

July, 2007

*Neighborhood
Watershed News
and Information*



Strawberry Point Shoreline, WA Dept. of Ecology, 2001

Protect Your Watershed

Bag pet waste and dispose in garbage can

Maintain your septic system

Keep livestock away from streams & ponds

Apply fertilizers & pesticides properly

Wash cars on grassy strip or at car wash

Cover manure piles

Strawberry Point Project Partners

Whidbey Camano Land Trust

Protects our islands' natural habitats and rural lands in partnership with landowners and the broader community. 360-222-3310 www.wclt.org

Whidbey Island Conservation District

Free non-regulatory technical assistance on farming, forest planning and low impact development for Whidbey residents. 360-678-4708 www.whidbeycd.org

WSU/Island County Cooperative Extension

Research based info & programs for Whidbey & Camano: Beach Watchers, Shore Stewards, 4-H, Agricultural Sustainability & Land Stewardship with Livestock Advisors, Waste Wise and Master Gardeners. 360-679-7327 www.island.wsu.edu

Island Co. Planning & Community Dev.

Resource Enhancement Program administers your County's Salmon Recovery & Water Quality Monitoring Programs. 360-678-5111 x6069 www.islandcounty.net
Is. Co. & WA Parks Cooperating

Neighborhood Get-Together Sat. Morning, Aug 11

Strawberry Point residents and land-owners are invited to a Saturday morning get-together Aug. 11, 10 am - noon at Taylor Road Fire Station.

Stop in and enjoy strawberries and waffles with old friends. Make new acquaintances, and learn what's going on in your neighborhood.

Strawberry Point's watersheds are part of a two-year study being funded by Island County and the State's Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB).

The non-regulatory project is part of a statewide effort to return the region's salmon population to a sustainable level.

Strawberry Point's ecosystem is important to six of the 22 independent Chinook salmon populations. Young fry visit

these waters on their way from the Skagit River to the Pacific Ocean.

Many local property owners are already helping protect the water quality and riparian habitat in their watershed, through voluntary efforts on their land.

Learn what they've done, and what you can do.

Volunteer firefighters from North Whidbey Fire and Rescue will wash your car on the Station's lawn — that's the preferred method nowadays if you don't use a commercial carwash.

Check out exterior patio and parking ideas, including a pervious concrete demo. There will also be watershed-friendly landscaping displays. Take homes include free area maps and pictures, litter bags, a

DVD and how-to's. Island County Planning and Community Development's Resource Enhancement Program is coordinating the event.

We'd appreciate an RSVP—but drop-ins are welcome! 360-678-5111 x6069

Neighborhoods@co.island.wa.us



Ya'll Come! Strawberries & Waffles with your neighbors, Aug. 11, 10 am to noon, Taylor Road Fire Station. 3440 Taylor Rd., North Whidbey! Stop in and see old friends, learn what's going on in your neighborhood watershed, and get your car washed!

Septic Practices Save \$, Protect Water Quality

New state laws now require regular inspections of septic systems, to keep them from polluting surface and ground water.

Here in Island County, these new rules will be phased in over the next 18 months by your County Public Health Dept. An informational program will begin soon.

Helpful Tips:

Maintain Your Septic. Regular checkups & good practices mean your system can function longer with minimal costs and wastes will be properly treated.

Conserve Water. Excessive water use compromises a septic system's ability to treat and dispose of waste. Conserve water to help reduce potential pollution.

No Solids in Septic. Plastics,

cigarette butts, feminine hygiene products, diapers, pet wastes should **not** be flushed. Excess solids may require more frequent pumping.

No Oils, Grease, Chemicals. Don't flush these down your drains or toilet, so your system can function properly.

