

POULSBO'S FISH PARK

VOLUNTEER COMMUNIQUE



Information: 360.779.9898

Year end 2014



POULSBO PARKS AND RECREATION

2014 was a productive year at Poulsbo's Fish Park!

Thank you for your time, resources and donations. We look ahead to 2015!

Stream Restoration (Trout Unlimited)



Pergola (Scout Abraham Shim)



Poulsbo City Council considers buying 3.77 acres

By Rachel Anne Sawyer
The Poulsbo City Council will be able to keep the land if it is not sold to the private sector.

Poulsbo - Another expansion of Fish Park could be right around the corner. The Poulsbo City Council approves an \$80,000 purchase of 3.77 acres Wednesday.

The lands in the northern corner of the park near Bond Road where Fish Park Creek runs.

While the purchase is covered by a federal grant from the Recreation and Conservation Office, the city has to match the grant with \$80,000 in estimated property value that has been donated, said Mary McCluskey, parks and recreation director. The city will be able to keep the land if it is not sold to the private sector.

The 3.77-acre property, which is part of the estate of Dorothy B. Hilde, went on the market in February, McCluskey said, although the city has been considering an expansion in the area for about eight years and has had other opportunities of the park since the first 10 acres were acquired in 2002. The park currently is 10.3 acres.

Fish Park last expanded in November 2012 with the donation of 2,005 acres to the north end of the park, where a future 10-wheeler parking lot will be.

If the council approves the purchase, McCluskey estimated that the sale will close this fall, making the park 40.07 acres, with plans to add trails next year.

The city is in the final application process for a grant to create a boardwalk and trails connecting the new property to the rest of the park, including a parking lot in the northwest corner. McCluskey said the Recreation and Conservation Office will provide \$400,000 in grant money for the development, and the city will match the grant with \$400,000 — 50 percent from land value, 2 percent from donated labor and 3 percent from city reserves.

See FISH PARK, 5A

2014 "By the Numbers"

- *350 documented volunteers visits.
- *1014 hours were recorded with an in-kind value of \$19,884.
- *\$654 in material donations.
- *12 Steering Committee meetings were held. These committed community members continue to plan, build and fundraise for more improvements. They encourage more people to join in!
- *11 regular, monthly Volunteer Opportunities
- *8 additional work parties were accomplished with outside organizations including the Poulsbo Rotary and Poulsbo Lions/Leo Clubs, NK Girls Soccer, LDS Church, Trout Unlimited, Suquamish Tribe, West Sound Academy, National Day of Service, Liberty Mutual, NPA, New Life Church, Tree Board & Parks & Rec Commission, and the Seattle Arts & Sciences Academy
- *Volunteer opportunities continue on the 3rd Sunday of each month from 1-4 pm*

- With the help of a state grant and property donations, the city purchased a 3.77 acre parcel along Bond Road. The park is now over 40 acres! Come and enjoy your local resource...there are many hidden surprises beyond the parking lot.
- One Eagle Scout project was completed this year—a pergola over a picnic table.
- Another 1000 Fish Park brochures were distributed to visitors via the two kiosks.
- Salmon Viewing Saturday was held on November 1. About 170 people visited the park to learn new things about the riparian area, visit with representatives of different environmental agencies, and discover the salmon lifecycle.
- Many native trees, plants and seeds were planted throughout the year, with over 5,000 to-date.
- Two more groups have signed up to be stewards of a "zone" within the park; this makes 5 groups: 1-The Poulsbo Lions Club 2-WSU Kitsap Extension Stream Stewards, Native Plant Advisors & Master Gardeners 3-Western Washington University (College on the Peninsula, Huxley) 4-The Tree Board & Park Commission and 5-NK/BI Chapter of Trout Unlimited. There are still more zones available for your group or organization! Give Mary a call at 360-779-9898.
- The DNR/Urban Forestry Restoration Project provided a crew to Fish Park, who performed maintenance and restoration improvements in October. WWU students are monitoring the restoration work as part of their curriculum.
- Fundraising has become more important as improvements need to be made on the new park parcels. Grants are being sought, but please call Mary at 360-779-898 if you have ideas or want to make a donation.

Many of you pulled blackberries, raked, planted trees & shrubs, picked up trash and made Fish Park what it is today!