

NEWS RELEASE

April 15, 2008

MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

**411 NORTH 5TH ST
SHELTON, WA 98584**

TO: KMAS, KRXV, SHELTON-MASON COUNTY JOURNAL, THE OLYMPIAN,
SHELTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, NORTH MASON CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE, CITY OF SHELTON, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, THE
SUN

RE: Solid Waste Disposal Vouchers

This past December Mason County suffered through a severe natural disaster. The torrential rains, mudslides and flooding affected many county residents. In an effort to assist those affected, Mason County offered free dumping of the debris and demolition caused by the storm.

Due to the free disposal opportunity that was offered to those affected by the storm and the resulting limited FEMA reimbursement, this utility does not have the resources to give away services as in the past.

The clean up efforts that followed in the wake of that disaster resulted in more than 250 tons of debris accepted at our facilities for no charge. This is far beyond the scope of our program and available budget. As a result, Mason County Utilities and Waste Management is sorry to announce that free disposal vouchers will not be available to the general public in 2008. Mason County will offer assistance to those in need of disposal assistance through Mason Matters beginning in May. They can be contacted at 427-9670 x543.

Mason County again wishes to express our appreciation for the efforts of the many volunteers and groups that helped the community during this catastrophic event, and to FEMA for their part in cost recovery. We would also like to thank the vast majority citizens, who properly manage their waste on a regular basis. Those of you who have your garbage collected at home help streamline our process, and those who bring in their own garbage are by and large nice folks who are a pleasure to deal with.

As a reminder, spring clean up is underway at our facilities in Shelton and Belfair. During the entire month of April, yard debris and scrap metal can be brought in at no charge. Mason County also accepts Household hazardous wastes such as paints and pesticides and used motor oil and antifreeze at the Shelton facility on Eells Hill Road and free recycling is offered at the numerous Recycling Blue Box Stations that are located throughout the County. Please call 360-427-7771 for more information on available programs.

Tim Sheldon
Chair

Lynda Ring Erickson
Commissioner

Ross Gallagher
Commissioner