



Island County
WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

Thursday, September 4, 2008 3:00-5:00 PM

Camano Island Senior Center (606 Arrowhead Road, Camano Island)

A. Call to Order and Guest Welcome

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| Citizen Members | <input type="checkbox"/> Larry Bach (co-chair) | <input type="checkbox"/> Barbara Brock | <input type="checkbox"/> Julius Budos |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gary Fisher | <input type="checkbox"/> Grant Heiken | <input type="checkbox"/> Dean Thiem | |
| Technical Advisors | <input type="checkbox"/> Jeff Bash | <input type="checkbox"/> Bob Friedman | <input type="checkbox"/> Linda Lyshall |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Erika Peterson | <input type="checkbox"/> Lois Ruskell | <input type="checkbox"/> Ann Wick | |
| Island County Staff | <input type="checkbox"/> Doug Kelly | <input type="checkbox"/> Jerry Mingo | <input type="checkbox"/> Jill Wood |
| Guests | <input type="checkbox"/> Scott Chase | <input type="checkbox"/> Peter Domoto | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mahmoud M. Abdel-Monem | | | |

B. Adopted August 7 WRAC Meeting Minutes

C. Announcements

- Bob Friedman will be appointed to the WRAC.
- Doug Kelly is leaving Island County to work for Pacific Groundwater Group in Seattle.

D. Puget Sound Partnership Discussion – Linda Lyshall

Linda gave an update of the development of the Action Agenda related to the Whidbey Action Area. Discussed major priorities and concerns related to the Watershed Management plan including; seawater intrusion, groundwater protection, water conservation, and reclaimed water, LID, low interest loans for small water systems, permit for rainwater catchments, climate change, and protection of habitat, salmon recovery, and septic systems. Leadership council recognizes the need for protection of land, education, and increased scientific understanding. Action items will be related to restoration and reducing source of water pollution in fresh and salt water. Low Impact development will likely be an initiative stemming from the action agenda.

E. Pharmaceuticals in Drinking Water – General Discussion

Proper disposal (Federal Standards) of pharmaceuticals: 1) Take unused, unneeded, or expired prescription drugs out of their original containers. 2) Mix the prescription drugs with an undesirable substance, like used coffee grounds or kitty litter, and put them in impermeable, non-descript containers, such as empty cans or sealable bags, further ensuring that the drugs are not diverted or accidentally ingested by children or pets. 3) Throw these containers in the trash. 4) Flush prescription drugs down the toilet only if the accompanying patient information specifically instructs it is safe to do so. 5) Return unused, unneeded, or expired prescription drugs to pharmaceutical take-back locations that allow the public to bring unused drugs to a central location for safe disposal. For more information got to http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/drugfact/factsht/proper_disposal.html.

Many people and agencies flush pharmaceuticals. The larger contributor of adverse effects in water is due to flushing pharmaceuticals. Conventional waste water treatment plants and on-site drainfields are not designed to handle flushed pharmaceuticals. IC Solid Waste and IC Public Health are working together to implement a policy on proper disposal techniques. Short term solutions: After IC policy is approved, WRAC will work on educating the community on proper disposal techniques, where pharmaceuticals would go into the solid waste stream. This is not an extra burden on IC as materials are moved off island to a lined landfill. Long term solutions: WRAC to draft a letter to State or National Legislators to work on a state wide take-back program.

F. WRAC Discussion on IC Planning Documents - No Discussion

G. Subcommittee Updates

- Salmon Technical Advisory Group – No Update
- Potable Water Emergency Preparedness – No Update
- Groundwater Team - No Update
- Surface Water Team – No Update
- Nonpoint Planning and Implementation - No Update

H. New Business

I. Meeting Closure

Next meeting: October 2, Taylor Road Fire Station (Oak Harbor)

Please Note: Agenda items may change without notice. All efforts will be made to send revised agendas out via email; if interested in any recent changes, please call 360-678-7888.