

**WHATCOM COUNTY
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

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PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS LAKE WHATCOM STORMWATER UTILITY

Bellingham, WA—Whatcom County Public Works is hosting a public meeting to discuss the Lake Whatcom Stormwater Utility Service Area on Wednesday, April 18, 6:30 p.m. at the Bloedel Donovan Park Multipurpose Room, 2114 Electric Ave., Bellingham, WA 98229. Property owners in the unincorporated portion of the Lake Whatcom watershed are encouraged to attend to learn about this new service area and upcoming funding plan process.

Last December, the Whatcom County Council established the Lake Whatcom Stormwater Utility Service Area, which includes the entire unincorporated Lake Whatcom watershed, to provide a mechanism to fund efforts to clean up and protect Lake Whatcom. Existing funding sources are not sufficient to meet current and future Lake Whatcom program needs. Following this public meeting, the County will implement a process to determine funding levels and establish fees. The current schedule is to implement fees in the Service Area beginning in 2019.

Service Area property owners can learn about the funding plan process and how to provide their input at the meeting on April 18. A citizen advisory committee will be established to provide recommendations to Whatcom County Council on rates and charges for the new Lake Whatcom stormwater utility. For information on how to apply to serve on the advisory committee visit <http://whatcomcounty.us/210/Boards-Commissions>. Applicants must maintain a primary residence within the service area and be registered to vote in Whatcom County. The application deadline is 10 a.m. April 25, 2018.

Visit <http://whatcomcounty.us/2830/Lake-Whatcom-Stormwater-Utility> to view a map of the Lake Whatcom Stormwater Utility Service Area. Additional information on the funding plan process and future advisory committee meetings will be posted to this page as available throughout 2018.

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