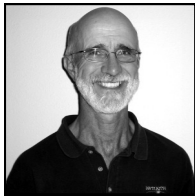




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## The President's Message Community

I have to admit, when we first moved to the lake, after raising the family and pursuing the career through to retirement, I was mainly looking forward to the solitude of quiet country living. It's how I was raised, here, and I had the vision of once again existing as a bit of a recluse in the woods, content with the challenge of building our home and occasional visits from the kids. My wife, bless her heart, took the plunge alongside of me, although not without a little concern over the apparent seclusion.

Not to worry, though; what we found instead was much more of a community than either of us ever expected. In the few years since we became "year-rounders," we've met a fascinating spectrum of people from all walks of life, living or vacationing here, with the common ground of enjoying and caring about Sacheen Lake.

We've also discovered, as is often the case when humans are involved, that there are some issues that seem to divide the population into fairly distinct "camps". Whether to sewer or not to sewer, how best to deal with beaver dams, proper shoreline and boating etiquette.... Pick a subject, and you'll find strong feelings on each side. But it seems to me that these strong feelings don't have to erode our sense of community. Neighbors can agree to disagree on a subject, and still be neighbors. Friends can debate, even heatedly, a point of contention, but still remain friends.

Whatever the outcome, we still live here together, and we still care about the lake, each in our own way. That's as it should be. That's what makes a community. I for one have come to value our lake community more than I ever expected to. Let's not allow our differing views on any of these issues destroy our sense of community.

**Don Hill**

President, Sacheen Betterment Association

Shoreline Workshop 9 AM-12 PM  
Sewer Info Meeting 2 PM  
Saturday, May 9  
@Sacheen Fire Station

SBA Coffee & General Meeting  
IMPORTANT... please read the updated  
by-laws on the website and be  
prepared to adopt them!

[www.sacheenlake.com](http://www.sacheenlake.com)  
Saturday, June 6  
9 AM @ Sacheen Fire Station

Adopt-A-Highway  
Saturday, June 13  
8 am @Myers-Harter Park

Sacheen Lake Community Picnic  
Saturday, August 15, 11:30 AM  
@ Myers-Harter Park

### Cedar Planked Salmon...

- Place small nails along both sides of an untreated wide cedar plank, then soak it in water for at least two hours.
- Brush one side of the plank with olive oil, place fresh dill sprigs and lemon slices over, crack a little fresh black pepper, and place the filleted salmon skin side up on the plank.
- Criss-cross wire over the fish to hold it in place and cook it upside down over campfire coals, all while sipping a Washington labeled cold crisp fume-blanc.
- Call us if you'd like to borrow the nailed plank!



submitted by Brad & Di Wear

# YES! Sewer Sacheen..

The following information is provided to Sacheen Lake property owners by the "Sewer Sacheen!" committee of the Sacheen Betterment Association ([www.sacheenlake.com](http://www.sacheenlake.com))

Issue / Concern	Response
1. <b>Cost to residents</b>	1. Every effort is being made by the S&WD to control project cost. Residents should keep in mind that when an existing septic system fails, which eventually <u>will</u> occur, replacement costs would be comparable to the anticipated sewer project per-hookup cost. Current project estimates come to about to \$100 per month per hookup, plus about \$20 M&O.
2. <b>Possible damage to property, trees, etc. due to installation.</b>	2. The project will be managed to minimize property impact to the greatest extent possible. Contrary to rumors, there is no anticipated blasting or major disruption of access to homes. Land-owners will be involved in the planning and scheduling of hookups.
3. <b>Consolidation of lots?</b>	3. Residents may chose to consolidate parcels to reduce taxes, but the S&WD anticipates an approach where owners may sign an agreement showing an intention to not develop in the future, thus eliminating the cost for a stub-in.
4. <b>Lake water quality is OK?</b>	4. This is a disputed point. While the lake water quality generally meets current 'recreational use' standards, many long-term residents can attest to the degradation of our water quality over the years. Phosphorus levels, which have been linked in other NW lakes to toxic algae blooms, have shown significant spikes in summer months. Other local lakes have shown significant improvement in water clarity and purity after sewer installation.
5. <b>Later hookups for undeveloped lots?</b>	5. Planning and paying for a stub-in during initial sewer installation is the only <u>guarantee</u> that capacity will exist for a later hookup. Adding hookups later will depend on remaining system capacity, if any exists.
6. <b>Multiple residences on one hookup?</b>	6. The preliminary system design may allow for linking hookups. System cost is allocated on a per-household basis to provide for a fair and equally-divided cost.
7. <b>System description?</b>	7. Each hookup, or possibly groups of two to three hookups, will require an "E-pump", which is about the size of a 55-gal. drum, installed underground. A 1 ¼ to 1 ½ inch line will carry all waste to the trunk lines leading to the treatment facility. Existing septic tanks will either be removed or filled with gravel.
8. <b>Property value impacts?</b>	8. Sewer connection will increase property value and may reduce insurance premiums. Upon sale or transfer, remaining sewer system obligation is part of the mortgage package for the property. A new owner's lender will determine whether they can simply assume the remaining payments, which is usually the case.
9. <b>What if LID fails?</b>	9. The S&W District would have to re-group and start over with either piece-meal (neighborhood) systems, likely at a higher per hook-up cost, or pursue a whole-lake system at a later date. In the meantime, if a septic system fails, owners would have to repair or replace it, at a potential cost as high as \$20,000, or higher in some cases. If no viable system or location can be installed, the property could be condemned.

