

# Beachcomber Brief Edition

HMC Newsletter

February 2012

## Herron Island Water

Water System Upgrade/Replacement Project  
2012 Groundbreaking

Thanks to all who helped make this day a reality!

*Groundbreaking  
Friday, March 2, 2012 at 1:30 pm  
Herron Island Water Department site  
421 West Madrona Boulevard*

The Water Project is ready to begin. Everyone is invited to celebrate this momentous event. Mark your calendars as we proceed to get the construction off to a great start. Following the groundbreaking there will be coffee and cake at the Community Center.

This water project has evolved over time to include all those from our own little Herron Island to the Federal Government and many people and organizations in between. Representatives from the USDA and staff from various other organizations who assisted us to bring this Project forward will be attending. The replacement of our water lines has been a topic for the island for at least 22 years, maybe more, with unbelievable dedication to providing the best possible solution for everyone. We are taking the steps necessary to preserve our water system- and make an investment in the world's most valuable resource - WATER!



## **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

### **TIP OF THE MONTH**

In light of most of Herron Island experiencing a power outage between January 19<sup>th</sup> and the 22<sup>nd</sup>, our focus this month is on Refrigerated and Frozen Food Safety.

#### **Protecting Stored Foods When the Power Goes Out**

Keep refrigerator and freezer doors closed as much as possible. A full refrigerator will maintain safe temperatures for up to six hours. A full freezer will maintain safe temperatures for up to two days; a half-full freezer for one day. If it isn't practical for you to keep your freezer full of food, consider placing a few gel ice packs in your freezer to maintain optimal temperature in your freezer when the power goes out. These gel packs can also be used to keep fresh foods cold while the power is out.



#### **Foods to Be Concerned About**

Foods are categorized into groups:

- **Potentially hazardous foods** are the most important. These include meats, fish, poultry, dairy products, eggs and egg products, soft cheeses, cooked beans, cooked rice, cooked potatoes, cooked pasta, custards, puddings, etc.
- Some foods **may not be hazardous** but the quality may be affected. These foods include salad dressings, mayonnaise, butter, margarine, produce, hard cheeses, etc.
- Some foods are **safe**. These are carbonated beverages, unopened bottled juices, ketchup, mustard, relishes, jams, peanut butter, barbecue sauces, etc.

#### **When do I save and when do I throw out food?**

Refrigerated foods should be safe as long as the power is out no more than a few hours and the doors have been kept closed. **Potentially hazardous foods** should be discarded if they warm up above 45°F. If possible, use a thermometer to check the temperature of the foods.

Frozen foods which are still frozen are not a problem. If **potentially hazardous foods** are thawed but still have ice crystals, you should use them as soon as possible.

**Never taste food to determine its safety.** You cannot rely upon appearance or odor. Foods may look and smell fine, but if they've been warm too long, food poisoning bacteria may have grown enough to make you sick.

**When in doubt, throw it out!**

**Please join the Emergency Preparedness Committee for its next meeting, Saturday March 10 in the Community Center at 12:30 pm.**

## Thank Goodness for Neighbors

911

On January 19, 2012, a storm knocked down Herron Island power and branches all over the island.

Limbs and downed, live lines were threatening a yellow house near Ralph and Tori Bravo. The lines were sparking, threatening to burn the house and a catamaran in the yard. There were also live wires on East Herron Road (aka the former One Way Road). The Bravos contacted 911 and Peninsula Light Power. Mike Shettlesworth, Emergency Committee chair, tried to get to the scene but there were too many downed branches and lines.

The power company had our power back on by 8:00 pm., but couldn't get their truck down to the Bravos. Meanwhile, Ralph Bravo tried dealing with some of the sparking wires with dirt, but it was too dangerous, and of course, it had gotten worse after the power was turned back on all the lines. Close to 9:00 pm, one of the workers walked all the way down there from Janet Podell's house to check on the situation. When he returned, the workers disconnected those of us on the same wire system as the Bravos and their neighbors from power, because nothing could be done that night about the live wires but turn them off. Our part of the island was down for about 2 ½ days, when Peninsula Light was able to return and fix the downed wire (and, possibly, transformer).

If it hadn't been for the Bravos, the ferry crew, and the Peninsula Light workers who came out on a dark and stormy night, the Bravos' neighbor's house could have been seriously burned. The Peninsula Light Power guys told me that the Bravos' action helped saved the property.

It's great to have neighbors who take positive action instead of just ignoring a bad situation. That's part of what Herron Island is all about.

By Merry A. Kogut

[Note: There were several other incidents around the island that same time, where transformers and wires were sparking. Thanks to all those neighbors who acted quickly and responsibly to help each other out.]

