



KITSAP COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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COUNTY HOSTS SHORELINE PRESENTATION BY DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

Role of State Agency in Local Shoreline Program Updates to be Explained

Experts from Washington's Department of Ecology (Ecology) are presenting information and answering questions on the state-local shoreline program update process at a special meeting arranged by the Department of Community Development. The presentation is Thursday, April 15, 2010, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m., in the Commissioners Chambers room at the Kitsap County Administration Building (619 Division Street) in Port Orchard.

Kitsap County is required to update its Shoreline Management Master Program (SMP) by 2012. Ecology is funding the update. The SMP is a comprehensive land and water use management plan that includes policies and regulations for use and development of County shorelines. Kitsap County has over 225 miles of saltwater, stream and lakefront shorelines that support diverse environmental, economic, and recreational uses. A three-year planning process joins citizens and County government in a cooperative effort to update the plan. Once that process is complete, the plan is proposed to Ecology. Ecology reviews the update and has final approval on the plan.

"This presentation helps citizens learn more about the shoreline management program requirements and helps us understand how the County conducts the cooperative update process," said Josh Brown, County Board of Commissioners chair.

Kitsap County signed a formal \$650,000 grant agreement with Ecology in June 2009 that spells out work products, maps and reports required within the three-year update effort. See the latest information about the process at www.kitsapshoreline.org.

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