

Little Squalicum Park Site Whatcom County



Cleanup Documents Available for Public Review

The Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) and the City of Bellingham (City) have negotiated a draft legal agreement (called an *agreed order*) to perform an environmental study (called a *remedial investigation/feasibility study*) at the Little Squalicum Park site in Whatcom County, Washington. The agreed order outlines the work to be performed and ensures the site investigation and cleanup activities are conducted in a timely fashion in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations. In addition to negotiating a draft agreed order with the City, Ecology has developed a draft *public participation plan* outlining opportunities throughout the process for the public to provide input.

Comments Encouraged!

The draft agreed order and draft public participation plan are currently available for public comment. Your comments on these proposed documents are welcome through **February 12, 2005**. The box at the right contains information on where to view the documents and how to submit written comments. Ecology will respond in writing to all comments received and may make changes to the documents as a result of them. If these changes are significant, the revised agreed order will once again be made available for public review.

Site Background

The Little Squalicum Park site (Site) is located at 604 Marine View Drive (see map on page 3) and is currently undeveloped open space with public access. The Site has multiple owners including the City of Bellingham (City) and Whatcom County. The portion of the Site owned by Whatcom County has been leased to the City for development as a park. Little Squalicum Creek runs through the Site and is fed by springs and storm water runoff from adjacent properties.

The Site is located next to both residential neighborhoods and heavy industrial facilities including the Oeser Company, an active wood-treating facility. The Oeser Company is a designated federal Superfund site and historic and on-going contamination issues at this facility are currently being addressed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

January 2005

**Public Comment Period:
1/12/05-2/12/05**

Technical questions, written comments, or to be added to the site mailing list:

Mary O'Herron, Site Manager
Department of Ecology
1204 Railroad Avenue, Ste 200
Bellingham, WA 98225
Phone: (360) 738-6246
E-mail: mohe461@ecy.wa.gov

Documents can be reviewed at the following locations:

Department of Ecology
Bellingham Field Office
1204 Railroad Avenue, Ste 200
(360) 738-6250

Bellingham Public Library
210 Central Avenue, Bellingham
(360) 676-6860

Bellingham Technical College
Library
3028 Lindbergh Ave., Bldg. A
(360) 715-8383

Department of Ecology
Northwest Regional Office
3190 160th Avenue SE
Bellevue, WA 98008
(425) 649-7190

Ecology's Website:
http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/blhm_bay/sites/bel_bay_sites.html

Publication Number 04-09-114

If you have special accommodation needs or require this document in an alternative format, please contact Mary O'Herron at (360) 738-6246 (Voice) or 711 or 1-800-833-6388 (TTY).

Little Squalicum Park Site Whatcom County



(For more information about the status of EPA's activities at the Oeser Company Superfund site which is located adjacent to the Little Squalicum Park site, please contact Sylvia Kawabata at 206-553-1078 or by email at kawabata.sylvia@epa.gov).

Environmental investigations of the surface water, ground water, soil and sediments at the Little Squalicum Park site have confirmed the presence of hazardous substances including pentachlorophenol, dioxin, copper, zinc and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon ("PAH") compounds. As a result, the Site is subject to the investigation and cleanup requirements of the Washington State Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA).

Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study

The draft agreed order requires the City to complete a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) for the Little Squalicum Park site. This document will describe the nature and extent of contamination at the Site, present and evaluate a range of cleanup alternatives, and identify a preferred cleanup approach. It will build on previous environmental investigations and will provide the information necessary for Ecology to select a preferred cleanup alternative for the Site. The RI/FS will detail:

- Results of previous investigations.
- The nature and extent of contamination.
- Other important Site information relevant to Site cleanup.

- Multiple alternatives for cleanup of the Site and the evaluation of those alternatives against MTCA and Sediment Management Standards criteria including protectiveness, effectiveness, implementability, and cost.
- Definition of a preferred alternative.

A Remedial Investigation is used to characterize the site and the extent of contamination.

Feasibility Studies develop and evaluate cleanup options for a given site.

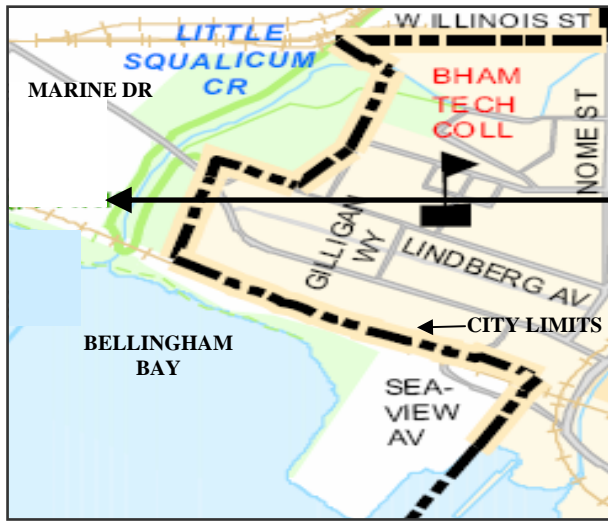
How can you be Involved?

Ecology encourages you to stay informed and involved in the cleanup by getting your name on the Site mailing list (see box on page one for a contact), attending Ecology meetings, reading related documents as they become available, becoming familiar with the cleanup process, and providing feedback through public meetings and comment periods. You can provide valuable local input and knowledge that will be helpful as the cleanup plan is developed and implemented.

Publication Number 04-09-114

If you have special accommodation needs or require this document in an alternative format, please contact Mary O'Herron at (360) 738-6246 (Voice) or 711 or 1-800-833-6388 (TTY).

Location Map of the Little Squalicum Park Site, 604 Marine Drive



**Little Squalicum
Park Site**

