



## CITY OF BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

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### **City Joins With Partners to Study Murden Cove Watershed**

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, April 11, 2013 – The City, in partnership with a variety of other agencies and groups, has launched a project to study the Murden Cove Watershed. The project participants will work to identify sources of nutrients and bacteria throughout the watershed, and to provide educational outreach and technical assistance to watershed residents and businesses in order to reduce nutrient and bacteria sources in the watershed.

This partnership of local agencies, businesses, schools and volunteers includes Bainbridge Island Watershed Council, Kitsap Conservation District, IslandWood, Farbank/Sage, Sakai Intermediate School and Kitsap Public Health District. The City serves as the project hub by providing monitoring training and oversight, coordination among project partners, data compilation and analysis, data sharing, project effectiveness assessment, and project reporting.

In addition to providing shoreline access to the public for recreation, Murden Creek and Murden Cove provide habitat for numerous aquatic animals, including shellfish and salmonids, specifically coho, chum, and cutthroat trout. However, these water bodies are challenged by low dissolved oxygen levels, warm temperatures, elevated levels of bacteria and nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus, and increasing algae blooms.

”Given the challenges facing the Murden Cove Watershed, it was clear that improving water quality conditions would require a comprehensive multi-agency and community investment,” said Cami Apfelbeck, City Water Resources Specialist and Project Manager

Citizens are encouraged to attend the project kickoff meeting on Wednesday, April 24, from 6-7 pm at the Grange (10340 Madison Avenue).

For more information and to find out how you can be a part of this project, contact Cami (780-3779, [capfelbeck@bainbridgewa.gov](mailto:capfelbeck@bainbridgewa.gov)).

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