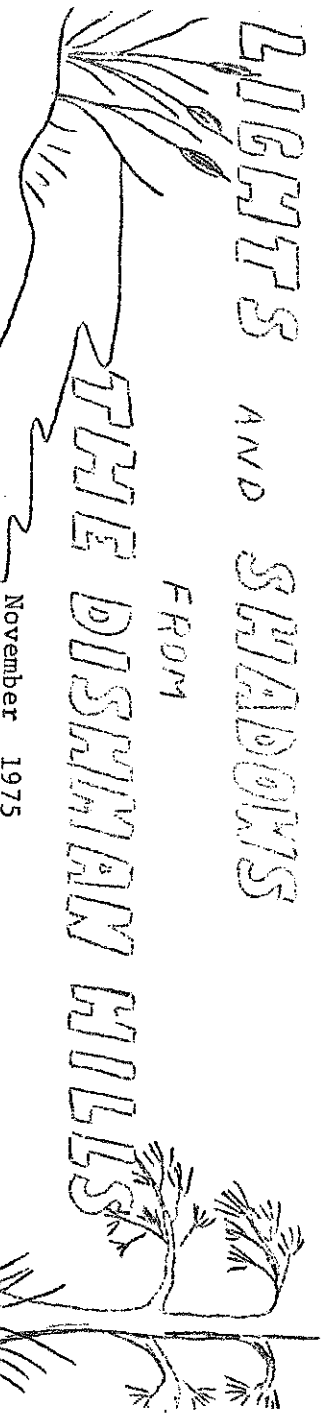


LIGHTS AND SHADOWS

FROM

THE DISMAN HILLS



November 1975

DISMAN HILLS NATURAL AREA ASSN., INC., E. 10820 Maxwell Ave.
Spokane, Wa. 99206

LAND FUND PROGRESSING WELL

IT'S IN THE WIND--

Yes, Winter is in the wind. We talk about the chill factor and describe our discomfort with a number. Wild animals never heard of the chill factor but they have known about it for a long time. Did you ever notice how hard it is to find most kinds of wild creatures on a windy day? Birds and mammals seek the protection of trees, bushes, grass or even a cave or burrow when making their nests or homes and usually pick the downwind side. Deer do not bed down on a windswept slope but disappear into a thicket.

It is strange that we ourselves often forget this elementary logic, placing our homes at the mercy of the winds on a high or open spot. Now that we are being forced to think of energy saving by increasing cost of heating a house we can learn a few lessons from the wild things. Most of us can't afford to sell our home on a windswept hill or barren flat and move to a better-protected spot. The quickest thing is insulation, a partial substitute for a windbreak of trees or a sheltering hill. Insulation can be more successful if we take added steps, though they take a while. Who said the energy crisis will be solved fast? While Congress and the President argue, we can be using Nature's own device, trees. Make your trees work for you, not just stand around. And they cost much less than the insulation did!

In this area nearly all wind comes from the southwest so start planting your trees on that side. It's well to have them all around, though, for when

The land fund is going places, thanks to you readers. Since October 1 over \$150 have come in, more than matching the \$1000 offered by the anonymous donor. This brings 1975's donations to \$4802.92 as of Nov. 1. Gifts ranged in size from \$5 to \$500. (The odd total is the result of recyclables.) Adding the money already in the fund from last year, we have around \$10,000. We're getting up a great momentum, but we know that \$10,000 is nowhere nearly enough to buy the 80 to 140 acres that we are looking at. The more in the land fund, the more wild area we can save. We don't want to lose any more of it to speculators. Help us keep it going by sending your donation now, using the form on the other side of this page.

To cut down further on operating expense and to save the time of our all-volunteer staff, we are discontinuing the sending of receipts and acknowledgements of gifts unless you request them. Your cancell check will serve as a receipt for income tax purposes. We thank you all here for the great support you are giving!

