



CITY OF BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 30, 2010

Contact: Ryan Ericson
Shoreline Planner
City of Bainbridge Island
(206)780-8632
REricson@ci.bainbridge-isl.wa.us

City Hosts Shoreline Education Series - *Coastal Bluffs and Beaches*

Bainbridge Island, WA, June 30, 2010 – *Coastal Bluffs and Beaches*, the third presentation in the City's ongoing Shoreline Education Series, will take place next Thursday, July 8, at 6:30 at City Hall. Jim Johannesen, principle scientist at Coastal Geological Services, will present the results of a recently completed survey of shoreline bluffs on Bainbridge Island. The survey identifies coastal geological land forms such as feeder bluffs.

An important element in shoreline ecology, feeder bluffs 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.

The Shoreline Education Series, which will continue 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).

Additional upcoming events include:

- *Understanding Nearshore Characterization*, July 22, 6:30 – 8:00: Ron Thom, who leads the Coastal Assessment and Restoration group at Battelle's Marine Sciences Laboratory, will review the Nearshore Assessment Characterization and Inventory that Battelle recently completed for Bainbridge Island. Dr. Thom's areas of expertise include habitat construction and restoration, adaptive management of restored systems, effects of pollution, benthic primary production, climate change and ecology of fisheries resources.
- *Science Forum and Discussion of Emerging Issues*, date TBD. 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.

#