



East Fork Frontier Neighborhood Association

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August 4, 2009

ALERT - Is your well going dry?

Cindy Morgan of Yacolt is looking for private and irrigation well information from property owners in the areas of Lewisville Park, NE Manley Rd., Daybreak Park, property owners on the East Fork Lewis River, NE 259 St., JA Moore Rd., Stoughton Rd., Landerholm Rd., Paradise Park, La Center.

She asks, "Have you noticed a lowering of the water table in your well? Have you had to deepen or dig a new well? Has the JL Storedahl Company had to deepen your well or dig a new well for you?" And in that regard she wrote the following regarding the lowering of the water table:

"Groundwater Mining at Daybreak August 3, 2009

I have reason to believe that the JL Storedahl Co. is dewatering the Troutdale Aquifer at their Daybreak Mine site. I requested Storedahl's Daily Monitoring Reports (DMR's for the Daybreak Gravel Mine) from Department of Ecology (DOE) for 2005 through first quarter of 2009. I compiled that data into a table and a graph which shows a consistent, yearly, dewatering trend at the mine. My unprofessional opinion is that the East Fork Lewis River will go underground in the near future, leaving little more than warm water ponds and exposed cobble during late summer low flows.

Storedahl breached the confining layer of the aquifer in about 1983, in Pond One. I have a Department of Natural Resources (DNR) SM-8A form from that time, saying that water is bubbling up in Pond One. Another DNR report from the same time says that an 18 inch culvert can not handle the water that is flowing from the pond and that there is a cut and water is flowing over the top of the sidewall.

A few years after the breach into the aquifer, Dean Creek went underground. Dean Creek is on the Storedahl Daybreak property immediately north of the existing five ponds (ponds are approx. 71 acres in size).

The water lying under Portland/Vancouver and the Daybreak Gravel Mine was declared a Sole Source Aquifer in about Sept. 2006. That EPA designation means that for any federal project, there must be extra precautions, to protect and not pollute this drinking water aquifer that serves private wells and municipal wells in the area. Sole source aquifer means everyone living in this area drinks from the same water.

The East Fork Lewis River from the Heisson Gage to Lockwood Creek, which includes the river traveling near the Daybreak Gravel Mine site, is a declining stream. Early 1980's or late 1970's, the river was a gaining stream, having about 10 feeder streams that flow into the river below the Heisson Gage. A more recent survey by a team of people that included

Richard Dyrland (retired hydrologist from the Forest Service and President of Friends of the East Fork) has shown that the East Fork is now a declining stream. That data is recorded in LCFRB WRIA 27 & 28 Water Quality, Water Quantity Subcommittee document.

The breach to the confining layer in Pond One was significant. Water was bubbling up, effectively creating an artesian spring. I believe that water is still bubbling up and has been bubbling up and mixing with surface water for 26 years. A breach of this magnitude will pull water from the surrounding area. In fact, it will pull water from any higher elevation and create a drawdown cone. That drawdown cone will affect neighboring private wells and irrigation wells and it will affect municipal wells operated by Battle Ground and Clark Public Utilities.

I saw some information on line that said Battle Ground municipal wells were 7 to 8 feet lower than expected (1994) and that CPU wells in the Ridgefield area were 7 to 15 feet lower (1996).

I have requested Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) on Battle Ground municipal wells and I am working with someone from CPU for similar information.

In my opinion the Storedahl Company should have reclaimed the existing ponds years ago. I think the breach in Pond One is groundwater mining the aquifer in that area. Groundwater mining means taking water from the aquifer faster than it can be replaced. The results of that is less water in the East Fork Lewis River during the late summer, low flow time of year, more exposed cobble in the stream, warmer water temperatures (anything over 71 degrees is lethal to salmonids) and I don't know what the damage could be to types of stream life and plants along the stream.

This time of year, we are all told to limit our use of water. Not too many people know about the situation that exists at Daybreak. On the surface it doesn't look like there is a problem there. Storedahl is working toward a mine expansion. The proposed expansion will only compound what exists now at Daybreak.

I have been doing research on this site since 1998. There are many problems and I don't think the impacts from the existing ponds or the mine expansion can be mitigated.

