \$25 for a family

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

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

PLEASE include your correct CURRENT EMAIL ADDRESS and PHONE #

Name:			
Mailing Address:			
Phone:			
Email Address:			

PLEASE include your correct CURRENT EMAIL ADDRESS

2020 was a tough year for all of us, and due to the many Covid restrictions the Sacheen Lake Association (SLA) had to cancel most of the events we sponsor. However we are still moving forward and doing what we can to communicate with everyone and better our lake and community. Hopefully we can resume activities in 2021.

We appreciate the members that paid their dues in 2020, unfortunately we did not get enough to cover our annual expenses. We hope everyone will consider paying your 2021 dues so your Association can continue to fund events to better our lake and community.

Some of the things the Sacheen Lake Association does for you are:

- Maintain website (SacheenLake.com)
- Annual General Meeting
- Boat launch clean up
- Litter clean up along Fertile Valley Road and Highway 211
- Purchase and place buoys to mark rocks in the lake
- Sacheen Scope Newsletter
- Annual Picnic
- Sacheen Lake Facebook page
- Life Jacket loaner program at boat launch
- Street light at Highway 2 and Fertile Valley Road
- Remove debris from the culverts in the beaver dams to maintain water level
- Annual Meyers-Harter park cleanup
- LakesEnd e-mail communications



Annual dues remain at \$10 for an individual and \$25 for a family. Payments can be made anytime during the year. You can pay:

1) By check to Sacheen Lake Association and mail to the Sacheen Lake Association PO Box 401 Newport, WA 99156. Many people use their banks bill pay.

2) PayPal to denise_reilly@mail.com, be sure to click you are paying Friends and Family so no fee is charged.

However you pay, please be sure your name, phone number and email address are included.

Denise Reilly
Treasurer

STAY INFORMED

Join the SLA email list. Please send your request to be added to the email list and/or send address corrections to: **LakesEnd@Gmail.com**

Sacheen Lake Information -

BEARS...something to think about....



American black bears are the most common and widely distributed bears in North America. As human populations encroach on bear habitat, people and bears have greater chances of encountering each other. Bears usually avoid people, but when they do come into close proximity of each other, the bear's strength and surprising speed make it potentially dangerous. Most confrontations with bears are the result of attractants like garbage and bird feeders. In the wilderness, it is recommended that people make noise as they travel to avoid surprising a bear at close range. All bears should be given plenty of respect and room to retreat without feeling threatened.

Physical description

Despite their name, black bears may be a variety of colors, including black, brown, blond, cinnamon, and rust. Black or brown, with a light brown snout, is the most common coloration.

On average, black bears in the Western U.S. weigh 100-300 pounds, with males larger than females. They stand approximately 2.5-3 feet at the shoulder when standing on all fours, and about 5 feet when standing upright. When on all fours, the black bear's rump is higher than its shoulders.

The black bear's face profile is straight, with a relatively long muzzle and long, prominent ears.

Geographic range

Black bears are common throughout Washington except for the non-forested areas of the Columbia basin. Black bears live in a diverse array of forested habitats in the state, from coastal rainforests to the dry woodlands of the Cascades' eastern slopes. In general, black bears are strongly associated with forest cover, but they do occasionally use relatively open country, such as clearcuts and the fringes of other open habitat.

Bears tend to avoid humans. However, human-habituated bears are bears that, because of prolonged exposure to people, have lost their natural fear or wariness around people. Human-food-conditioned bears are those that associate people with food. Such bears can become aggressive in their pursuit of a meal.

Do everything you can to avoid an encounter with any bear. Prevention is the best advice.

If you are recreating in bear country, always remember: Never travel alone, keep small children near you at all times, and always make your presence known—simply talking will do the trick. Most experts recommend carrying bear spray when recreating in areas where bears or other potentially dangerous wildlife may be present. A bear spray that has a capsaicin (pepper) content between 1.3 and 2 percent can be an effective deterrent to an aggressive bear if it is sprayed directly into the bear's face within 6 to 10 feet.

Bear attacks

In the unlikely event a black bear attacks you (where actual contact is made), fight back aggressively using your hands, feet, legs, and any object you can reach. Aim for the eyes or spray bear spray into the bear's face.

Here are tips should you come in close contact with a bear:

Stop, remain calm, and assess the situation. If the bear seems unaware of you, move away quietly when it's not looking in your direction. Continue to observe the animal as you retreat, watching for changes in its behavior.

If a bear walks toward you, identify yourself as a human by standing up, waving your hands above your head, and talking to the bear in a low voice.

Don't throw anything at the bear, which the bear could interpret as a threat or a challenge.

If you cannot safely move away from the bear or the bear continues toward you, scare it away by clapping your hands, stomping your feet, yelling, and staring the animal in the eyes. If you are in a group, stand shoulder-to-shoulder and raise and wave your arms to appear intimidating. The more it persists the more aggressive your response should be. If you have bear spray, use it.

