



Weekender

January 29, 2010

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING

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On Saturday Jan. 30th at 1:00 pm, the captains from the four Surfside Neighborhood Watch groups will be holding a joint meeting in the Community Room at the Surfside Business office. This will be an opportunity for the captains to meet the other watch captains as well as the new Surfside Deputy Paul Jacobson. This informal meeting will be a general discussion of our watch programs and question and answers with Larry Clark and Deputy Jacobson.

The public is invited to attend and observe this captains meeting. Following the captains meeting, George Miller, chairperson of the Surfside Neighborhood Watch program, will answer questions on how to form a watch group in your neighborhood, how to become captains and any other questions the public may have.



OFFICE HOURS



THE BUSINESS OFFICE HOURS
WILL RETURN TO THE NORMAL TIMES
9:00 AM TO 5:00 PM
MONDAY THRU FRIDAY
SATURDAY 9:00 AM TO 1:00 PM
EFFECTIVE MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2010

Bunco Group

Surfside Bunco Group

Meets the second Tuesday of Every

Month at 6:30

- Every month beginners are welcome
- This will be held the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Surfside Board/Community Room at 6:30 pm
- One table snack will be provided. Bring you own drinks.
- This is a perfect chance for you to join a group and not have to host in your home.
- To get in on the FUN, call Valerie at 665-0804.
- This group is both men and women
- Cost is five dollars a month
- Come have fun!
- **Everyone is welcome. You do not**

have to be a member of Surfside to play!



FOSTER CHILDREN CHRISTMAS PROJECT

Thanks to the generosity of Surfside Members Christmas was brighter for eight foster children this year.

Twenty-eight members donated \$ 1435.00

Five members donated gifts valued at \$ 411.57

The Taylors (Jack and Marilyn) spent \$ 1,272.26

This year saw an increase in our giving both in gifts and money donated. The children served ranged in ages from two months to seventeen years.

SUNDAY COMPACTOR HOURS



**SUNDAY COMPACTOR
HOURS
EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY
9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM**

SPECIAL KITE MAKING EXHIBIT AT THE WORLD KITE MUSEUM LONG BEACH

February 13, 14, & 15, 2010

This one time opportunity gives you a chance to see kite making using the bargello quilting technique for its design. You can watch, listen and ask lots of questions. The whole museum will be dedicated to kite making on these three days



BEAVERS

Beavers (*Castor canadensis*) are the largest living rodents in North America, with adults averaging 40 pounds in weight and measuring more than 3 feet in length, including the tail. These semi-aquatic mammals have webbed hind feet, large incisor teeth, and a broad, flat tail.

Once among the most widely distributed mammals in North America, beavers were eliminated from much of their range in the late 1800s because of unregulated trapping. With a decline in the demand for beaver pelts, and with proper management, they became reestablished in much of their former range and are now common in many areas.

Beavers are found where their preferred foods are in good supply—along rivers, and in small streams, lakes, marshes, and even roadside ditches containing adequate year-round water flow. In areas where deep, calm water is not available, beavers that have enough building material available will create ponds by building dams across creeks or other watercourses and impounding water.

Beaver dams create habitat for many other animals and plants of Washington. In winter, deer and elk frequent beaver ponds to forage on shrubby plants that grow where beavers cut down trees for food or use to make their dams and lodges. Weasels, raccoons, and herons hunt frogs and other prey along the marshy edges of beaver ponds. Migratory water birds use beaver ponds as nesting areas and resting stops during migration. Ducks and geese often nest on top of beaver lodges since they offer warmth and protection, especially when lodges are formed in the middle of a pond. The trees that die as a result of rising water levels attract insects, which in turn feed woodpeckers, whose holes later provide homes for other wildlife.

The beaver's incisors (front teeth) are harder on the front surface than on the back, and so the back wears faster. This creates a sharp edge that enables a beaver

to easily cut through wood.

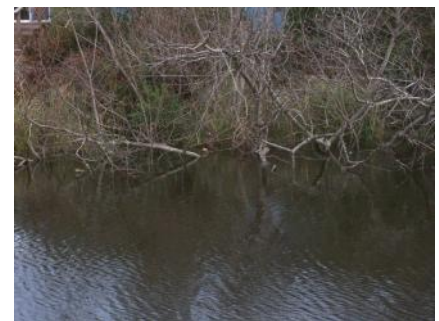
Like many rodents, beavers construct nesting dens for shelter and for protection against predators. These may be burrows in a riverbank or the more familiar lodges built in the water or on the shore (shown here). However, the basic interior design varies little and consists of one or more underwater entrances, a feeding area, a dry nest den, and a source of fresh air.

Facts about Washington's Beavers

Food and Feeding Habitats Beavers eat the leaves, inner bark, and twigs of aspen (a favorite food), alder, birch, cottonwood, willow, and other deciduous trees. Beavers also eat shrubs, ferns, aquatic plants, grasses, and crops, including corn and beans. Coniferous trees, such as fir and pine, are eaten occasionally; more often, beavers will girdle and kill these trees to encourage the growth of preferred food plants, or use them as dam building material. Beavers have large, sharp, upper and lower incisors, which are used to cut trees and peel bark while eating. The incisors grow their entire lives, but are worn down by grinding them together, tree cutting, and feeding. (Fig.1) Fermentation by special intestinal microorganisms allows beavers to digest 30 percent of the cellulose they ingest. When the surface of the water is frozen, beavers eat bark and stems from a food "cache" (a safe storage place) they have anchored to the bottom of the waterway for winter use. They also swim out under the ice and retrieve the thick roots and stems of aquatic plants, such as pond lilies and cattails. Food caches are not found consistently where winters are comparatively mild, such as in the lowlands of western Washington.