Wastefully draining the aquifer is not acceptable.

Please call or e-mail with any information you might have that pertains to water loss in this area.

Thank you,

Cindy Morgan

13312 NE 414 St. Amboy, WA.98601-3519

Ph: 360-263-3104, Email: fivestar@pacifier.com

Chelatchie Prairie Rail with Trail Corridor Study

In July 2008, the Board of Clark County Commissioners approved the Chelatchie Prairie Rail with Trail Corridor Study, which includes an alignment plan and trail design guidelines. The first segment of trail the county will develop is between Fairgrounds Park in Battle Ground and NE 249th Street near Battle Ground Lake State Park (2.7 miles - Vicinity Map). The design process for this first trail segment began in January 2009. Construction is currently scheduled to start in 2011.

Public Open House Scheduled

Thursday, August 13, 2009

6:30-8:30 p.m.

Battle Ground Community Center

912 E. Main Street, Battle Ground, WA

Stop by anytime between 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. to review and provide input about the development plans for the first segment of trail.

Background

The Chelatchie Prairie Rail with Trail Corridor Study defines the overall goals, guidelines, and approach for developing a regional, multi-modal rail with trail system along the Chelatchie Prairie Railroad corridor. The study considers 33 miles of possible rail with trail between the Burnt Bridge Creek Trail in Vancouver and the Yale Bridge in Chelatchie Prairie that would accommodate walking, biking, and horseback riding. The trail will be developed in segments over time as funding allows.

For more information about this project, please contact:

Troy Pierce, Project Manager
Clark County Public Works
Phone: (360) 397-6118 ext. 4403
E-mail: Troy.Pierce@clark.wa.gov

Emergency Preparedness Seminar Offered at La Center Evangelical Free Church

Maggie Vinnedge, a resident of our neighborhood association, sent the following information:

**Join us Friday, Aug. 14, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. for an
Emergency Preparedness Seminar
Sponsored free by
La Center Evangelical Free Church,
5th and Aspen. (360) 263-2217.**

**Jan LeBaron of Healthy Harvest and Rusty Yager will discuss
Key topics:**

- *why prepare for emergency?
- *what about food shortages?
- *where do I begin?
- *how do I store food?
- *cooking and food storage
- *food rotation

- *water storage & purification
- *what else do I need?
- *sanitation
- *mobility
- *security

**ARE YOU READY? . . . FOR EMERGENCIES. . . HOME CRISES . . .
. . . DISASTER?**

SEMINAR IS FREE - Everyone is welcome.

How to Access Weekly Updates from County

For those of you who want to find more complete information about happenings in Clark County, you can access the county website at:

<http://www.clark.wa.gov/neighborhoods/weeklyupdate.html>

The Weekly Update includes the following information:

- **Board of Clark County Commissioners**
- **Community projects and events**
- **Development projects**
- **Land use**
- **News releases**
- **Sex offender notifications**
- **Telephone directory - Clark County offices**
- **Neighborhood association newsletters**

Information re La Center Waste Water Treatment Plant

Information about the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant is available from a box located on a post just above the plant. The brochure discusses the history of the plant, and the numerous steps included in the treatment process. These include the preliminary treatment, the Secondary treatment, Disinfection and Discharge, and Solids Processing. Did you know that the solids from the system are taken to the Lewis River Tree Farm "where they are beneficially reused as fertilizer to grow trees for reforestation."

LaCenter is in the process of upgrading its sewage treatment facility. Work started in June of 2009 and the first phase is scheduled for completion in November of 2010. According to the brochure "The overall appearance of the plant will improve as the new buildings have been architecturally designed to fit in with the existing buildings and decorative handrails will be used around the basins. The hillside just north of the plant will be landscaped with shrubs and groundcover to improve the aesthetic appearance."

"the design of the upgraded wastewater treatment plant provides significant energy savings over typical treatment plant designs."

"In 2007 and 2008, the average water use for the plant was 638,500 gallons a month or 7,600,000 gallons annually. Upon completion of this project the lab and eyewash station are expected to use about 8,100 gallons a month or 97,000 gallons annually, which represents a 98.7% reduction in water usage at

the plant. This improvement will result in a significant cost savings for the city, in addition to providing environmental benefits by conserving groundwater supplies.

