



**Island County
BOARD OF HEALTH**

P.O. Box 5000 ~ Coupeville, WA 98239-5000
(360) 679-7350

July 6, 2004

Dear _____,

I am writing to invite you or your designee to an important meeting about the issue of illegal dumping and littering in Island County. You have been identified as an advocate for actively addressing this issue due to your prevention, education, regulation, enforcement and/or clean-up efforts.

This forum is sponsored by the Island County Environmental Health Assessment Team (EHAT) whose citizen members were appointed by the Board of Health in 2002. This group of Island County community volunteers identified illegal dumping and littering as an environmental health issue of concern for our county.

Other than its obvious unattractiveness, illegal dumping and littering results in the potential for:

- Contamination of our soil, air and water
- Safety Hazards: physical injuries, and fire from highly combustible materials
- Breeding ground for rats, mice, and mosquitoes (vectors for Plague, Hanta virus and West Nile virus)
- Adverse economic impact from decreased land values, decreased tourism and increased costs for clean-up

The purpose of the forum:

- Facilitate communication and cooperation around the issue of illegal dumping and littering in our communities
- Identify various roles of agencies, communities and businesses
- Identify gaps or concerns in addressing this issue
- Discuss how gaps could be filled
- Identify potential solutions and partnerships

The forum on illegal dumping and littering will be held:

Tuesday, July 20th, 2004
8:00 - 10:00 AM
Coupeville Recreational Hall
Refreshments will be provided!

Please RSVP to Celine Servatius at 678-7886 or by email at celines@islandcounty.net and plan to join us for this important event as we work together to make a difference in Island County.

Sincerely,

Mike Shelton
Island County Commissioner
Island County Board of Health