



CITY OF BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

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Public Invited to Learn About Shorelines

Bainbridge Island, WA, June 8, 2010 – The first presentation in the City’s ongoing Shoreline Education Series took place last Thursday with over 65 citizens in attendance. The series, which will extend throughout the summer, was created by the City to encourage public involvement and participation in the City’s Shoreline Master Program (SMP) Update, which is required under the Washington State Shoreline Management Act (SMA).

Upcoming events in the series include:

- *Shoreline Ecology and Human Impacts*, June 17, 6:30 – 8:30: Hugh Shipman, coastal geologist with the Department of Ecology’s Shorelands and Environmental Assistance program, and Jeff Adams, Marine Water Quality Specialist with Washington Sea Grant will present on shoreline processes, conservation, and the way in which shoreline modifications interact with shoreline ecology.
- *Science and Policy*, July 8, 6:30 – 8:30: Jim Johannesen, Principle Scientist at Coastal Geological Services, will present the results of a recently completed survey of shoreline bluffs on Bainbridge Island. The study maps coastal geological land forms such as feeder bluffs, and prioritizes potential restoration and conservation areas.

Feeder bluffs are an important element in shoreline ecology, and are considered environmentally sensitive areas in the City’s current Shoreline Master Program. The new study is the most specific updated inventory of feeder bluffs available, and will be used by the city in its ongoing administration of the Shoreline Master Program.

- *Science Forum and Discussion of Emerging Issues*, date in August TBA. An opportunity for the public to participate in a facilitated discussion with Puget Sound scientists with specific expertise in nearshore issues. Discussion topics will be collected from public comments and questions throughout the previous events.
- Beach walks, field trips and other activities will be scheduled as the summer progresses. Visit the SMP Update Events pages on the City’s website at www.ci.bainbridge-isl.wa.us for information on future events.

More information on the Shoreline Master Program update and the city's public participation plans is available at www.ci.bainbridge-isl.wa.us, or from Ryan Ericson, Shoreline Planner, at 780-3719 or pcd@ci.bainbridge-isl.wa.us.

Citizens interested in future opportunities for involvement and education may sign up for the 2011 Shoreline Master Plan Update ListServ by going to the City's website at www.ci.bainbridge-isl.wa.us and scrolling down to the listserv signup on the left hand side of the home page.

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