



May 2012

saveblacklake.org

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Working to improve the water quality of Black Lake, Olympia for the benefit of all users and residents through the management of exotic and invasive aquatic plants.

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UPDATE

\$50,000 grant approved!!

The Department of Ecology has approved an implementation grant that will enable SBL to begin removing invasive weeds from the lake this fall. This will be the second grant awarded to our group in support of our efforts to clean up Black Lake. Our first grant, for \$40,000, went towards funding a professional study of the weed problems we face and to develop the action plan for the work that will be initiated once the second grant is awarded. We have the plan, now we need the funds. And we are almost there!

Once again, SBL is required to match this grant by 25%, therefore, our next task as a community is to raise \$12,500 in required matching funds, to claim this grant. We can't do this without your support! The quickest way to raise this money is for all waterfront property owners to make a donation during this very important pledge drive. Become an honored 'Black Lake Stewardship Society' member today.

Black Lake Stewardship Society

DIAMOND CLUB

\$1,000 and above

GOLDEN SHORES CIRCLE

\$500 to \$999

BLACK LAKE TRUSTEE

\$100 to \$499

FRIENDS OF BLACK LAKE

Under \$100

Mark Your Calendar!

NEXT COMMUNITY MEETING

Thursday, May 24 2012

6:30pm Black Lake Bible Camp

Please visit our website at:

saveblacklake.org

to learn more about Black Lake and our progress so far



www.saveblacklake.org

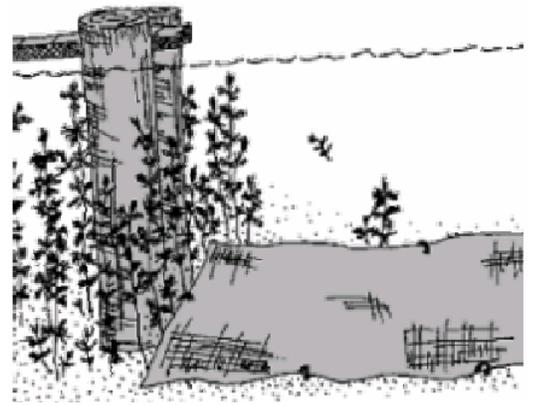
Say Goodbye to Raking Lake Weeds!

**Sign up now to have your LAKE MAT installed
this summer!**

Lake mats (also known as a benthic barriers or bottom barriers) are a safe and immediate solution to aquatic weed management. Lake mats are made of biodegradable burlap material and are placed at the bottom of the lake in swim areas and around docks to remove aquatic weeds.

Weighted down by rocks or sand bags, lake mats block out the sunlight in shallow water (2'-10' depth), similar to leaving a black garbage bag or tarp on your lawn. Lake mats immediately improve a weedy swimming area because they 'lay down' the weeds underneath. Weeds covered by the mat will be eliminated in just a few weeks and the area will stay clear of weeds for a year or longer. Lake mats made of biodegradable burlap are a cost-effective and environmentally friendly solution to controlling aquatic weeds. Plus, there are no dangerous or harmful side effects, ensuring a safe and healthy lake to enjoy. Save Black Lake Coalition has worked with Thurston County to procure several hundred yards of the burlap material to help Black Lake residents remove the weeds around their docks and swim areas. A volunteer group of certified scuba divers from our lake community will be donating their time to help install these mats as a fund raiser to help Save Black Lake raise funds for other important projects on the lake. Suggested donations will range from \$300-\$500 depending on area.

If you are interested in having a mat installed on your lake front, please sign up as soon as possible as we will have limited quantities of burlap. You can sign up at our next Community Meeting on May 24th, or by emailing vernon@saveblacklake.org



Time to Spruce up the Lawn--Summer is Just Around the Corner!

HELPFUL TIPS FOR A HEALTHY LAWN AND A HEALTHY LAKE:

FERTILIZERS:

1. Mulching can reduce the outside fertilizer requirements by 30% or more, as well as providing organic matter to the soil
2. Use only low phosphorus or no phosphorus fertilizers (second number on fertilizer bag). Phosphorus contributes to our blue-green algae problem, which causes our lake to become unsafe for swimming.
3. Use slow release fertilizers, which only require treatment every 3 months vs. every month. This also provides a slow consistent Nitrogen release (first number on bag) keeping your lawn greener longer, and helps to prevent lawn burning.
4. Use a fertilizer with 'Homogeneous pellets' (all chemicals are combined in each pellet providing a consistent delivery of nutrients to your lawn).

SOIL:

A healthy soil means less need to fertilize. Use natural methods such as composting and aerating your lawn to allow better absorption of nutrients and water. Use lime to fix soil Ph balance (consult a lawn care expert for instructions)

WATERING:

1. The BEST time to water is early in the morning.
2. For healthy turf and roots, water DEEPLY and INFREQUENTLY so roots grow deeper.
3. Most lawns only need 1" per week of water. TIP: use a tuna fish can placed on your lawn when you water to measure how much water your lawn is getting.
4. Water twice per week (1/2" each time). Adjust to 3 times per week during our hottest weeks.

