

Ohop Lake Improvement Club

P.O. Box 566, Eatonville, WA 98328-0566

www.ohoplake.org

Owners & Residents:

Welcome 2019 to Ohop Lake residents and welcome to new owners receiving our newsletter for the first time! The Ohop Lake Improvement Club (OLIC) has been in existence since the 1960's on behalf of lakefront property owners, anglers, and users of the public boat ramp. We monitor lake health and have contracted for treatment of various invasive plants. We also organize events and activities, including our annual 4th of July fireworks show. Important information is emailed to owners throughout the year and we meet annually. As a non-profit, our group needs volunteers to help maintain the health of our lake and organize community events.

If you are receiving this newsletter by mail and you would like to continue to receive future newsletters and updated information, please send your name, address, and email information to: ohoplake.olic@gmail.com and we will gladly add you to our list. Please consider supporting our community by paying annual dues (statement attached). Also, keep an eye on our website: www.ohoplake.org or join our **Ohop Lake Residents** Facebook page.

Annual Meeting Update

Our meeting is scheduled for 6/1/19 at 10:00a at the Eatonville Community Center. Please come out with your neighbors and join



Upcoming Events

Memorial Day Weekend

Fireworks Fundraising Kickoff
from the Community Dock

June 1

OLIC Annual Meeting 10:00a
Eatonville Community Center
305 Center Street W
Eatonville, WA 98328

June 29

4th of July Celebration &
Fireworks

In the Community

Volunteers are always needed for our various committees and fundraising efforts. Please consider getting involved.

Check out the website for committee information or come to the annual meeting and meet the committee chairs and board members.

us in learning about your lake community. We will cover our board member activity throughout this year as well as elect new board members.

This year Tara Livingood-Schott from the Washington Dept. of Fish & Wildlife will be joining us at our annual meeting to answer questions and inform us of the stocking of Ohop Lake. Specific questions for her? Please send them to us at ohoplake.olic@gmail.com and we will be sure she is informed and ready to answer them when she arrives.

Committee Updates

Lake Health – Michelle Cornwell, Chair (253) 298-2375

We would like to have a committee formed of individuals inspired to stay apprised of lake biology and geology and to provide comradery on history and observations in changes of lake characteristics and wildlife.

We perform two water quality tests twice a year, usually in the spring and fall at the two deepest GPS points on the lake and four times a year on the stream flowing in to the north end of the lake. These are through the Pierce County Conservation Corps Stream Team monitoring program. We measure the temperature, water clarity, and dissolved oxygen at both and nitrates on the stream. Additionally, the Nisqually Land Trust also does fall and spring water testing, same tests, on Lynch Creek coming into Ohop Lake on the south end by Ski Park Road with local 4th graders. This has been going on for about 27 years. All of the water testing sites throughout the Nisqually River Basin then share their annual results at a Green Congress each spring.

The Pierce County Flood Control Advisory Board is looking for a volunteer from our lake or area (Ohop Creek subwatershed) to serve on it and attend monthly meetings, if anyone is interested. It's a chance to have an impact on county spending on projects, fish runs, and the water culture of the Ohop Valley.

Pierce County Flood Control Zone District and Surface Water Management Advisory Board seek Volunteer –

*Are you interested in representing your community on floodplain issues in Pierce County? The **Pierce County Flood Control Zone District** is seeking a new member to represent WRIA 11, for the Pierce County Flood Control Zone District Advisory Committee. Made up of 15 members from around Pierce County, the Advisory Committee makes recommendation on various budget, policy issues and project priorities. The commitment is one meeting a month. Interested in applying? Follow the link: <https://www.piercefloodcontrol.org/98/Advisory-Committee>*

Dues Increase

OLIC dues have not increased for over 20 years. Given increased expenses (insurance; administration fees, i.e. website, newsletters, annual meeting, post office box rental, banking; dock repairs, etc.) we are raising dues to better defray the expenses we are experiencing in the 21st Century. These costs were divided by our average membership (70 out of 200+ lot owners). To cover expenses, the OLIC board agreed to increase annual dues to \$35 per lot.

Considering Septic, Outhouse, Gray Water Drainage?

If a property on Ohop Lake (Pierce County) changes legal owners an existing septic tank must be pumped and inspected along with the drain field. Results of the inspection are passed on to the Pierce County Health Department for final determination. Existing septic tanks on Ohop Lake are grandfathered in as long as they pass a visual inspection and are operating properly during normal servicing. Anti-Bacterial soap, powdered detergents, bleach, medicines, particularly antibiotics should never be introduced into a septic system on Ohop Lake. They will kill the good bacteria in a septic system and eventually find their way into the lake.

Should the cost of a septic system be cost prohibitive a property owner can install a holding tank, usually the 1200 gallon variety. As with a septic tank a holding tank would collect all waste up to and including gray water. Installation costs run about \$5000.00 which includes permits, labor, hook-ups and holding tank. Property would need to be backhoe accessible. Full-time family usage would require weekly to semi-monthly service.

On those properties with ancient outhouse facilities, a simple solution is a Honey Bucket. Honey Buckets can be leased (\$115.00 per month including monthly service) or they can be purchased outright for about \$250.00 and be serviced on an as needed basis (about \$65.00).

Property owners wishing to install septic systems and or holding tanks may be able to get financing through Craft 3 Loans (information available on our website) and in some cases the Pierce County Housing Authority.

Fireworks/Activities – Tom Taylor, Chair (253) 770-4299

We are excited to announce that this summer's fireworks show will be on Saturday, June 29! In keeping with tradition, it will be held on the weekend just prior to the 4th of July. Please pass along the date to your friends and family. As you know, this wonderful tradition takes money and volunteers. Look for fundraising announcements to begin Memorial Day Weekend and throughout the spring and summer. Your donations support the level of show offered. We hope to continue with the Go Fund Me site, the raffle, the poker run, the Fall BBQ and other social activities. Also, we need volunteers to help with these efforts. There are many moving parts and any amount of time that you can contribute, large or small, would be much appreciated. Please contact Tom Taylor at Multipleventures@comcast.net, to lend a hand! More to follow in the coming months. Check the website and Facebook pages for updates.

Ohop Lake Improvement Club Annual Dues Statement

Attach this form with your check in the amount of:

- \$35 annual dues, plus
 - Fireworks contribution (no limit on contributions)*
- *The preferred payment method for fireworks contribution is by check.*

Mail to:
Ohop Lake Improvement Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 566, Eatonville, WA 98328-0566

*****IF YOU ARE RECEIVING THIS BY MAIL, PLEASE PROVIDE US WITH E-MAIL ADDRESS(ES) TO RECEIVE ALL NEWS & ACTIVITY UPDATES.**

Please update any changes from last year.

Name		
Mailing Address		
Lake Address/Lot #		
Phone Number		
Email Address(es) (REQUIRED for news & activities updates)		
	Fireworks Contribution \$	Annual Dues (\$35/tax lot) \$

If paying with one check, indicate amount contributing toward fireworks fund. We need to track them separately from annual dues for accounting purposes.

