

## VISION FOR THE ILLAHEE COMMUNITY

The Illahee Community Plan is a statement of the community and aspirations for the future reflecting the civic pride and community involvement that has existed for over the past 120 plus years. There is a sense of accomplishment in the community for all the current progress and most importantly, there is a real concern for the future of Illahee, and a serious effort to recognize what originally attracted visitors and summer campers to this restful place called Illahee. There is a dedicated effort to enhance the atmosphere and visual character of the area while maintaining the natural pristine environment while ensuring that it remains the unique community they know and love.

When posed with the question, "What would you like to see addressed in a community plan?" residents envisioned a community centered around and among an abundance of natural resources in the area. Such things as Illahee State Park, Illahee Creek, nature Preserve, miles of pristine waterfront, two major docks, and much more.

Residents strive to maintain the community charm and quaintness that Illahee currently offers. They wish to protect the high quality of the natural environment, park areas, wetlands, streams and wildlife habitat rated so highly along the factors that sustain the connectedness and reasonable growth in the area. Of parallel importance is the preservation of the spectacular views of the Puget Sound and breathtaking view of Mount Rainer. Residents wish to maintain and enhance their high quality of life as well as the quality of the natural environment and historical architectural styles. Protection of wetlands, streams and wildlife habitat is greatly emphasized. These visions and dreams can be accomplished by permitting growth in those areas where infrastructure enhancements already exist and environmental protections are insured. It is the mix of land uses that makes the Illahee area a unique blend of natural resources and open space surrounded by semi-rural areas, urban areas, and a short perimeter of commercial business strip along State Highway 303.

Illahee is an area that has been blessed with a diversity of resources, natural and manmade, and the community continues to fight for a community that blends the best of these worlds together into a place where we long to live with nature and our fellow citizens.

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