

Lisa Clausen

Subject: FW: Stormwater Drainage Pond and Wetland Pond Contamination

-----Original Message-----

From: Heungkook Lim

Sent: Wednesday, August 10, 2011 3:21 PM

To: Kathy Mutchler

Cc: Joan McGilton; Brian Bennett; jackb@burienwa.gov; Rose Clark; Lucy Krakowiak; gerald@burienwa.gov; Gordon Shaw; Jim Bibby; Mike Martin; lisac@burien.gov; Scott Greenberg; Valerie Stuart; Samir Basmeh; Larry Blanchard; Art Pederson; Ken Srilofung; Steve Roemer
Subject: RE: Stormwater Drainage Pond and Wetland Pond Contamination

Dear Kathy:

The City of Burien is committed to maintaining quality neighborhoods and an excellent community environment. Our citizens expect us to do everything we can in this regard. We know that this can only be achieved by the cooperation of all.

The City received your e-mail on August 5, 2011 concerning water quality and pond management in the area of Hermes pond and 128th St. The city recently overlaid 128th Street with new asphalt based on the Burien Road Standard (BRS) that was adopted in 2008. The City used approved methods and asphalt material that is stated in the BRS. The City requires standardization of road design elements where necessary for consistency and to assure so far as practical that motoring, bicycling, transit, equestrian, and pedestrian public safety needs are met. Considerations include safety, convenience, pleasant appearance, proper drainage, economical maintenance, and cultural and environmental resource protection. The City also investigated Hermes Pond and applied corrective measures to prevent any possible pollution. The City will continue to keep and maintain measures to protect environment.

I hope that the foregoing answers any questions you may have regarding this matter. Please direct any further inquiries or questions to me at (206) 248-5516.

Sincerely,

Heungkook Lim, P.E.

Surfacewater Management Engineer
City of Burien, Public Works
206-248-5516
www.burienwa.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Larry Blanchard

Sent: Friday, August 05, 2011 5:34 PM

To: Kathy Mutchler; Joan McGilton

CPFB: 08/15/11

Cc: Brian Bennett; jackb@burienwa.gov; Rose Clark; Lucy Krakowiak; gerald@burienwa.gov; Gordon Shaw; Craig Knutson; Cynthia Schaff; Jim Bibby; Mike Martin; Janet Stallman; Adriene Buckley; angiec@burien.gov; lisac@burien.gov; Scott Greenberg; Susan Coles; Valerie Stuart; Doug Lamothe; Heungkook Lim; kent@burienwa.gov; Samir Basmeh; Larry Blanchard
Subject: RE: Stormwater Drainage Pond and Wetland Pond Contamination

Kathy;

Public Works takes very seriously any allegation of pollutants entering our waterway. I will be reviewing this situation with our staff early next week. I will let you know what my review determines to be happening @ Hermes and Wakefield Ponds. As you know both Hermes and Wakefield Ponds accept runoff from Roof Drains, Private Property and City Streets.

Thank-you for your concern

Larry R. Blanchard
Public Works Director
City of Burien
206/248-5514
larryb@burienwa.gov
www.burienwa.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Kathy Mutchler [mailto:kathyverymutch@yahoo.com]

Sent: Friday, August 05, 2011 4:56 PM

To: Joan McGilton

Cc: kathyverymutch@yahoo.com; Brian Bennett; jackb@burienwa.gov; Rose Clark; Lucy Krakowiak; gerald@burienwa.gov; Gordon Shaw; Craig Knutson; Cynthia Schaff; Jim Bibby; Mike Martin; Janet Stallman; Adriene Buckley; angiec@burien.gov; lisac@burien.gov; Scott Greenberg; Susan Coles; Larry Blanchard; Valerie Stuart; Doug Lamothe; Heungkook Lim; kent@burienwa.gov; Samir Basmeh

