



Weekender

March 26, 2010

SPRING CLAM DIGS ANNOUNCED

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Marking the start of the spring season, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) has tentatively scheduled razor-clam digs on ocean beaches late this month and again in mid-April.

As always, final approval of both digs will depend on results of marine toxin tests that show the clams are safe to eat.

Prospective diggers should note that the first opening – scheduled March 26-April 1 at various ocean beaches – starts on evening tides, then switches to morning tides for the final four days, said Dan Ayres, WDFW coastal shellfish manager.

“The digs planned this month span the seasonal change, when the lowest tides shift from evening to morning hours,” Ayres said. “As in past months, razor-clam digging will be allowed after noon for the first three days of the opening, but will then switch to morning hours starting Monday, March 29.”

Tentative days, tides and beach openings for this month’s dig are:

- Friday, March 26, (4:29 p.m., +0.1)
- Saturday, March 27, (5:19 p.m., -0.1)
- Sunday, March 28, (6:04 p.m., 0.0)
- Monday, March 29, (6:35 A.M., -0.1)
- Tuesday, March 30, (7:22 A.M., -0.7)
- Wednesday, March 31, (8:07 A.M., -1.0)
- Thursday, April 1, (8:52 A.M., -1.0)

Another dig is also tentatively scheduled on morning tides in mid-April at Long Beach on the following days and beaches:

- Friday, April 16, (8:32 A.M., -0.7)
- Saturday, April 17, (9:12 A.M., -0.7)
- Sunday, April 18, (9:56 A.M., -0.6)

Any 2009-10 annual shellfish/seaweed license or combination license is valid through March 31. However, a new license will be required for anyone age 15 or older to participate in the April dig. Descriptions of the various licensing options are available on the WDFW website at <https://fishhunt.dfw.wa.gov>.



100 DAYS OF COLOR PROGRESS



January 7, 2010 peeking thru.



March 18, 2010



March 26, 2010

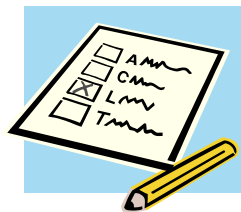
Candidates for Board Positions Sought

There are four Board Positions that will be open for election at the annual meeting in July. Three of the positions are for three year terms. One is a one year position. If you have an interest in serving your community, and helping to assure that Surfside is a great place to live, consider running for one of these open positions. Applications for the Board Positions need to be received by May 1, 2010.

The application packet for Board Positions is available at the Surfside Office.

Or

On the Surfside Web Site: www.surfsideonline.org



NOTES FROM THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The Community Relations Committee is working on the upcoming events:

1. A spring Planting Demonstration for late April, in preparation for Mother's Day.
2. The 3rd Annual Memorial Day Weekend Garage Sale....May 28, and 29 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm
3. Dedication of the Surfside Veterans Memorial at the 306th Place bridge mid June (hopefully for Flag Day)

ANNUAL SYSTEM FLUSHING

Surfside Water Department to test water flow and hydrants and begin annual System flushing beginning Monday March 29, 2010

The Surfside Water Department has announced that, starting Monday March 29th, our annual flushing program will begin. The flushing will be done between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and will continue for approximately one month.

Customers may experience temporary low pressure and/or water discoloration during the flushing process. If these conditions continue after 3:30 p.m., call the Surfside Water Department at 665-4171 or 360-783-2426

Bob Haskin - KE7TSA

Surfside Homeowners Association

Water & Field Superintendent

Below is one of the hydrants open for flushing!



GARAGE SALE

SURFSIDE MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND GARAGE SALE FRIDAY AND SATURDAY MAY 28TH AND 29TH 10:00 AM TO 3:00 PM EACH DAY Surfside Business Office 31402 H Street

The proceeds from this sale will be used for the purchase of shrubs and landscaping materials at the 306th Street bridge site. The beautiful brass plaque to honor our veterans has arrived. It will be set into a large stone at this site, along with the American Flag.

Donated garage sale items are needed and can be left with Nancy at the compactor.



Nancy Cheney, Larry Nelsen and Larry Raymer move items donated for the garage sale into the Community Relations storage shed.

Picture by: George Miller

Top Ten Native Plants for the Pacific Northwest

Douglas Fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*)

The Douglas-fir is a large to very large tree with a narrow, pointed crown of slightly drooping branches. There are 2 distinct geographic varieties: Coast and Rocky Mountain. Coast Douglas-fir, the typical Douglas-fir of the Pacific Coast, is a very large tree with long, dark yellow-green needles and large cones. From each cone come many paired, long-winged seeds.

Did you know? One of the world's most important timber species, Douglas-fir ranks first in the United States in total volume of timber, in lumber production, and in production of veneer for plywood. It is one of the tallest trees as well and a popular Christmas tree. David Douglas (1798-1834), the Scottish botanical collector, who sent seeds back to Europe in 1827, is commemorated in the common name. The foliage is consumed by grouse and by deer and elk; birds and mammals eat the seeds.

Oregon White Oak (*Quercus garryana*)

The Oregon white oak tree is a dense, rounded tree with a spreading crown of stout branches. Leaves are shiny dark green above, light green and usually hairy beneath. Leaves of the Oregon white oak sometimes turn reddish in autumn. Acorns are stalkless or short-stalked and are sweetish and edible.