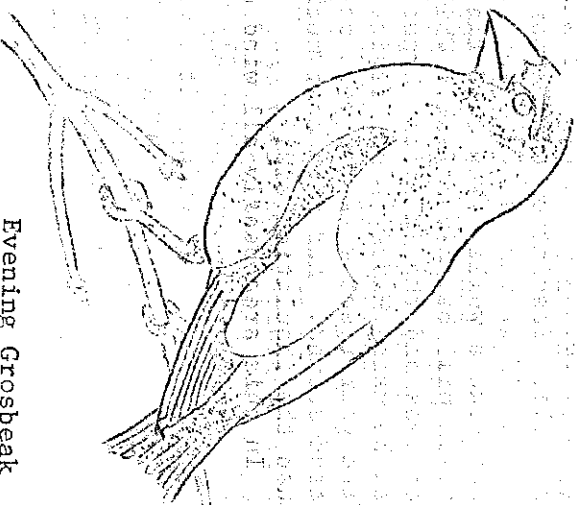
PRICE OF RECYCLED NEWSPAPER GOES UP

Best news on the recycling front is that old newspapers have gone up to \$10 a ton at Spokane Recycling (on Main just west of Freya. "Colored ledger" (mimeo, ditto, stationery, composition paper from school-- but no slick or pulpy paper) is still \$20. Corrugated is accepted but they can't pay you--at least it won't be wasted. Don't forget to turn in aluminum, copper, brass, old batteries, recyclable bottles. Take aluminum to Kaiser's Can-do center downtown on S. Division or to Reynolds Aluminum on

Evening grosbeaks often attract attention by their striking coloration of yellow body, black wings and tail, the wings with large white patches, and large, pale beaks, often described as narrotlike. The heavy beak is well-suited to opening seeds; sunflower seed is one of their favorites. They are tame and trusting birds, coming readily to feeders.

Nesting is in the mountain forests, sometimes even in the pine-covered foothills close to the city. The rest of the year they wander widely in search of food. This spring one was found here that had been banded near Flagstaff, Arizona, August, 1973.

Nobody seems to know how the birds got their name, for they do not remain active into the evening.



Evening Grosbeak
(about 2/5 natural size)

DISHMAN HILLS NATURAL AREA ASSOCIATION
INC.

IT'S IN THE WIND (cont. from page 1)

A non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of some of the natural environment of the Spokane area for people to enjoy.

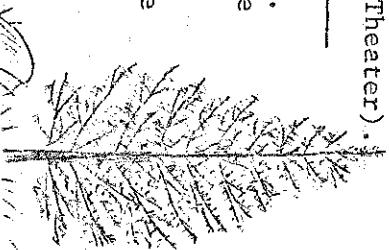
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Daniel Knierim Thomas H. Rogers
David E. Lentjes

We invite you to join personally in the work of the organization by coming to our monthly meetings the third Wednesday of each month, 7:30 p.m. at Camp Caro, South 625 Sarpent Road. (turn south just west of Dishman Theater).

"Plant a tree, laddie.
It'll be growing while
you're sleeping."

We might add, "or save
one" and it will do
the same thing .



be nearly as bad, bringing winter's blizzards. Even the south wind can cool things off. Evergreens are of course the best for windbreaking but unfortunately are slow-growing. While waiting for them to get up there you can plant faster-growing broadleaved trees. Siberian (Chinese) elm will do the job faster than anything else, slowing but not stopping the wind. Maples and others grow somewhat more slowly. The trees will have to be fairly close together, forming a sort of wall. Don't try to grow most evergreens in the dense shade of the temporary trees--they need light. This is particularly true of ponderosa pine, a little less true of Douglas fir, both of which do well in this area if given a little water. Spruces can stand more shade; so can grand fir and cedar, but still need a fair amount of sun.

Some day we may start building our homes underground--ever notice how easy it is to keep a basement warm--but that probably is somewhere in the future. Meanwhile give some thought to planting a windbreak next spring and reap the harvest in fuel saving, comfort, shade, beauty and bird life--you'll be surprised at how well they keep down the pesky insects. Trees also muffle traffic and other noises, cutting down on "ear pollution."

Please use the form below when sending in your contribution to save the Hills.
(Remember: your gift is tax-deductible.)