Subject: Stormwater Drainage Pond and Wetland Pond Contamination

Dear People,

8-5-11

I wish to inform you all of our our stormwater drainage Wakefield Pond and wetland Hermes Pond contamination. Please follow up to see that the problem is corrected. I have seen that the pile of road debris within the Burien facility is still remaining next to Hermes Pond. However it has been covered up with alot of pine needles and dung so that it will not show and will not reveal the smell of the toxic road oils inside of it. The pile remains without any tarp covering that way the rains will continue to wash its pollution into Hermes Pond Wetland. Also the buckets of unmarked chemicals and hazardous waste materials remain there next to the pile so that their contents may also run into the Wetland Water. The water run-off Ditch inside the facility directs rain water from the facility paved lot into Hermes Pond and this dry ditch is saturated with the residue of toxic contaminants. It appears to have been going on for a very long time. On the other side of the situation, there has also been no correction to the tar materials dumped into the hole next to Wakefield Pond which connects underground to Hermes Pond. So, as you can see, the problem is that there is contamination occuring from toxic sources and saturated soil into each side, Wakefield Pond to the West and Hermes Pond to the East.

The follwing is the e-mail which I sent to Heungkook Lim, P.E. Surface Water Management Engineer Public Works City of Burien and Ken Srilofung Storm Water Management Engineering Technician Public Works City of Burien on July 27, 2011.

This was the response:

RE: Wetland filePLA11-1003 Contamination ...Message body

Kathy:

Thank you for your comments regarding pond maintenance and your environmental concerns. The city has an annual inspection program for stormwater facilities which include these two ponds. If needed, the city creates work orders for maintaining facilities. It is also city's intention to manage the city's facilities in environmentally friendly ways. Moreover, the city will investigate the stock piles near the Hermes pond to check if any preventive measures are needed.

Again, thank you for your comments

Heungkook Lim, P.E.

Surfacewater Management Engineer
City of Burien, Public Works
206-248-5516
www.burienwa.gov

My name is Kathy. You may contact me at kathyverymutch@yahoo.com<mailto:kathyverymutch@yahoo.com>. Thank you for receiving my comment concerning the city of Burien application proposal File Number PLA 11-1003.

I am an alarmed neighbor. I picked up a local flier/notice of application which requires me to give my comments by today at five o'clock. This proposal concerns SW 132nd Street sidewalk/street and stormwater system improvements and SW 130th Street and 8th Ave SW stormwater improvements within public right-of-way. This location is a wetland and the headwaters of ongoing tributaries. If this is permitted then there will next be an application for Right-of-Way Construction Permits.

Now for my comments. We have two specific ponds in this spot. Wakefield Pond is located off of Ambaum Boulevard SW, on SW 128th Street. It is connected to Hermes Pond located on SW 130th Street.

As I have witnessed there has been poisoning into Wakefield Pond from Tar Dumping. I have witnessed the Stormwater spread the Tar into Hermes Pond Wetland. I call for ecological impact investigation and accountability to (DOT) Department of Transportation Tar materials. In addition I have witnessed toxic road debris dumped and piled above Hermes Pond along with an assorted collection of unmarked Hazardous Waste Chemicals stacked up directly above The Pond. All of these poisons are within the fenced facility and have been put there without any covering so that the Rainwater has swept the poisons directly into The Pond. There is an existing stain running from the facility into the pond that is three inches thick. I want it to be dug out. The rock soil is so saturated with the stench of the tar and oil/chemicals that it is now in itself a source of poison. This contaminated soil needs to be removed immediately to prevent further poisoning even after the pile is removed or covered up. It is a dry creek bed of soil saturated with poison remaining for the next rain/stormwaters to further sweep the killing substances into The Pond.

This Problem concludes for us that there has been no safety or preventative measure in place that is protecting our Wetland Headwaters of Hermes Pond. I speak for the Ponds. They are like sitting ducks. If it is overlooked and poisoned which it already has been, then the fact is we are letting them treat our wetland however they want. This is currently true. Let us stop that.