The trails where beavers enter and leave the water are called slides.



Beaver cuttings on the canal behind the Surfside Business Office.

BEAVERS PREVENTING CONFLICT

Preventing Conflicts

Despite an appreciation for beavers and our best intentions to live with them, beavers can become a problem if their eating habits, and dam or den building activity, flood or damage property.

Before beginning any beaver control action, assess the beaver problem fairly and objectively. Are beaver really causing damage or creating hardship requiring control action? The very presence of beavers is often seen as a problem when, in fact, the beavers are causing no harm. You should also determine the type of damage or problem the animals are causing, and then match the most appropriate and cost-effective controls to the situation.

Once you have decided to control beaver damage, you have three control options: prevention, beaver translocation, or lethal control.

To prevent conflicts or remedy existing problems:

Choose and place plants carefully.

Plant areas with Sitka spruce, elderberry, cascara, osoberry (Indian plum), ninebark, and twinberry, because they are not the beavers' preferred food plants. Densely plant aspen, cottonwood, willow, spiraea (hardhack), and red-twig dogwood because, once their roots are well established the upper parts of the plants often resprout after being eaten. Planting preferred plants away from known beaver trails will limit losses.

Note: Beavers do use plants as construction materials that they might not eat.

Install barriers.

The trunks of individual large trees can be loosely wrapped with 3 foot high, galvanized welded wire fencing, hardware cloth, or multiple layers of chicken wire (Fig. 6). Barriers can be painted to make them less noticeable. Welded wire fencing coated with green vinyl that helps the fencing blend in is also available.

Lengths of corrugated plastic drainpipe can be attached around the trunks of narrow-diameter trees.

Note: Dark-colored pipe can burn trunks in full sun; wider diameter pipe or pipe with holes in it may prevent overheating problems.

Painting tree trunks with a sand and paint mix (2/3 cup masonry grade sand per quart of latex paint) has proven somewhat effective at protecting trees from beaver damage. The animals presumably don't like the gritty texture.

Note: Preventing access to food sources may force beavers to eat other nearby plants, including roses and other ornamentals.

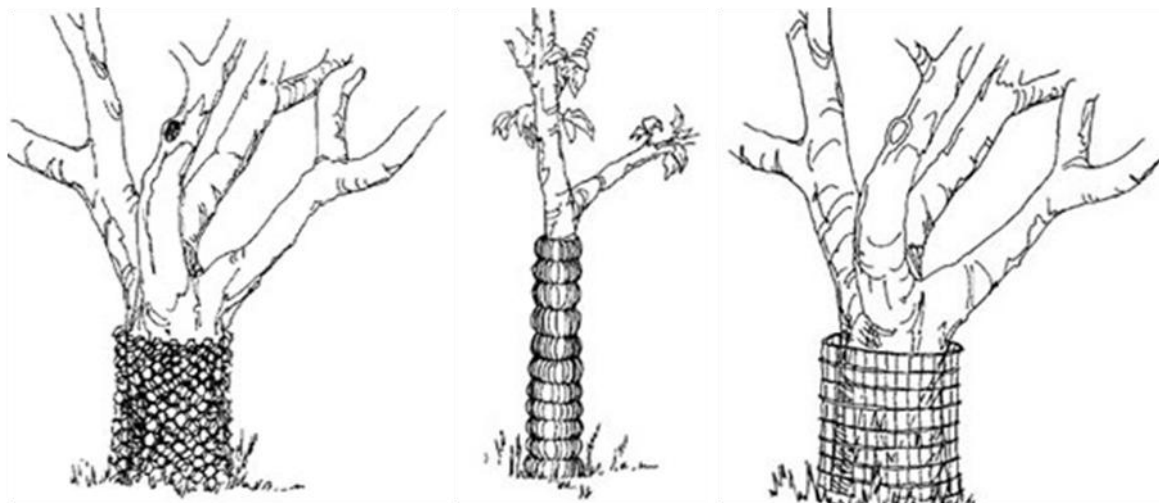


Figure 6. Various barriers can be used to protect plants from beaver damage. All plants should be protected to at least 3 feet above ground—or the snow line—and inspected regularly.

(Drawings by Jenifer Rees.)

GAME NIGHT

Game Night Returns!

Starting Saturday, January 23, 2010 game night will resume in the Board/Community Room at the Surfside Business Office.

- 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm
- Bring your favorite board or card game.
- Rejoin "old friends" make "new friends."
- Bring a treat to share and your own soft drink.
- Everyone is welcome you do not have to be a Surfside Member to participate.
- For more information contact: Valerie Harrison at 665-0804



100 DAYS OF COLOR PROGRESS



January 7, 2010 Peeking thru



JANUARY 22, 2010



January 26, 2010 Color Showing

Free Firewood!

There is once again **FREE FIREWOOD**

Located to the south and west of the 315th Street bridge on H Street.

Come by cut it up and haul it away!



January 2010

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

24

25

26 Architectural
Committee 9:00 am

27

28

29 Tree Committee
Meeting 1:00 pm

30 Neighborhood
Watch Meeting 1:00 pm

31

February 2010

1

2 Architectural Com-
mittee 9:00 am
Community Relations
Committee 1:00pm

3

4

5

6

7

8

9 Architectural Commit-
tee 9:00 am
Bunco 6:30 pm

10 RV Committee
9:00 am.

11 Lands and
Buildings Committee 1:00
pm

12

13

14



15

16 Architectural
Committee 9:00 am

17

18

19

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Board Meeting 9:00 am

21

22

23 Architectural Committee
9:00 am

24

25

26

27