



WATERLINE

March 2001

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Renew your membership

Remember to send in your WALPA dues. Be sure your lakes association is a member, too! Send your membership fee to WALPA.

Membership fees are:

- \$15 for students
- \$20 for individuals
- \$30 for professionals
- \$40 for organizations

Send your check to:

WALPA
P. O. Box 4245
Seattle, WA 98104



Contact WALPA:

1-800-607-5498

WALPA Web site

www.nalms.org/walpa/

NALMS Web site

www.nalms.org



Please save *Waterline* issues
for future reference.

WALPA conference in Spokane

Lakes, Reservoirs, and Watersheds with a Special Focus on Federal Initiatives is the theme for WALPA's 14th annual conference, April 6 to 7, at the Shilo Inn in Spokane.

Before the conference begins, Wednesday, April 4, a free Hydrolab Calibration Workshop is offered.

Laurie Mann of the U.S.E.P.A. is the first speaker in a plenary lecture on Total Maximum Daily Loads, the morning of April 6.

Other conference topics include Watershed Studies, Bacterial Contamination Studies, Aquatic Plant Studies, Lake Management under the Endangered Species Act, Stream Bioassessment, Effects of Urbanization on Habitat, Integrated Aquatic Plant Management, and Volunteer Monitoring.

Thursday's luncheon speaker is Charles Goldman of the University of California, Davis, who will talk about Lake Tahoe: The Role of Science and Policy Through Four Decades of Evolving Management.

Friday morning's plenary lecture is by Ken Bevis of the Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife who will speak about Environmental Attitudes: How did we get here?

During Friday's lunch, WALPA President Mike Brett will lead the annual business meeting, and introduce the new Board of Directors and officers.

On Saturday, April 7, Mike Brett will present the WALPA slide show. Speakers will address several topics directly related to lakes' groups issues. At 10:45 am, lakes groups and others will gather for round table discussions on issues of interest to them.

To start the conference, during the early evening of Thursday, April 5, there will be a hospitality social with beverages and food held in the exhibits area. During the next two days, lake-related exhibitors will show their wares, tell their stories, and will distribute their brochures. It's a great opportunity to learn more about companies and organizations that have products or services that may benefit your lake or project.

To register for the the free Hydrolab Calibration Workshop, call T.J. Sisson at 1-208-324-8006 or send an e-mail to elecdata@elecdata.com.

WALPA conference registration fees are \$120 for a full registration and \$60 for a one-day registration. For students, the fees are \$60 for the full rate and \$30 for one day.

To make room reservations at the Shilo Inn, call 1-800-222-2244.

Registration brochures have been mailed to WALPA members and others, by request. To request a brochure, call 1-800-607-5498, and leave your name, phone number, and address.

Malodorous goo rises from Offut Lake's inky depth

In wake of quake, something foul surfaces

by John Dodge, The Olympian

Reprinted with permission of The Olympian. Original copy ran March 13, 2001.

THURSTON COUNTY — Place this one in the geological weirdness file — and not under the “pleasant” category.

Mats of mud, root wads and decomposed vegetation have appeared near the surface of Offut Lake in the wake of the 6.8 magnitude earthquake that rose out of the Nisqually Delta on Feb. 28.

Accompanying the muck is the odor of rotten eggs — and the curiosity of lake residents and scientists alike.

It appears lake sediments and gases were dislodged during the earthquake and propelled to the water's surface, state Department of Natural Resources geologist Pat Pringle said after two visits to the site.

Pringle on Monday poked around on the lake's east end, examining the muck and collecting gas samples for analysis. The foul-smelling gases are indicative of hydrogen sulfide, which can be flammable and poisonous.

One mass appeared to be floating, another appeared to be sinking or still

attached to the lake bottom.

“It's yet another weird effect from the earthquake,” Pringle said. “I haven't seen anything like this in the scientific literature.”