Did you know? The oak of greatest commercial importance in the West, this species is used for furniture, shipbuilding, construction, cabinetwork, interior finish, and fuel. It is the only native oak in Washington and British Columbia. The sweetish acorns, often common in alternate years, are relished by livestock and wildlife and were eaten by Indians.

Western Serviceberry (*Amelanchier alnifolia*)

The western serviceberry - also known as juneberry - is a shrub or small tree, usually with several trunks, and star-shaped white flowers. The serviceberry bears fruit in early summer. The fruit is the size of a small apple, is purple or blackish and is juicy and sweet.

Did you know? The fruit of this and related species are eaten fresh, prepared in puddings, pies, and muffins, and dried like raisins and currants. They are also an important food for wildlife from songbirds to squirrels and bears. Deer and livestock also browse the foliage.

Hollyleaf Oregon-grape (*Mahonia aquifolium*)

The hollyleaf Oregon-grape has leathery, holly-like leaflets on stems ending in dense, branched clusters of small yellow flowers.

Did you know? This stout shrub is the state flower of Oregon. The berries of this and other Oregon-grape species are eaten by wildlife and make good jelly. Native Americans made a yellow dye from the bark and wood of this shrubby species. Several are used as ornamental garden plants; in the nursery trade some of them are known by the common name Mahonia.

Blue Elderberry (*Sambucus nigra* ssp. *caerulea*)

The blue elderberry is a large, many-branched, thicket-forming shrub or small tree, often with several trunks, with compact, rounded crown and numerous small, whitish flowers in large clusters. Elderberry fruit is dark blue in color and matures in summer and autumn.

Did you know? The sweetish berries are used in preserves and pies but should never be eaten when fresh and raw. Lewis and Clark first reported Blue Elder as an "alder" with "pale, sky blue" berries. A remedy for fever has been concocted from the bark. Blue Elderberry is planted as an ornamental for the numerous whitish flowers and bluish fruits.

Top Ten Native Plants for the Pacific Northwest

Salal

(*Gaultheria shallon*)

Salal is a shrub-like plant with spreading or erect, hairy stems and whitish to pale pink, hanging urn-shaped flowers. The fruit of the salal is a dark purple berry.

Did you know? The berries are a source of food for wildlife and were once also eaten by coastal Native Americans. The leaves are often used in flower arrangements.

Salmonberry

(*Rubus spectabilis*)

Also known as the salmon raspberry, the salmonberry is an erect or sometimes leaning shrub with weakly armed stems, bright pink flowers, and yellow or salmon-red fruits that resemble a cultivated blackberry in all but color. The fruit is juicy and slightly sweet.

Did you know? On moist, sunny slopes in the Cascades, Salmonberry can form impenetrable thickets. The juicy fruit, which looks like a yellow or orange blackberry, is a welcome trailside snack, though too bland for some tastes. Indians ate not only the berries but also the tender young shoots. Numerous birds and animals also feast on the fruits, which may be abundant in good years. The deep pink flowers are distinctive and may occur along with the fruits.

Hooker's Evening-primrose

(*Oenothera elata*)

Hooker's evening-primrose has a tall, erect, usually unbranched stem with large yellow flowers. This primrose flowers from June to September.

Did you know? Common Evening-primrose, found throughout most of the United States, has similar erect stems, but its petals are less than 1" long. Both are closely related to the Garden Evening-primrose, scattered in the wild from western Washington to California, which is a taller plant with redder sepals, paler petals about 1 1/2" long, and crinkled leaves.

Red Columbine

(*Aquilegia formosa*)

Also known as crimson or scarlet columbine, red columbine has handsome red and yellow flowers hanging over the leaves.

Did you know? The species name *formosa*, Latin for "beautiful," aptly describes this large plant, especially when it has hundreds of lovely flowers nodding over it. There are other species with mostly red flowers, which also attract hummingbirds as pollinators.

Beach Strawberry

(*Fragaria chiloensis*)

The beach strawberry plant is a low plant connected to others by runners. This strawberry plant often grows in patches and has white flowers on stalks slightly shorter than the leaves. The beach strawberry flowers from March to August.

Did you know? The word strawberry comes from the Anglo-Saxon *strewberige*, referring to the berries "strewing" their runners out over the ground. This plant also grows in South America; Chilean plants of this species were the parents in the production of hybrid domestic strawberries. Several species of wild strawberries in the West strongly resemble Beach Strawberry but have thin leaflets.

March 2010

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
21 Annual Quilt Show at Columbia Heritage Museum	22	23 Architectural Meeting 9:00 AM Community Relations Fourth of July Float Meeting 1:00 PM	24	25	26 Clam Dig 4:29 PM	27 Clam Dig 5:19 PM
28 Clam Dig 6:04 PM	29 Clamming Changes to Morning Tides Clam Dig 6:35 AM	30 Architectural Meeting 9:00 AM Clam Dig 7:22 AM	31 Clam Dig 8:07 AM			
APRIL				1 Clam Dig 8:52 AM	2 Water/Field Service Committee 1:00 PM	3
4 	5	6	7	8 Land and Buildings Committee 1:00 PM	9	10
11	12	13 Architectural Meeting 9:00 AM Bunco 6:30 PM Community Relations Committee 1:00 PM	14	15	16 Clam Dig 8:32 AM	17 Board Meeting 9:00 AM Clam Dig 9:56 AM