

NEWS RELEASE

May 26, 2009

**MASON COUNTY UTILITIES & WASTE MANAGEMENT
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**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**

RE: Belfair Water and Water Reclamation Facilities Team Presents Public Open House

The Belfair Wastewater and Water Reclamation Facilities team is conducting an open house on Thursday, June 4, 2009 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Belfair Elementary School (22900 NE SR 3, Belfair) to provide the community with project information and updates. Constituents are invited to come any time during this open house to see project materials and talk to project staff; no presentation will be given.

At this event, members of the community can learn about:

- The latest wastewater treatment facility designs and system maps
- Results of the value engineering study
- Updated project funding
- Project schedule updates
- Possible loans for property owners
- Construction preparations

Mason County, with the engineering team from CH2M HILL, is finalizing design and preparing to construct the Belfair Wastewater and Water Reclamation Facilities project. The project will build a safe, efficient and environmentally-friendly sewer system within key areas of the Belfair Urban Growth Area (UGA). This system uses membrane technology and is seen as a pivotal element vital to the health of Hood Canal and the future of economic development of the Belfair Community. Septic systems have been identified as one of the causes of nitrogen-pollution in Hood Canal. These wastewater facilities are needed to provide a sustainable approach to water management that protects Hood Canal and treats wastewater to Class A standards for water reuse. On a long-term basis the project will be the backbone for urban infrastructure in Belfair as mandated by the Growth Management Act.

For additional information or questions, please contact the Belfair Wastewater and Water Reclamation Facilities Hotline at 360-801-2482 or visit the project Web site at www.masoncountywastewater.com.

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