

Lisa Clausen

From: Public Council Inbox
Sent: Wednesday, August 11, 2010 4:42 PM
To: 'l_kennel@comcast.net'
Subject: RE: Clean Up City and Generate Revenue

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Kennel:

Thank you for your e-mail to the City Council, dated July 28, 2010. I have been asked to respond to your inquiry. I referred your correspondence to appropriate City staff for review.

As of today, City staff has reviewed the current City code, which prohibits tall grass that may be a fire hazard. (The relevant code section is BMC 8.45.020(9)(c)(vii).) The staff has also looked into Lynnwood's and nearby cities' codes, which vary considerably in setting height limits for lawns and overgrown vegetation. City staff is continuing to confer about this matter and what, if anything, the City would be willing and able to do differently.

Please be advised that the issue of rats is another matter. There is a separate provision in the City code that prohibits any accumulation of material that constitutes vermin habitat. (See BMC 8.45.020(9)(c)(iii).) If such a problem is occurring in your neighborhood then the City code enforcement staff should be informed, in order to work with the County Health Department to take the necessary steps to address it.

To report such a problem please visit the City of Burien Web site at www.burienwa.gov and click on "I want to..." then "Report" and "Code Violations." Forms are also available at City Hall, 400 SW 152nd Street, 3rd Floor.

Lisa Clausen
Burien City Manager's Office

From: l_kennel@comcast.net [mailto:l_kennel@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2010 10:22 AM
To: Public Council Inbox; Public Council Inbox
Subject: Clean Up City and Generate Revenue

Good morning.

I would like to make a suggestion which will clean up the City of Burien AND generate revenue.

May I suggest that Burien adopt a law that requires people to maintain their lawns, both front and back? Specifically, the lawn can not grow any taller than 6 inches. The person violating the law would receive a 24 hour notification to mow their law or the City of Burien, ie, Parks Department, will mow their yards and bill the offender \$200 for the first offence. If a second notice is given to the offender, the fine would increase to \$300. On third offence, no 24 hour notification would be given, rather, the Parks

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Department would immediately mow the offender's lawn and bill the offender \$500 with each offence thereafter.

I believe the City of Lynnwood has a similar law on their books. Therefore, you may want to investigate how they address this issue.

We have several neighbors this would affect. Many of which also "feed" the rat population through their clutter and dumping of their garbage in their back yards. When we purchased our home 17 years ago, we had a significant issue with rats. We cleaned up our property and put out bait to kill the rats. Now, we have the onset with the same issue!

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Loren and Lola Kennel
682 SW 137th Street
Burien, WA 98166-1346

RECEIVED

JUL 29 2010

CITY OF BURIEN

To: The Burien City Council
400 SW 152nd St., Suite 300
Burien Washington 98166

As a citizen, I am requesting the Burien Shoreline Master Plan clearly state that there will be no **Physical Public Access to Lake Burien.**

Physical Public Access to Lake Burien by thousands of people will irreversibly damage this lake. We have perfect examples of the kind of irreversible damage that occurs in small lakes by simply looking at Hicks Lake and Arbor Lake - neighboring lakes and numerous other small lakes in King County.

Physical Public Access, by thousands of people using a small lake, brings these ecologically damaging issues with it:

1. the introduction of invasive weeds that choke off the waterway, destroy oxygen levels in the lake and destroy wildlife,
2. the introduction of inappropriate gas levels into the water column that damages water quality, destroys wildlife and encourages the growth of toxic (like red tide) plankton populations,
3. the introduction fecal (poop) material to the lake that destroys water quality, destroys wildlife, encourages the growth of fecal coliform bacteria and creates a health and safety issue for humans,
4. introduced boating contamination, speed and density issues that create habitat destruction and trauma to wildlife as well as serve as contaminators and spreaders of infection and noxious weeds(Eurasian Milfoil, etc.) to the lake and animals (quagga mussel, zebra mussel, New Zealand mudsnail, rusty crawfish, spiny water flea, snail fever organism, etc.),
5. exceeding the carrying capacity of the land and water by the introduction of thousands of humans, their pets and their wastes/litter to the delicate lake ecosystem, and
6. the increased turbidity to the water by just the sheer number of people entering it which results in degradation of water quality and destruction of habitat for spawning fish, nesting wildlife

Research shows that small lakes that are opened to physical access, within two years of having physical public access, have problems with invasive species and fecal coliform problems. These are problems that require chemical treatment and poisoning to lake waters to attempt to correct. In most cases they cannot be remedied without significant damage to the ecosystem. **Lake Burien is the last healthy small lake along the Urban Corridor. Do not allow this to happen to it. Do not allow physical public access to Lake Burien.**

Sincerely,

It would be a travesty to ruin Lake Burien,
Burien's last fresh water sanctuary for wildlife,
because of a few inconsiderate people that don't
care anything about the ecology of the lake.
People will trash the lake!

(FTR: 08/16/10

Greg R. Scism
533 S. 165th St
Burien, WA. 98148