



FRONT AND CENTER

Summer might be coming to an end, but the Boston Harbor Association activities are not. Last week I was taking a morning walk about the Harbor and was reminded what a wonderful place this is to raise a family. I saw several groups of anxious and excited kids waiting with parents at the bus stop (well, the younger kids were excited – the teens, maybe not so much). We are so blessed with a fantastic neighborhood.



beautiful woods, peaceful water views, and all the wildlife around us. Boston Harbor is truly Olympia's hidden gem. I hope to see lots of families out at our upcoming events this fall!

Larissa, Board President

WE WANT TO KNOW...



Boston Harbor Community Map

Later this month, we'll be surveying the Boston Harbor community to gather anonymous input on awareness of the Association and thoughts about our activities. We are fortunate to have a survey expert, Scott Provost on the board. Thank you, Scott!

Did you know the "Boston Harbor Community" as established in the Association's 1972 Articles of Incorporation goes from Woodard Bay north to the shores of Puget Sound?

Keep an eye out for an invite to complete the survey in your email, mail, this newsletter, or on Facebook and Next Door.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

*Boston Harbor Potluck 9/21
2pm-5pm*

Community Survey, Sept-Oct

*Prop 1 South Bay Fire 10/8
6pm*

*Burfoot Ivy Pulling 10/20
10am-12pm*



ANNUAL POTLUCK SATURDAY, SEPT 21, 2-5



The annual BHA membership potluck will be held Saturday, September 21, from 2-5 pm. We're holding it on Saturday this year so you don't have to choose between the potluck and the Seahawks game on Sunday. Good thinkin', huh?!

The BHA will provide hamburgers and hotdogs free to Association members and \$10 per person for non-members. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share, but if you can't, come anyway! Or volunteer to setup, cleanup, or work the grills. Email jackie.d.ashley@gmail.com to volunteer or look for a signup sheet at the Marina.

You'll also have a chance to renew your Association membership or join for the first time. Dues are \$25/year. Cash, check, PayPal accepted.

"NNO" FUN WITH NEIGHBORS AND FIRE FIGHTERS

Spearheaded by Board Members Jackie Ashley and Larissa James, we held our first National Night Out event on August 6. Several neighbors walked over to the table set up at the corner of Boston Harbor Rd and 73rd Ave to get to know each other and talk with members of South Bay Fire Department about safety issues.

Did you know you can get a "Pets Inside" sticker to alert fire fighters? And a home address marker so medics can easily find you when you call 911? southbayfire.com

National Night Out was started in 1984 to increase awareness about police programs in communities, such as drug prevention and Neighborhood Watch, and to improve relationships with law enforcement. Forty years later, it still serves this purpose but it's also an opportunity for neighbors to come out and meet new neighbors or catch up with old ones.



South Bav FF/First Responders and neighbors at NNO



Marissa, Ocean, and Forest





WATER CONSERVATION AND SYSTEM UPGRADES

During the early July heat wave, Public Works informed us that water levels in our reservoir fell to 79 feet from the norm of 86-89 feet. It's important to keep the reservoir above 80 feet to ensure enough water to respond to fires. Public Works asked us to conserve water and gave us some ways to do it, and we did! Our efforts brought the level back up to around 84 feet. Well done Boston Harborites!

Conserving water, or not wasting it, is always a good idea so here are their suggestions again:

1. Water lawns less and only during early morning or late evening.
2. Fix any leaks in faucets, toilets, or irrigation systems.
3. Limit water use for non-essential purposes like car washing.
4. Use water-efficient appliances and fixtures

For more ways to save, go to [EPAWatersense](https://www.epa.gov/watersense)

In other utility news, the County submitted their annual Water Use Efficiency Report to the Department of Health in June. From June '23 to June '24, leakage in our water system was calculated at 7.9%. The actual leakage or waste is likely less because the measure includes unmetered use through fire hydrants or other unmetered uses (like watering the new native plants at Burfoot! Ssshhh).

To help reduce water leakage, the County will be replacing a number of older water lines in the Boston Harbor service area. This work is funded through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and will be completed in spring/summer of 2025.

In addition to these improvements to the water system, improvements will be made to the Boston Harbor sewer system to reduce infiltration and inflow into some of our STEP (septic tank effluent pump) tanks. This work is scheduled for summer of 2025.

IVY PULLING STARTS OCTOBER 20, 10 AM – 12 PM



Cooler weather and rain loosening up the soil means we can start pulling ivy again (I hear you – Oh goody!). We have made significant progress over the last couple years. Let's keep going! [West Bay Woods](#) in Olympia, [Madrona Woods](#) in Seattle, and Forest Park in Portland show that parks can be cleared of ivy and other invasives. They are great inspiration!

If your kids are in scouts, school, or other groups that need volunteer projects or hours, call Kim, 360-280-0325.

Mark your calendars for the third Sunday of the month, October thru May. Email the Environment Committee BHAEnvironmentComm@gmail.com if you'd like to get email reminders and notifications of other ivy-related news and events.

Connect with the Association and your neighbors on Social Media. We're on [Facebook](#) and [Next Door](#) If you're not a member yet, [join us!](#) Just \$25 per household supports events and minor administrative costs.



FROM FIRE CHIEF VANCAMP ON PROP ONE

An informational flyer is being mailed to residents with answers to frequently asked questions about Proposition One, proposing an excess levy to enhance community response. There will also be a public presentation on Tuesday, October 8, beginning at 6:00 pm at the South Bay Station, located at 3506 Shincke Road NE, Olympia.

LOTS OF PURGING GOING ON

19 households officially participated in the annual garage sale and several others joined in. Customers came from all around Olympia to shop our "treasures." Thanks to Brooklyn Hooper for making the map!

UPDATE ON SEWER SCREEN, BURFOOT PARK

It's official – on August 20th, the county commissioners approved Public Work's purchase of the .07 parcel next to the sewer plant! Thank you to everyone who wrote letters and attended meetings to make this happen.

In the June newsletter, we asked for your input on a proposal to expand Burfoot Park into the 8 acres owned by the County north of the park. We received comments from 35 households. You can see them [here](#). On September 10, we sent the [proposal](#) and these comments (anonymously) to the Board of County Commissioners.

SHORELINE MASTER PROGRAM - COMMENT OPP



As we are a shoreline community, you might be interested in learning about and commenting on Thurston County's Shoreline Master Program (SMP). There is an update currently under review. The public comment period is August 15-September 30, 2024. The Department of Ecology will hold a **public hearing on Thursday, September 19**.

For more details on Ecology's public comment process, or to submit an e-comment, please [refer to Ecology's announcement](#).

For more information on the SMP update, please visit [the County's SMP update homepage](#). If you have questions for County staff, please contact Andrew.Deffobis@co.Thurston.wa.us.

WELCOME TO NEW BOARD MEMBERS!

At our September 9 board meeting, two neighbors volunteered to fill two board seats until the February annual meeting when elections will be held. We so appreciate their willingness to help out! Please welcome Ed Steinweg and Mindy Atkinson. Ed and his wife Lasha raised their family on Fish Trap and now live in the harbor. Mindy moved to the harbor when kids out here were called "harbor rats" (not a nice term at the time!). She raised her own kids out here on Zangle Road where she's lived for 23 years.

Boston Harbor Association Board: Larissa James, President; Kate Gervais, Vice President; Nancy Brown, Treasurer, Web Liaison; Jackie Ashley, Secretary; Kim Kelley, Environment Committee Chair, Newsletter; Nina Goodrich; Scott Provost; John Payne; Ed Steinweg; Mindy Atkinson.