



# Beachcomber Brief Edition



HMC Newsletter

February 2013

*The full Beachcomber is published each month except for October, December, and February. The brief edition is published in these months in order to stress a few current items of which the Membership should be aware.*

## **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS** **TIP OF THE MONTH** **YARD WORK SAFETY**



Here in the great Northwest spring often comes in late February. After months of Cabin Fever, we are delighted to begin preparing our yards for those wonderful, sunny, summer months. Our enthusiasm can be seen in positive ways such as a big smile and sunny disposition or, if unchecked, we display our enthusiasm in bruises, bandages, and burns. Did you know that approximately 230,000 people are treated in emergency rooms for injuries stemming from yard work and its associated power equipment? Don't be one of them! The following tips can help you avoid the injuries and maximize the smiles.

### **Dress Appropriately**

Close-fitting long sleeves and long pants protect you from all sorts of garden hazards. They protect you from spiders and bees. They protect you from poisonous plants and sharp twigs and branches. They protect you from sunburn. Most importantly, they're not likely to get tangled up in power tools. Your focus on appropriate clothing needs to include a look at your footwear as well. Wear sturdy, well-fitting shoes or boots. Don't slide out of your slip-ons with a working chain-saw in your hands, or while clearing debris off your roof! Appropriate dress also needs to include safety equipment. Task-appropriate gloves are a must. Running a blower? Don't forget the safety glasses, ear protectors, and dust mask!

### **Examine Your Equipment**

Closely examine all electrical cords for any signs of wear. Cuts or frays are dangerous! Use a GFCI (ground fault circuit interrupter).

Examine your equipment. Loose parts can break off during use and cause extreme injury.

Refresh your knowledge of your equipment. Spend a few minutes going through your owner's manuals for all power tools. Practice first with new equipment and know how to quickly turn it off.

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## Emergency Preparedness (continued from Page 1)

### **Inspect Your Work Area**

Check for hazardous debris and rocks. Remove them before using a mower, weed eater, hedge trimmer, or saw. Flying debris can damage people and property.

When working in shrubbery, make sure you know your plant. Don't prune poison oak or other toxic plants by mistake.

If your task involves digging, take the time to check with your local utilities to locate your underground cables and water lines.

Check your property for future hazards. That pile of pruned branches can become fuel for this year's fire season.

### **Take Care of Yourself and Others**

Pace yourself. You don't have to get it all done in one day.

Stay hydrated - drink water frequently.

Alcoholic beverages and power tools do not mix. Don't operate power equipment under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Have your refreshing beer after your work is completed.

Stay focused. Day-dreaming could cost you an arm and a leg.

Keep children, pets, and adult bystanders at a safe distance. Better yet, keep them completely away to prevent distraction and a trip to the emergency room.

Store your power equipment and sharp tools safely away from children.

**Stay safe and have fun getting ready for the summer of 2013.**

### **Reminder**

All work on HMC property (roadways, ditches, HMC right-of-way, etc.) must be done by a licensed, bonded, and insured contractor, unless the work is done by an employee of HMC Management or other person with the express permission of HMC.



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

Band of Obviously Super, Terrifically Enthusiast Recreation Supporters

## HMC Water System Dedication

It's been a very long time coming, but on February 9, 2013 the Herron Island B.O.O.S.T.E.R.S. were proud to sponsor the HMC Water System Dedication Celebration. It was a wonderful event that included Members, employees and invited guests who shared their amusing and memorable moments from the construction of our new water system.

Many Members and honored guests were in attendance including Mr. Mario Villanueva, USDA WA Director of Rural Development who spoke about the value and importance of this project. Many HMC volunteers and employees were honored with the "Golden Faucet Award" and a great big "Thank You" goes out to all of those Members, past and present who worked so hard to bring the new Water System to completion. It took the combined effort of everyone contributing in large and small ways to bring about this success.

Thank you to all!!

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Next BOOSTERS meeting and potluck will be March 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 at Community Center.

To see the February Island Manager Report, Winter Ferry Schedule, and other documents normally in the Beachcomber, please go to the HMC Website at [herronisland.org](http://herronisland.org).

## Member Input on Draft Rules

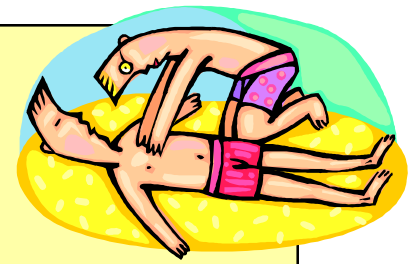
Many members responded to our call for feedback on the Draft Rules published in last month's Beachcomber. The Board is currently reviewing the comments and will be incorporating Member's suggestions as appropriate. Thank you to all who provided their input.

### Family & Friends CPR Class

Presented by Key Peninsula Fire Department

April 13, 12:30 in the Community Building

An Emergency Preparedness Committee Event



Family & Friends CPR is for people who want to learn CPR but do not need a course completion card in CPR for their job. This course is ideal for new parents, grandparents, babysitters and others interested in learning how to save a life. The Family & Friends CPR Course teaches the lifesaving skills of adult Hands-Only CPR, child CPR with breaths, adult and child AED use, infant CPR and relief of choking in an adult, child or infant. *This course does not provide a course completion card; however, you will receive a tear-out participation card in your manual. Class will take between 2 to 4 hours depending on class size.*

*Cost: FREE*

Contact Mike Shettlesworth 884-6919 or Pat Zazzo 884-6719 to reserve your spot.

### **Update on our Roads**

Now that the water construction is essentially complete you are probably wondering about the restoration of our roads. Some of you may have noticed that gravel has recently been distributed on the roads to fill in many of the dips that were created by the construction. This has helped a lot but there is still more to do. And while the heavy rains continue, laying down more gravel will only result in the gravel soaking deeper into the dirt and disappearing altogether. Once the roads have dried out (and compacted) the construction company will return to lay down more gravel and restore the roads to the condition they were prior to the construction. In the meantime, it is important that you drive carefully and avoid the soft side of the road where the new water main pipe was laid. It's easy to identify: just look for the mud! Together we can make it work by using care and common sense. Happy trails!