For more detailed information you may pick up a copy of the brochure at the treatment plant site.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING – 09/19/2009

All neighborhood associations are required to have one annual meeting a year and Stephen and Lissa Boynton of La Center Farms, have graciously agreed to host this year's annual meeting of EFFNA on Saturday, September 19th, starting at 7:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served. La Center Farms is located at 31215 NE 40th Avenue. The telephone number at the farm is 573-8965.

Our neighborhood association includes more than 400 homes and businesses. Since our inception of April 2008 we have been operating with an interim president, vice-president and secretary and at this meeting we will need to elect these officials. Individuals who have an interest in serving in any of these three positions should attend the September 19th meeting and put their name on the roster.

Please Note that the County will provide us with four signs to delineate the boundaries of our neighborhood association. We can decide where to place these signs at the meeting. **At the end of this newsletter, in preparation for the annual meeting, are the Administrative Guidelines for Neighborhood Associations as provided by the County.**

PLEASE call Sandra Bennett at 263-3336 if you will be attending so that we may provide sufficient refreshments.

Administrative Guidelines for Neighborhoods

Neighborhood associations wishing to participate in the Neighborhood Outreach Program and receive neighborhood association services from the county will meet the following criteria:

1. Each neighborhood association will adopt a set of bylaws for its organization which will govern rules of procedure (including voting), membership, frequency of meetings, organization and duties of officers. The neighborhood association will keep a copy of its bylaws on file with the county.
2. Each neighborhood association will keep a current copy of its roster of board members on file with the county.
3. Clark County neighborhood associations are not agents of Clark County government.
4. The membership of neighborhood associations will include all residents, property owners, businesses, and a representative of non-profit organizations within the neighborhood.
5. The boundaries of the associations will be defined by the association in consultation with the county. Every attempt should be made to avoid and eliminate overlapping

boundaries. New associations formed within the Urban Growth Boundary must contain a minimum of 75 households.

6. No membership fees will bar any resident from participating and voting. Voluntary dues, contributions, contracts, grants or subscriptions may be used by a neighborhood group.

7. Neighborhood associations must hold at least one general meeting per year to maintain their active status. The general meeting must be listed in The Columbian's Neighborhood Meetings section, and additional efforts to notify residents of the meeting will be strongly encouraged. (It is requested that all neighborhood association meetings be listed in the Neighborhood Meetings Section for easy reference by citizens, in addition to notification through flyers and newsletters.)

8. Neighborhood Associations who use the county's photocopying services for monthly newsletters agree to the following conditions as well as the guidelines outlined on the neighborhood association mailing instruction sheet.

a) To include the following disclaimer on each issue: *Neighborhood association newsletters are copied free of charge by the Clark County Public Information and Outreach office. The information and views expressed are solely those of the neighborhood association and not of Clark County government or the Public Information and Outreach Office.*

b) To not include any advertisements, editorials, religious or political endorsements, statements or positions on ballot propositions or candidates for an election, in compliance with RCW 42.17.130.

DO YOU KNOW: According to Holly Gaya, Outreach/Emergency PIL Coordinator for Clark County, our neighborhood includes 401 mailing labels. Currently, via email, we are only reaching 55. Please help us increase that number. If you are receiving our newsletters by email and know of a neighbor in our area who does not have email, would you please print out a copy and share it with them.

DO YOU KNOW someone in the Military who could use some financial guidance? A Military-Family Guide giving "the lowdown on tax breaks and savings opportunities for service members is available at www.kkiplinger.com/links/military .

DOES SOMEONE YOU KNOW need information on college aid? Check out www.Kiplinger.com/links/paycollege for everything you need to know to qualify for the maximum amount of college funding.

Sandra S. Bennett, Interim President, Ph: 263-3336,
Gabriel364@aol.com

Margaret Shelly, Interim Vice-President, mrshe066@gmail.com
Susan Woodrum, Interim Secretary, Woodys5@aol.com

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