

NEWS RELEASE

September 5, 2006

**MASON COUNTY COMMISISONERS
411 NORTH 5TH STREET
SHELTON, WA 98584
(360) 427-9670 EXT. 419**

TO: KMAS, KRXY, SHELTON-MASON COUNTY JOURNAL, THE OLYMPIAN, SHELTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, NORTH MASON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, CITY OF SHELTON, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, THE SUN, TACOMA MORNING NEWS TRIBUNE.

RE: Mason County Parks and Trails Department and the Northwest Parks Foundation enter into an agreement establishing a Parks Safety Net Fund.

Mason County Parks and Trails Department recently entered into an agreement with Northwest Parks Foundation establishing a Parks Safety Net Fund. Through the Parks Safety Net Fund the Northwest Parks Foundation allows directed giving to Mason County Parks' park projects by acting as the department's 501(c)3 non-profit partner. The Northwest Parks Foundation vision is to facilitate healthy lives through active recreation parks and has similar successful agreements in place with parks departments throughout the Northwest.

The Parks Safety Net Fund allows an individual or business to make fully tax-deductible donations through Northwest Parks Foundation to their designated Parks Department and direct their giving to the park amenity of their choosing. The Parks Safety Net Fund also allows other non-profits and grant-giving organizations traditionally prevented from giving directly to governments, the opportunity to support park projects that otherwise would not be available. For more information on the Parks Safety Net Fund, please visit www.nwparks.org.

Mason County Parks and Trails Department and the Northwest Parks Foundation also agree to the principals contained in the Donor Bill of Rights. The Donor Bill of Rights ensures that every donation is used as the donor intended, or it is returned or renegotiated.

Mason County Parks and Trails Department is looking forward to working with the Northwest Parks Foundation in the future to acquire, develop, and maintain the Parks, Recreation, and Trails needs of Mason County.

If anyone has any questions about the agreement with the Northwest Parks Foundation, please contact John Keates at Mason County Parks, 360-427-9670, ext. 535 or contact the Northwest Parks Foundation at 425-284-0420.

BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISISONERS

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