Do not run from the bear. Bears can run up to 35 mph and running may trigger an attack. Climbing a tree is generally not recommended as an escape from an aggressive black bear, as black bears are adept climbers and may follow you up a tree.

BATS...Should you be afraid??



Description and Range

Physical description

Little brown bats are small bats, but medium-sized among the species of *Myotis* in Washington. Their fur coloration is variable, with individuals in Washington ranging from yellow or olive to blackish, and their fur is usually longer and glossier than in other similar *Myotis* species. Underparts are noticeably paler. Ears and flight membranes are dark brown. Ears reach the tip of the nostril when pressed forward. The tragus is about half as long as the ear and blunt. The hind foot is relatively large, exceeding half the length of the tibia, and the calcar is not keeled.

Little brown myotis and Yuma myotis are closely similar in appearance, which can make identification difficult. Little brown myotis usually feature glossier dorsal fur, a gradually sloping forehead, and slightly longer forearms than Yuma myotis, but these characters are variable and therefore unreliable for separating the two species.

Food habits and foraging

Emerging aquatic insects (especially midges) are major prey, but moths, beetles, non-aquatic flies, a variety of other insects, and spiders are also eaten.

Little brown myotis possess low wing loading, low aspect ratios, rounded wing tips, and high frequency echolocation, which give the species maneuverable flight and allow it to specialize on small insects. Foraging is often concentrated over or near water, but also occurs along forest edges, in forests, over lawns and streets, and in other cover types. Feeding is most active during the 2-3 hours after dusk when insect activity often peaks. Most prey is captured in the air and consumed in flight. Nightly foraging movements usually range 1-14 kilometers from day roosts.

Reproduction

Mating mostly occurs in late summer and early autumn during swarming before hibernation and may continue into winter. Ovulation and pregnancy are delayed until after hibernation ends in spring, with gestation lasting 50-60 days. Females give birth to a single pup per year; twins are rare. Births probably occur earlier at lower elevations than at higher elevations. Births occur in June in western Washington, and may be substantially delayed or reduced in years with cooler wetter weather.

Roosting

Day roosting occurs in a variety of sites, including buildings and other structures, tree cavities and beneath bark, rock crevices, caves, and mines. Reproductive females usually live separately from males and non-reproductive females, forming maternity roosts at sites with warm (30-55°C) (86-131°F), stable temperatures that facilitate rapid development of the young. Nursery colonies contain anywhere from a dozen individuals to more than 1,000 bats. The largest known maternity roost of little brown myotis in Washington contains about 1,000 adults and roosts together with about 2,000 adult Yuma myotis under an abandoned railroad trestle near Olympia.

Buildings and bridges serve as night roosts for adults and juveniles of both sexes. Females often gather in clusters in night roosts. Greater use occurs on cooler nights, when bats are probably attracted to the warmer temperatures within roosts.

Hibernation

Hibernacula are poorly known in the West, but include caves, abandoned mines, and lava tubes. Hibernation generally occurs from September or October until March or April. Although winter roosts often contain thousands of individuals in other parts of North America, little brown myotis have thus far only been found hibernating singly or in small clusters in the Pacific Northwest. Hibernation has been confirmed in Washington.

Both sexes appear to hibernate together. Within hibernacula, microsites are preferred where humidity is high (70-95%) and temperatures remain above freezing (1-5°C, 33.8-41°F). Hibernating individuals lose about 25% of their weight during winter, thus acquisition of sufficient fat reserves before hibernation is essential for overwinter survival.

Geographic range

The range of the little brown myotis extends across most of North America from the forested portions of Alaska and northern Canada southward to California, Colorado, and the southeastern United States. The species occurs throughout Washington.

This species is a habitat generalist that uses a broad range of ecosystems. In Washington and Oregon, it occurs most commonly in both conifer and hardwood forests, but also occupies open forests, forest margins, shrubsteppe, clumps of trees in open habitats, sites with cliffs, and urban areas. Within these habitats, riparian areas and sites with open water are usually preferred. Elevations up to tree line are inhabited, with males being more common than females at higher elevations.

Please Support the Sacheen Lake Water & Sewer District
Maintenance and Operation Levy

Each year in November, the Maintenance and Operation (M&O) Levy for your Sacheen Lake Water and Sewer District (W&SD) appears on the November ballot. It is important for you to vote YES on this impactful ballot initiative. Why?

The Water in the name of the Sacheen Lake Water & Sewer District refers to the water in Sacheen Lake. One of the functions of the W&SD is to manage the lake water quality. This includes monitoring the water quality, attempting to control the lake water level, and controlling invasive weeds. The M&O Levy supports their Sacheen Lake water management responsibilities.

