

Dishman Hills Natural Area Assn., Inc.
E. 10820 Maxwell Ave.
Spokane, WA 99206

Non-profit Org.
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BALLOT ISSUES WOULD HELP COUNTY PARK DEPARTMENT MAINTENANCE AND RECREATION PROGRAM

ACQUIRING LAND IN DISHMAN HILLS POSSIBLE

SPECIES OF CONCERN FOUND IN SPOKANE AREA

The Dishman Hills-Tower Mountain area is the home of several kinds of animals designated by the state's Department of Game as "species of concern." Its non-game program lists the rubber boa (Charina bottae), the long-toed salamander (Ambystoma macrodactylum) Compton's Tortoiseshell butterfly (Nymphalis vau-album) and the thicket hairstreak butterfly (Mitoura spinetorum) which might become threatened. The rubber boa has been found in Dishman Hills Natural Area and at Tower Mountain and the salamander in Dishman Hills land not yet protected. The hairstreak has been found in The Nature Conservancy's 80 acres and one other spot in the hills. The tortoiseshell has been found quite regularly along the east base of Tower Mountain and occasionally at Liberty Lake Park, Mount Spokane and Little Spokane River Park.

The hairstreak was characterized by Pyle in "Watching Washington Butterflies" as "a mysterious butterfly" with a broad but not uniform distribution and a varying abundance. The larvae feed upon dwarf mistoetoe on ponderosa pines.

University Elementary School's fourth grade class taught by Bill Marchand recently took a day-long field trip into the Dishman Hills to see firsthand how soil is formed. The trip was preceded by a slide show given by our association.

Classes or groups wishing assistance on similar hikes should contact us by calling 926-7949.

On the November 3 ballot will be important issues concerning Spokane County's parks and recreation program. One will give voters the chance to authorize creating three park and recreation service areas, one in the Spokane Valley and the other two north and south of Spokane. To help operate them one-year-only special levies will be proposed to cover the next two years' needs.

Although use of county parks has steadily increased, reduced budgets and inflation forced the department to close all swimming pools but two--Park pool was kept open part time by donations. Also, all other recreation programs were discontinued and maintenance was seriously reduced. The valley levy and the proposed sale of Balfour Park are expected to provide for buying other recreational sites, particularly the 140 acres in the Dishman Hills, which have been our association's and the county's plans for many years.

The Spokane Valley levy would be at the rate of 82 cents per \$1000 assessed valuation--\$41 for one year on a house assessed at \$50,000. . It would apply only within Central Valley, East Valley and West Valley School districts. The Valley chamber of commerce, has, we understand, endorsed the levy.

The service area north of Spokane would cover Fire District 9, except the portions in East and West Valley School Districts, and would require a levy of \$1.07 per \$1000. The service area south of Spokane, covering Fire District 8, except the part in Central Valley school district, would
(Continued on page 2)

Please use this form when sending contributions to save the Dishman Hills and the Tower Mountain corridor. Your dues and/or gifts are income tax deductible.

- \$ _____ Dishman Hills Assoc. annual dues (\$5 per person) New? ___ Renewal? ___
- \$ _____ Dishman Hills Land Purchase Fund
- \$ _____ Dishman Hills Legal Defense Fund
- \$ _____ Memorial gift to Land Fund in remembrance of _____
- \$ _____ Bulletin expense (\$1 or more)

Please make checks payable to Dishman Hills Natural Area Assn. and mail to David E. Lentes, Treasurer, E. 10922 23rd Ave., Spokane, WA 99206. Many Thanks! To cut down on expense, no receipt or acknowledgment will be sent unless requested.

BALLOT ISSUES (continued from page 1)

be for 56 cents per \$1000. Only voters in the proposed park service areas will be voting on the proposals. Needless to say, we are for them.

SPOKANE MOVING FORWARD WITH RECYCLING

The Spokane area has taken another step forward in recycling, with Spokane Recycling Products buying glass bottles, jars and jugs for one-half cent a pound. The glass should be clean and free of metal or plastic but paper labels need not be removed. Different colors should be kept separate.

Newspaper is not bringing \$20-30 a ton. Check with recyclers in the Yellow Pages for latest prices. Spokane Recycling is paying \$40 a ton for "colored ledger" (white but not slick, printed or written on two sides), \$50 for "white ledger" (same but printed-written on only one side) and \$90 for computer paper. Corrugated cardboard is \$30 there. Aluminum cans, foil and TV dinner trays are down to 24-25 cents a pound.

Gradually we are learning from Nature, which has been recycling materials for 2-3 billion years. Every school child knows about the carbon, nitrogen and water cycles and perhaps about some of the others such as calcium and phosphorus, yet we make only partial use of a few of them. In Nature, "wastes" from plants and animals decay and return to the soil, nourishing future growth but we dump them anywhere we can to get rid of them. No wonder the price of artificial fertilizer sky-rockets! We are throwing away a resource.

The City of Spokane recently signed an agreement with Washington Water Power to finance a study of the feasibility of recovering energy and metals from municipal waste. The study depends primarily (Continued in next column)

RECYCLING (continued from column 1)

upon funding by the state's Department of Ecology. Primary purpose of the step is to cut down on the 240,000 tons (!) of garbage generated each year. City and county landfills will soon be full and additional land for dumping is extremely expensive.

The idea sounds good but does it go far enough? Would provision be made to separate food wastes, which should be composted for fertilizer and returned to the soil; paper, most of which can be used to make insulation or more paper; glass, which can be recycled for new containers; plastics, some of which release poisonous fumes when burned, and which could be made into more plastic, and toxic wastes, which might be a hazard if used as a fuel. Hopefully the study, if funded, will examine these aspects of the undertaking to insure the best use of "wastes" and avoid undesirable and costly side effects.

LIGHTS & SHADOWS FROM THE DISHMAN HILLS

published by DISHMAN HILLS NATURAL AREA ASSN., INC.

We are a non-profit organization dedicated to saving some of the natural environment of the Spokane area for people to enjoy and learn from.

Monthly meetings are at Kiwanis Camp Caro at 7:30 P.m. the fourth Wednesday. You are cordially invited to attend. Slide shows on the Dishman Hills are available. Call 926-7949.

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