

From: [Roz Lassoff](#) on behalf of [Council](#)
To: [Kathy Cook](#); [Ryan Ericson](#); [Theresa Rice](#)
Subject: FW: Please VOTE to send the SMP to the Department of Ecology
Date: Sunday, May 05, 2013 2:39:07 PM
Importance: High

Roz Lassoff

Rosalind D. Lassoff, City Clerk
City of Bainbridge Island
280 Madison Avenue North
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110
(206) 780-8624

From: Ruth Blaney [mailto:r.blaney@usa.net]
Sent: Saturday, May 04, 2013 11:23 AM
To: Council
Subject: Please VOTE to send the SMP to the Department of Ecology
Importance: High

Dear Council Members,

I would love to be at the last Public Hearing of the Shorelines Master Program, but I am out of town working all week. I appreciate all the time you have given the people of Bainbridge Island to respond to the Shorelines Master Program. Now it is time to take action for EVERYONE who lives in the Puget Sound Region.

Over the past several years, diligent, caring, responsible citizens with the interests, health and well-being of our place and families in mind, have spent many hours developing the Shorelines Master Program. It means a future for not only our little island, but also for the greater region of the Salish Sea.

We live in an interconnected ecosystem in a thin layer of the Earth. What we do in any area impacts every other area. We do not and cannot live in isolation. To think like that is a myth – a dangerous myth as we are seeing by the melting of sea ice and destruction of the air we breathe.

People of Bainbridge Island have a history of repairing damage that was done in its early history and establishing our island as a safe place to live. Protecting land and shoreline has an excellent “Return on Investment” – we will have a home for our children and grandchildren.

I encourage you to vote on May 15th to send the Shoreline Master Program to the Department of Ecology for review.

Thank you for all the hard work you do for our community.

Ruth Blaney
9444 Olympus Beach Road NE
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

Resident since 1974

I have included below two of my favorite thoughts on land and water:

THE PEACE OF WILD THINGS

Wendell Berry, from "Openings"

When despair for the world grows in me
and I wake in the night at the least sound
in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be,
I go and lie down where the wood drake
rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.
I come into the peace of wild things
Who do not tax their lives with forethought
of grief. I come into the presence of still water.
And I feel above me the day-blind stars
waiting with their light. For a time
I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.

Land Ethic

Leopold, Aldo: *[A Sand County Almanac, and Sketches Here and There](#)*, 1948

The land ethic simply enlarges the boundaries of the community to include soils, waters, plants, and animals, or collectively: the land.

This sounds simple: do we not already sing our love for and obligation to the land of the free and the home of the brave? Yes, but just what and whom do we love? Certainly not the soil, which we are sending helter-skelter downriver. Certainly not the waters, which we assume have no function except to turn turbines, float barges, and carry off sewage. Certainly not the plants, of which we exterminate whole communities without batting an eye. Certainly not the animals, of which we have already extirpated many of the largest and most beautiful species. A land ethic of course cannot prevent the alteration, management, and use of these 'resources,' but it does affirm their right to continued existence, and, at least in spots, their continued existence in a natural state.

Ruth

Ruth Blaney

Amazing Space

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