# STORM DEBRIS GOT YOU DOWN?

Your Herron Island Board is working to organize an Island-wide burn to help us all clean up the debris from the recent snow and ice storm. However, the logistics are complicated this year due to ongoing projects that require use of the North Beach Park. While this is being wrestled with, some **Herron Island Members may decide to do their own burns**. As this can be a solution for many please note that there are Fire District 16 Regulations for residential fires that **must** be fully adhered to. These Regulations and Rules are as follows:

- Residential Fires are not permitted at any time during a Fire Safety Burn Ban or during an Air Quality Burn Ban.
- Residential Fires are strictly limited to natural vegetation consisting of leaves, prunings, and other yard and garden refuse. (Grass clippings are NOT allowed.)
- Burning of trash or building materials is strictly prohibited and could result in a monetary fine from the Fire District.
- In addition the Fire District has the following regulations:
  - Debris must be hand stacked
  - Fire size is limited to a maximum of 4' diameter by 3' high
  - Fire must be 25' from any building
  - Fire must be 10' from property lines
  - You must have a 10' firebreak around the fire
  - You must have a charged hose or a shovel with 10 gallons of water on hand and the fire cannot be left unattended
  - Minimum age is 18 years old to attend the fire
  - No fees or permits required when the fire is within the size noted above
  - Burn barrels are illegal in the State of Washington.
  - All open fires **must** be completely extinguished before leaving the immediate area.

It is illegal to smoke out your neighbor. If they complain, you are required to put the fire out immediately. You can be fined for causing a nuisance, and you may be held financially liable for damages caused by your fire. So please be considerate to your neighbors.

Please note that HMC does have a rule against dumping debris and trash on HMC property. Please be thoughtful and don't make your debris someone else's mess.

Call Fire District 16 for Questions and Burn Ban updates at 253-884-2222 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

*In the past, the Beachcomber has been published nine times per year, with no issues in October, December, or February. The HMC Board has decided to publish a brief edition in each of these months in order to stress a few current items that the Membership should be aware of.*

## Request for Emergency Notification List

The HMC office works diligently to keep Member information up to date. One of your Member benefits is to have an emergency notification list kept by the HMC office. This notification is used to contact you or someone of your choice in case there is an emergency situation regarding your property or you. Through your emergency contacts HMC is able to contact you, or your designated representative, if you should have a personal emergency while on the island or there is a situation with your property. Hopefully the office would never have to use your emergency contact list, but situations have risen in the past where HMC needed to use a member's contact list. Please update your emergency contact information by sending the name, telephone and possibly an email address of your contacts to [HMCOffice@herronisland.org](mailto:HMCOffice@herronisland.org), or call the HMC Office at 253-884-9350. Also if you are not signed up to receive HMC notification emails please do so. Currently we are using the mass emailing to notify you of construction schedules, power outages, ferry schedule interruptions and other important events on the island that may impact you.

We appreciate you taking the time to share this important information with us. And as always this information will remain strictly confidential and will only be used for Emergency Notification purposes.

### WINTER FERRY SCHEDULE (10/1 through 3/31)

MON		TUE		WED		THUR		FRI		SAT		SUN	
IS.	ML.	IS.	ML.	IS.	ML.	IS.	ML.	IS.	ML.	IS.	ML.	IS.	ML.
6:15	7:00	6:15	7:00	6:15	7:00	6:15	7:00	6:15	7:00				
7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00				
8:30	9:00	8:30	9:00	8:30	9:00	8:30	9:00	8:30	9:00	8:30	9:00	8:30	9:00
9:30	10:00			9:30	10:00					9:30	10:00	9:30	10:00
										10:30	11:00	10:30	11:00
12:00	12:30	12:00	12:30	12:00	12:30	12:00	12:30	12:00	12:30	11:30	12:00	11:30	12:00
										2:30	3:00	2:30	3:00
3:30	4:00	3:30	4:00	3:30	4:00	3:30	4:00	3:30	4:00	3:30	4:00	3:30	4:00
4:30	5:00	4:30	5:00	4:30	5:00	4:30	5:00	4:30	5:00	4:30	5:00	4:30	5:00
5:30	6:00	5:30	6:00	5:30	6:00	5:30	6:00						
6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00
								7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00
								8:30	9:00				

Thanksgiving and New Years: Lv. Island 8:30, 11:30, 6:30  
Lv. Mainland 9:00, 12:00, 7:00

Christmas: Lv. Island 8:30, 6:30  
Lv. Mainland 9:00, 7:00



# B.O.O.S.T.E.R.S.

March 10, 2012  
Community Center

Membership  
Business Meeting  
4 -5:30 pm

Community Potluck  
6:00 pm

## St. Patrick's Day Theme



### Membership Business Meeting Agenda

Revving up for a spectacular  
2012... we will have a  
Membership Drive, see 2012  
promotional designs, refine our  
event/activity calendar and  
discuss proposed community  
projects. Mark your calendar  
today—and be sure to attend. We  
hope to see you there.





Join us for Parks  
Appreciation Day  
and Clean-up!  
Saturday,  
April 28  
at 9:00 am

## Volunteers Wanted!!!!

We have Projects for  
each Park. Everyone  
can  
contribute.



Volunteer to prepare a delicious  
Potluck style dish.  
Lunch for all participants!

## Highlights

- Install the Docks!
- Ready the Parks for Summer fun!
- Celebrate Earth Day
- Make a difference
- Build community spirit!

## The Parks Committee 6th Annual Parks Appreciation Day and Clean-up!

Meet at North Beach at 9:00 am. Your Parks Committee will be there to direct you to one of our many projects.

For Parks Project questions call Tracy at 253 380 8261 or email: [hmcparcs@herronisland.org](mailto:hmcparcs@herronisland.org)

Coordinate Potluck items with Dianne DeGood: [HMCdianneDeGood@herronisland.org](mailto:HMCdianneDeGood@herronisland.org)

Time: Saturday at 9:00 am

Date: Saturday, April 28, 2012

Each volunteer makes a difference...  
See you there!