For more info about Septic Practices, call your Co. Health Dept.— 360-679-7350



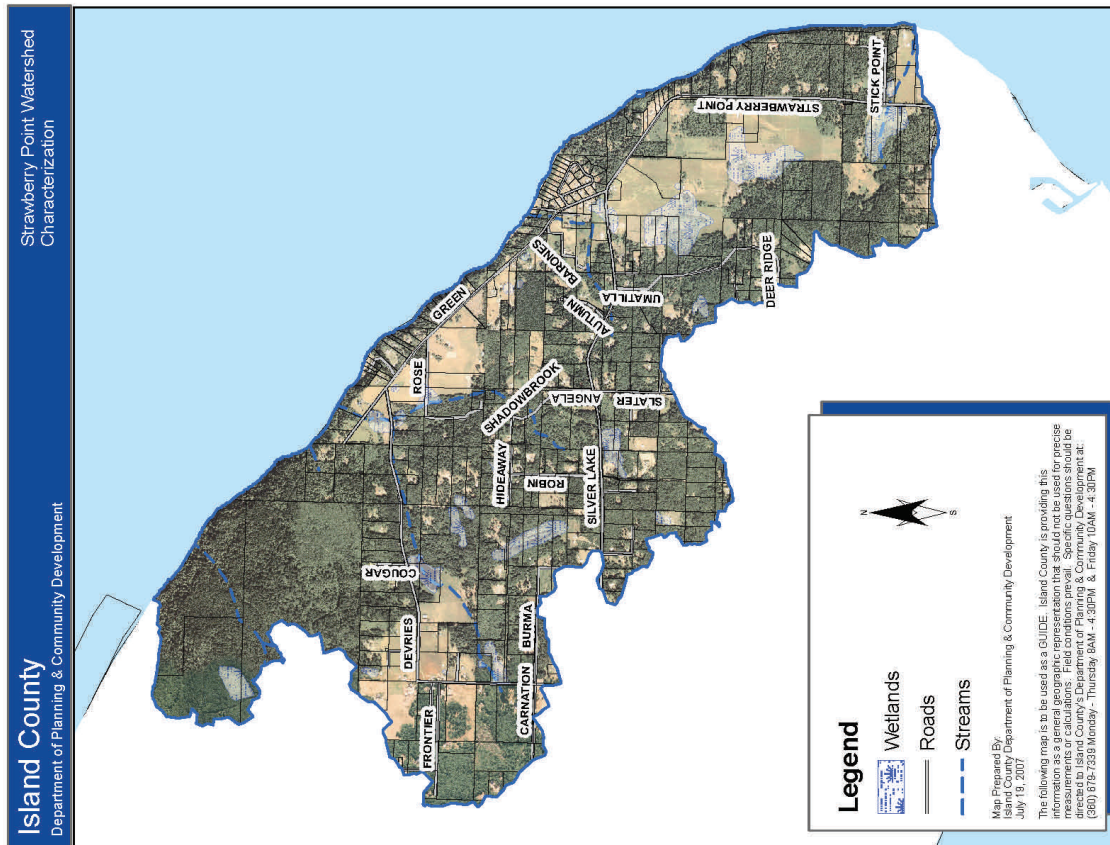
Island County Planning and Community Development

RESOURCE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

1 NE Sixth Street • PO Box 5000
Coupeville, WA 98239-5000

Phone: 360-679-7339 x6069

e-Mail: NEIGHBORHOODS@co.island.wa.us



Aerial view of Strawberry Point watersheds. Surface (rain) water in the neighborhood flows across roofs, pavement, yards and fields, into downhill wetlands and streams, before draining into Skagit Bay. Strawberry Point's watersheds, riparian habitat and near shore marine environment are critical to sustaining juvenile salmon stocks. A two-year study of Strawberry Point is being funded by Island County and the State's Salmon Recovery Funding Board. Learn more about voluntary opportunities for you and your neighbors to take part -- stop by for a "Strawberry Point Strawberry Feed, Aug. 11, 10 am - noon, Taylor Rd. Fire Station. (Enlarged map copies available.)