Becky Pogue, owner of Offut Lake Resort, said three of the large masses formed after the earthquake.

She's been out to look at them several times and lent boats to scientists interested in examining the odd features.

“I've learned something new every day,” she said. “It's fascinating.”

But Pogue also worries that the Offut Lake mud masses could pose a health and safety hazard.

The area is only accessible by boat.

Pringle agreed that boaters and anglers should steer clear of the area until more is known about the mud and gas masses.

Then again, they could dissipate soon. All of the masses are less visible than they were two weeks ago, Pogue said.

John Dodge covers the environment and energy for The Olympian. He can be reached at 360-754-5444.



The Olympian
ChrisOBrion

Update by editor: Water lilies were sprayed with an herbicide in the lake last May reports Jim Bachmeier, Thurston County manager of utility development & special services. The earthquake probably loosened and lifted the decomposed sunken mats of vegetation.

It's time for the election

Every year at the conference, WALPA members elect officers and directors to the board. Nominations Chair Heidi Reynolds announces this year's candidates.

President-elect: Rob Zisette
Secretary: Gene Williams
Directors: Maggie Bell-McKinnon, Jim Gawal, Kathie Emmett, Dave Lamb, and Nancy Weller.

This year's officers are President Steve Butkus, Past-president Mike Brett, and Treasurer Sharon Walton.

Returning directors are Debra Bouchard, Kurt Marx, Robin Matthews, Heidi Reynolds and Anthony Whiley.

For those not attending the conference, complete the enclosed ballot by April 2 and mail it to:

WALPA,
P.O. Box 1206
Seattle, WA 98111-1206.

Election results will be announced at the annual meeting, which will be held during the conference in Spokane.

Survey goes to lake property owners

WALPA President Mike Brett and board members have prepared a survey for lakefront property owners. The questions are in several categories: aquatic plants, lake water quality, recreation, watershed and shoreline activities, lake level management, organizational and funding issues, fisheries, and waterfowl and wildlife.

Surveys will be sent to residents throughout the state.

Advertising lake-related products or services in the *Waterline* does not imply endorsement by WALPA or any of its officers.

Waterline newsletter published quarterly

These are the deadlines and publication dates for the next three issues:

| <u>Deadline</u> | <u>Issue date</u> |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| May 1 | June 1 |
| August 1 | September 1 |
| November 1 | December 1 |

Story ideas are always welcome. Send your ideas to *Waterline* Editor Paula Lowe, pmrlowe@aol.com or call 360-491-0109.

Be sure to include the topic, suggested writer, contact person with phone number and e-mail address.

The editor will follow-up and research story ideas that meet within *Waterline's* editorial guidelines.

Speakers talk to associations

Members of WALPA will be available to speak to lakes associations around the state. They'll bring the new slide show and talk with lake residents and others about limnology, eutrophication, food webs, non-point source pollutants and the threats to lakes posed by Eurasian watermilfoil and the zebra mussel, and other subjects.

To schedule a WALPA speaker, call WALPA at 1-800-607-5498.

Waterline accepts ads

The *Waterline* accepts advertising for lake-related products or services. Published quarterly, the *Waterline* reaches lake professionals and scientists, educators, and lake residents.

For advertising information and rates, call Paula Lowe, 360-491-0109, or e-mail her at pmrlowe@aol.com.

Story ideas welcome

The editor of the *Waterline* is always looking for great stories. If you have a story that you would like to share about your lake or lake project, send your idea to Paula Lowe, editor, pmrlowe@aol.com or call 360-491-0109.

WATERLINE is the newsletter of the Washington State Lake Protection Association (WALPA). Send submissions to: Paula Lowe, Expressions, 5202 Rumac St. S.E., Olympia, WA 98513. Articles may be reproduced. Please credit the *Waterline*. For information about the organization call 1-800-607-5498. WALPA is a chapter of the North American Lake Management Society (NALMS).

**WASHINGTON STATE LAKE
PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
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