



Duvall News

Volume 10, Issue 11 City of Duvall • 15535 Main Street NE • PO Box 1300 • Duvall, WA 98019 • 425-788-1185 • Fax 425-788-8097 December 2011

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Community,

I hope all of you enjoyed your Thanksgiving holiday and spent it with family and friends. My Thanksgiving was a bit challenging with three boys in a car heading to Portland.

Speaking of challenges, I wanted to update you on a couple of the challenges our City has faced and how the council and the staff have overcome them. The first is the budget. When we started preparing the 2012 budget, we realized that we were facing declining revenues and increasing costs. Yet over several weeks and many conversations with council and staff we were able to develop a budget that continues to manage our expenses in a conservative way and still provide the essential services all of you rely on in Duvall. The second challenge has been the city's desire to strongly support community events, yet have a limited budget to support them. Therefore, over the last several months the City Council Finance Committee, led by Dianne Brudnicki, Gerard Cattin, and Elizabeth Walker met with Kass Holdeman, Cultural Commission liaison, and Finance Director Jill Long to establish a process to manage the many requests that we receive each year. The process is still being refined, but I am very proud of their work.

On a different note, I hope that all of you enjoyed the Tree Lighting Event and had a chance to share your Christmas wishes with Santa. It is always great to see so many families at the event. I also want to thank all of the community groups that supported the event.

Finally, with the recent election in Duvall there will be a couple of new faces on the council next year. The first, who has already started his term, is Leroy Collinwood. Leroy is taking the seat vacated by Vicki Edwards. Secondly, Becky Nixon will be replacing Dianne Brudnicki on the council. Becky will start her term in January. Congratulations to our new council members.

Dianne is someone a lot of us, including myself will miss. Dianne has given Duvall a great deal of art, culture and for me, an appreciation of creating a robust downtown project with a focus on our history and culture. Dianne, we will miss you and wish you the best on your next adventure.

Enjoy your Christmas Holiday and say "Hi" to Santa for me.

Sincerely,

Will Ibershof



EVEN BIODEGRADABLE SOAP CAN POLLUTE WATER SOURCES

We'd like to clear up some misconceptions about biodegradable soap. Biodegradable soap is not a safe addition to stormwater drains and should be kept from running into the stormwater drainage system. Biodegradable soaps are preferred over other soaps but should still be used at least 200 feet from any water sources.



All soaps, unfortunately even biodegradable ones, can contaminate fresh water sources. Using a biodegradable soap doesn't reduce its immediate environmental impact it just means that the soap will biodegrade over time.

What does biodegradable mean? Well by definition it means capable of being decomposed by biological agents like bacteria. Materials are usually deemed biodegradable if they break down to at least 90% H₂O, CO₂ and biomass within 6 months, although some materials may take years to biodegrade. Keep in mind that biodegradability doesn't necessarily mean environmentally friendly.

People washing their vehicles where the soapy water runs into a drainage ditch or storm drain is part of the stormwater pollution problem. Wash your car in an area where the soapy runoff will be absorbed by the ground or take your car to a commercial car wash. Many car washes in the area reclaim the wash water and then discharge the used water into the sanitary sewer system for additional treatment before being released into Puget Sound.

The bottom line is soapy water should not be allowed to flow into the street or into a drainage ditch. We all need to do our part to keep Puget Sound beautiful!

City of Duvall offices will be closed for the following holidays:

**December 26th (Monday)
in Observance of the Christmas
Holiday**

**January 2nd (Monday)
in Observance of New Year's Day**



FLOODING REMINDERS



This time of year always brings rain. Lots and lots of rain. As most of you already know, for us here in the Snoqualmie Valley, all that rain means occasional flooding. It is a fact of life for us and we have to learn to deal with it when it occurs. Roads will likely close due to flooding at some point this season and when they do, we ask that you be patient with our Police Officers as they try to get you to and from wherever you need to go as quickly as possible. Here are some tips on how you can help:

Work from home if you can during a flood or change your hours so that your commute will be different than the majority. That would mean one less car on the road and less time for you spent in traffic.

Contact King County Roads to find out about closures before you leave. You can call them at 800-527-6237 or go to their website at www.kingcounty.gov/transportation/kcdot/roads. Another good resource for this information is the Regional Public Information Network (RPIN) at www.rpin.org/rpinweb/. There are also other resources available at www.kingcounty.gov/safety/prepare.aspx

Go for a drive during the weekend when it is not flooding to find an alternate route that makes sense to you. You can find some options on our website at www.duvallwa.gov/helpfullinks.

Most importantly, BE SAFE & SMART! If a road is closed, it is closed for a reason and illegal to cross. Even if you cannot see water on one side of the valley, it may be on the other side. Do not try to cross a road with standing water on it, it is deeper and swifter than you think. If you think a road should be re-opened, please contact King County Roads at the number listed above or the Duvall-Carnation Police Department at 425-788-1519.



WATER, SEWER, & STORM RATE INCREASE

Each year the utility rates are adjusted by the July-June Consumer Price Index (CPI-U) for the Seattle-Tacoma area. The last utility rate increase was January 1, 2009 as there were no increases in the CPI for 2009 or 2010. The July-June Seattle-Tacoma CPI-U for 2011 is 3.2% and this increase will apply to the water, sewer, and storm utility rates on January 1, 2012 and will appear on the utility bills that are sent out in February 2012. (This is the January *usage* bill.)

This increase is to keep up with the rising costs of repairing and maintaining the water system, sewer collection and treatment systems, and the storm drain system. While new development pays for growth related expenses of the utilities through connection and capital facilities charges, the monthly utility billings pay for the ongoing operations.

The minimum increase will be \$3.26 collectively per month. If you have any questions, please contact Jill Long, Finance Director, at 425-788-1185 or email to jill.long@duvallwa.gov.

CHRISTMAS TREE-CYCLING

After you remove all the ornaments and tinsel, here are two environmentally friendly options for recycling your tree:

Curbside Yard Waste - SUBSCRIBERS ONLY

Put your tree in your yard waste container. Trees must be de-limbed and cut into three foot (3') sections. For more information, go to <http://wmnorthwest.com/duvall>.



Duvall & Carnation Scout Collection/Drop-off

Scouts will collect trees door-to-door in selected neighborhoods as a fundraiser on Saturday, January 7th starting at 9:00 a.m. You can also drop your tree off at Duvall's Taylor Landing Park on Saturday, January 7th by 12:00p.m. (noon) or at Carnation Tree Farm by 2:00 p.m. Suggested donations of \$10 or more are appreciated.

Elected Officials

Mayor	Phone Number	Email Address
Will Ibershof	206-255-2855	will.ibershof@duvallwa.gov

Council members		
Gérard Cattin	425-788-3004	gerard.cattin@duvallwa.gov
Leroy Collinwood	206-724-1880	leroy.collinwood@duvallwa.gov
Elizabeth Walker	425-844-9038	elizabeth.walker@duvallwa.gov
Dianne Brudnicki	206-499-6120	dianne.brudnicki@duvallwa.gov
Gary Gill	425-844-6259	gary.gill@duvallwa.gov
Amy Ockerlander	206-300-4483	amy.ockerlander@duvallwa.gov
Jeff Wolf	206-940-3120	jeff.wolf@duvallwa.gov

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



December 8th & 22nd : City Council Meetings - 7:00 p.m. in the meeting room of the Duvall Fire Station.

December 7th & 21st Planning Commission Meeting - 7:00 p.m. at the Duvall Community Center.

PLEASE NOTE: The second Council Meeting in December may be cancelled due to the Christmas holiday.