## What Are We To Do About Recreational Fires?



**Imagine this setting.....** It's Memorial Day weekend at Sacheen Lake. The night air is cool and you have family and friends visiting. What a great time for a nice small fire with marshmallows and s'mores! The fire is lit and it is contained in a concrete and steel pit and there is nothing around that will cause the fire to spread. It gets late, the fire is completely extinguished and everyone goes to bed without a worry.

**Now, imagine this setting....** It's Memorial Day weekend and the cabin next door is being rented out to some friends of the owners. The night air is cool, they have enjoyed outdoor activities all day. What a great time for a fire to keep warm by with our favorite music in the background... Bob Marley maybe; and the camp chairs. The fire is lit and it is blazing! But it's just not big enough. Maybe a couple more logs? Oops, then the wind picks up. The weather in May has been unusually warm and dry for early summer. The area around the hole in the sand hasn't been cleaned up and there is combustible natural material all over the place. The wind is kind of chilly and everyone heads inside for the night without paying any attention to the fire and what it might do. Do you see where this is going?

911 is called, the fire department responds to a report of smoke in the area. The fire was no big deal this time. The people that built the fire and who were supposed to be watching the fire didn't think about putting it out when they went in. The firefighters remind them with some safety information and ask them to be safer next time. No big deal, the firefighters put out the fire and we go back to our stations and on to our homes.

South Pend Oreille Fire & Rescue has been approached about allowing the first example of responsible fires by issuing permits for them. We are exploring the possibilities of this process. One of the difficulties we face as the fire department and the issuing agency of burning permits on improved property are the on-going management, inspection and enforcement of a burn permit program. The second difficulty arises in that by establishing a burn permit program, we are required to permit all fires that fall under our jurisdiction. Not just the nice small responsible ones on Sacheen Lake.

While we have seen many positive examples of responsible burning with common sense applied, we also realize that there will be just as many of the irresponsible and no common sense occurrences as well. These negative examples will require our attention and enforcement of the burning permit process on a regular basis. This is something that the district and it's volunteers are not signed on to do. We like to provide emergency service when it is needed. We want to be good stewards of your tax dollars and provide economical and efficient service with our volunteers. We are proud to serve you as well. So, What are we to do about fires?

The current regulations that are in place are the most cost effective and provide the greatest safety that South Pend Oreille Fire & Rescue can manage with a primarily volunteer staff. This does limit some recreational fires. As in the past summers, when the fire danger reaches the "HIGH" level, as determined by the Washington DNR, no fires will be allowed except in permitted sites. More effectively this decision allows fires, without a permit, to occur at all other times in the year when the fire danger is below "HIGH". We feel that this is also a better example of less regulation and less government.

***We understand that there are a number of people who are not satisfied with the current process, so, the Board of Commissioners for South Pend Oreille Fire & Rescue will be discussing alternatives at the Regular meeting on Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>. Whether we will change to a new process remains to be seen. If you'd like to attend the meeting and let us know your thoughts. We meet at the Diamond Lake Fire Station, at 7:00 pm.***

### **New members needed!**

South Pend Oreille Fire & Rescue is always welcoming new members. **Your Sacheen Station currently has 6 active Fire-fighter EMT's. They are Mike Murdock, Perry Pearman, Leonard Pielli, Randy Pymm, Joanie Suttle, and Brad Wear.** We would like to double that number to ensure adequate response to your emergency. If you have an interest in volunteering with our winning team please visit our website at [www.pofd3.org](http://www.pofd3.org) or give us a call at the office. 447-5305. There are many exciting benefits realized by being a member of our outstanding team!

*Have a Safe Spring & Summer,  
Chief Mark Havener  
South Pend Oreille Fire & Rescue*

## Sacheen Betterment Association Board

**President:** Don Hill, Eastshore  
(509) 447-0960

**VP:** Anita King, Narrows  
(509) 447-4433

**Secretary:** Beryl Pielli, @large  
(509) 447-3793

**Treasurer** Linda Benzo, Kohles Beach  
(509) 447-4912

- Lance Barklen, Mt View (509) 447-0247
- Brian Hood, Sacheen Shores (509) 447-3124
- Linda Cannon, West End (509) 447-2063
- Jerry Johnsen, Schaefer's (509) 447-4587

**Immediate Past President:**

- Karen Averitt, Terrace

**[www.sacheenlake.com](http://www.sacheenlake.com)**

## *SacheenSCOPE*

PO Box 401  
NEWPORT WA 99156

### ***SBA membership fees are always welcome!***

The SBA has been active for over 50 years! We ask dues of \$25 per family, \$10 individual, which supports the expense of items needed to meet our mission, including the mailing of this publication... the

#### **SacheenSCOPE**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

LAKE ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

LAKE PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Sacheen Betterment Association**

**c/o Linda Benzo, Treasurer**

**PO Box 401**

**Newport, WA 99156**