In the past, eradicating invasive weeds in Sacheen Lake was attempted. However, it is extremely expensive, caused undesired side effects, and ultimately the weeds came back. Since then, the W&SD's approach to managing invasive weed species has been to perform spot treatments of the worst spots in the lake, up to the amount of funds available via the levy's passing.

In one recent year, the levy failed to pass by just a few votes. Invasive weeds could not be treated the following year. The W&SD has been playing catch-up ever since.

Every year, the W&SD performs a survey of the lake for invasive weeds to produce a map of the most heavily affected areas. They contract with a licensed weed management company to spray the invasive weeds that are most harmful to our lake. The included map is the product of this year's survey.

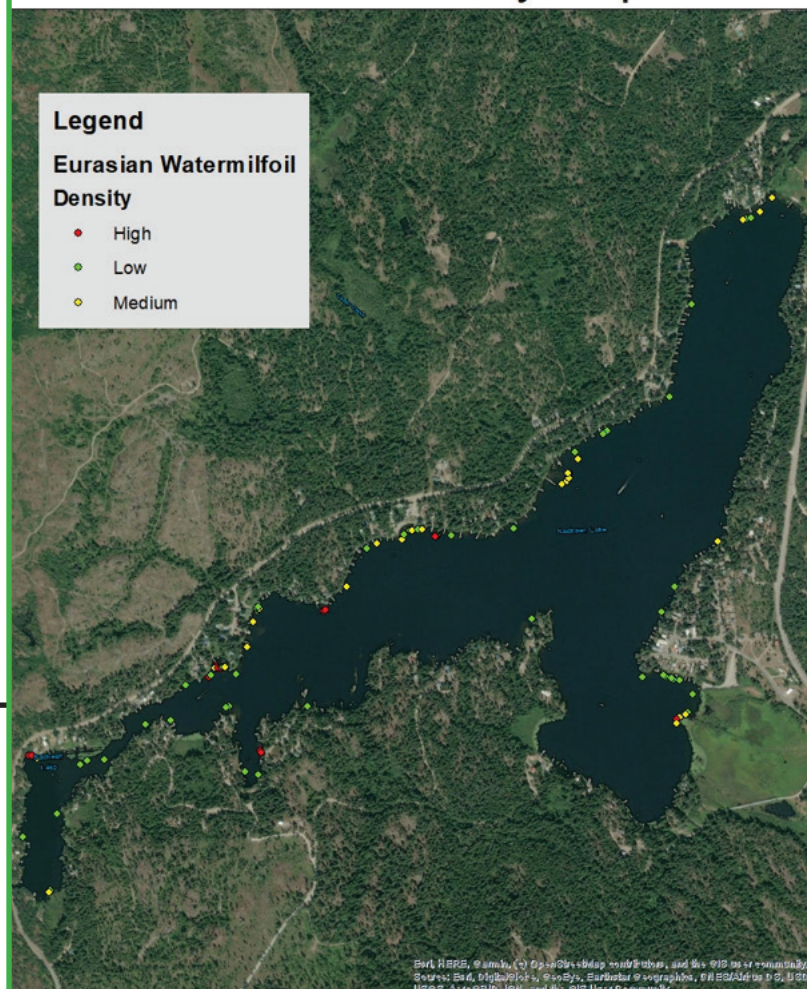
The primary "offender" is Eurasian Milfoil. The W&SD has been controlling Milfoil for at least 35 years. In recent years, another weed has seen growth in many areas of our lake – Water Shield. Water Shield is a small lily pad, about 3" in diameter, that grows to cover the lake surface in shallow areas. They crowd out native plants. The small but strong stems make it difficult to use paddle watercraft or to swim through a patch, and hinder water access on some lakefront properties.

And, if it couldn't get any worse, a new weed is cropping up in our lake – Curly Leaf Pondweed. This weed has an unusual growth cycle. It germinates in winter under the ice and sprouts and becomes active in the spring. It is too late to control this weed this year, but the W&SD will probably plan to attack it next spring.

We know we will never be able to totally eradicate invasive weeds from our lake. But we must remain vigilant to control them, so we can continue to enjoy our beautiful lake. If you are a Sacheen Lake property owner of property in the Water Sewer District, and live in Washington, please do your part by registering to vote in Pend Oreille County and by voting YES on your lake's annual Maintenance & Operation Levy.

[Note: A color version of the map and photos will be posted, along with this article, on the Sacheen Lake Association's website, www.SacheenLake.com.]

Sacheen Milfoil Survey Map 2021



Eurasian Milfoil



Water Shield



Curly Leaf Pondweed



A Short Word From The Editor

Dr. Sandra J. Smith

"In the woods we return to reason and faith."

--Ralph Waldo Emerson



"In the woods we return to reason and faith"

A golden eagle has perched her golden wings above the "old snag." She is on the lookout, a leisure visit. I am thankful that you have come. Today has been full of smoke, fear of a new virus, traffic, frustration and new challenges.. Your unexpected arrival brings me to my senses again. Moments of wonderment and gratitude. A message unfolds filled with rich moments of quiet from the clatter of thoughts and tensions, to a place of reason and a return to faith.

Sandee Smith

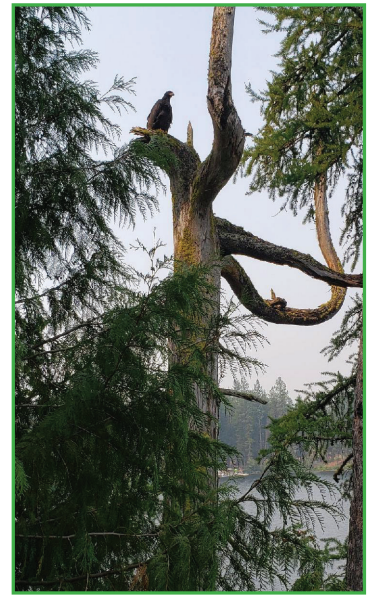


Photo by Bill D. Smith

EDITORIAL...By Joni Stillian, District Manager - District Manager, Sacheen lake Water and Sewer District - jssacheen@gmail.com - 509-447-4647

Hi and Happy Summer to all of you in the Sacheen lake Community!! I hope everyone is having a wonderful summer season, and staying cool!;

We have had a couple of changes in personnel here at the district. First, long time Commissioner Mike Quick resigned. We are all incredibly grateful for his many years of service, Mike was very passionate about your lake and was an excellent steward to it and your Sewer District. Shawn Bleecker was asked to take over his position and, luckily for us, accepted. He has previously served on the SLA board and has taken a hands on approach to his service by volunteering for district tasks such as accompanying Aquatechnex during the lake survey and in the near future, learning the lake testing.

Secondly, our WWTO Nathan Johnson has moved on to other opportunities. As many of you know, he was with the Sewer District from the beginning. He was part of the construction crew that installed the system and was hired on as our operator when things got up and running. All of us wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors. Paul Sexton has been hired as our new Operator. Paul has extensive experience in the Water and Sewer industry and is a Certified Water Operator as well as being a certified wastewater operator. He has worked for several Water Districts and PUD's in and around the Spokane area. He will be responding to your service calls and can be reached at 509-671-6019. Please call him if you have any problems with your system or see anything unusual around your neighborhood or the lift station on Fertile Valley Road.

The milfoil treatment was done on August 12th. Treatment for watershield is scheduled for mid September, and for curly leaf some time next Spring. Brian Hood has done an excellent article about what weeds were found during this year's survey and how to identify them. We wouldn't be able to do these treatments without the levy passage. We are always so grateful for your support and generosity.

We have been working to get you more information about the district. We have prepared a FAQ sheet that will be published on the SLA website. We will also be speaking at the August 28th SLA General Meeting and then having a question-and-answer period. We will be going over our budget and the M&O levy budget, as well as explaining the loans, what the current balances are, and when they are scheduled to be paid off.

As always, we are here to serve you. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me, or stop by my office at the fire station. I am located around back and have a doorbell you can ring for entrance. My office hours are Monday and Thursday from 10-2.

Setting your settings on Sacheen Lake nextdoor.com

If you are posting/receiving/seeing messages on nextdoor.com from other neighborhoods than Sacheen Lake, you can control what and who you see under "General" settings and when you post, by choosing which neighborhood/s you want to post to. You can also "mute" people you don't wish to hear from, by clicking the little arrows on the right. Sorry, I can't control the advertising, but you can "uncheck" the things that you may have marked as "interests" to you, as that is where many of them are generated. Hope that helps!

* nextdoor.com is not affiliated with the Sacheen Lake Association, but many of you are nextdoor members, thus the FYI.

Di Wear

SacheenSCOPE
PO Box 401
Newport WA 99156

Photo Credit: Sandra Smith



Sacheen Lake Association Board

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Sacheen Lake Merchandise Attire

Grant Miller, 858/ 204-5560 At Large
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Karen White, Beryl Pielli and Jeanne Holman have announced their retirement from the Sacheen Lake Association Board. They have served behind the scenes countless hours, and in a variety of ways that have made an enormous difference in our Sacheen community. I can personally say from first hand knowledge of these great ladies the world is a better place with them in. A big shout out to: Beryl, Karen, and Jeannie.]

Also a warm welcome to Wendy Blecker and Grant Miller new board members.

Sacheen Sewer & Water District Meetings **Meetings are canceled until further notice due to COVID-19**

2nd Wednesday of each month - 5 p.m.
Sacheen Fire Station on Highway 211