

Long Lake

Needs your Help

It's Time to Take Action



The Citizens for Improving Long Lake (CILL) is asking Long Lake property owners to support the formation of a Lake Management District. Annual contributions by property owners over the next 10 years would help improve the quality of living on and around Long Lake. The funds would allow the following:

- Reduce the level of noxious lake weeds and maintain boating lanes.
- Reduce potentially toxic blue-green algae.
- Help improve the lake's environment and support local wildlife.
- Help provide a stable setting for recreational use (Swimming, Fishing, Boating, etc.)

CILL's efforts have proven that treating the lake works. However, continued funds are needed to make this a lasting improvement for wildlife, our families, and the value of our homes.

Who is CILL?

CILL is a group of citizens that live on and near Long Lake. The group was formed in 2002 in response to deteriorating conditions of the lake. Read about CILL's history [here](https://sites.google.com/site/longlakecill/home/history). (<https://sites.google.com/site/longlakecill/home/history>).

What's the problem with Long Lake?

Lakes, just like humans, undergo a natural aging process whereby sediments slowly fill in the bottom over time. Our communities that live on and near the lake will speed up the aging process.

Long Lake is naturally shallow and contains high levels of phosphorus in the sediments. The phosphorus "feeds" algae and weeds in the summer when sunlight and warm temperatures increase. The algae can produce toxins, which make the water unsafe for swimming, eating fish, and for pets to drink. The weeds become a hazard for boaters and swimmers. During algae blooms, Kitsap Public Health District posts signs to discourage lake activities. The sight and smell of the lake is unpleasant, and the lake is unusable.

What can be done?

We know that treating the lake with "alum" locks up the phosphorous, starving the algae, and results in a clear lake that is safe for recreation. Removing the noxious weeds results in a more natural aquatic plant community. Long Lake was treated in 1980, 1991 and most recently in 2007. The last treatment is wearing off and the lake is once again deteriorating.

Why doesn't the treatment last?

Similar projects that have been established in many other lakes across the state show that treatment generally lasts 6–10 years. The treatment breaks down, new phosphorus enters the lake from runoff, and as lake plants die, they release phosphorus.

Who's been paying for previous treatments?

The Environmental Protection Agency and the Washington State Department of Ecology paid for previous applications and weed control treatments. Both government programs are designed to provide funds for initial treatments to see if it works. They are not set up to be a long-term solution.

Is a Lake Management District a new idea?

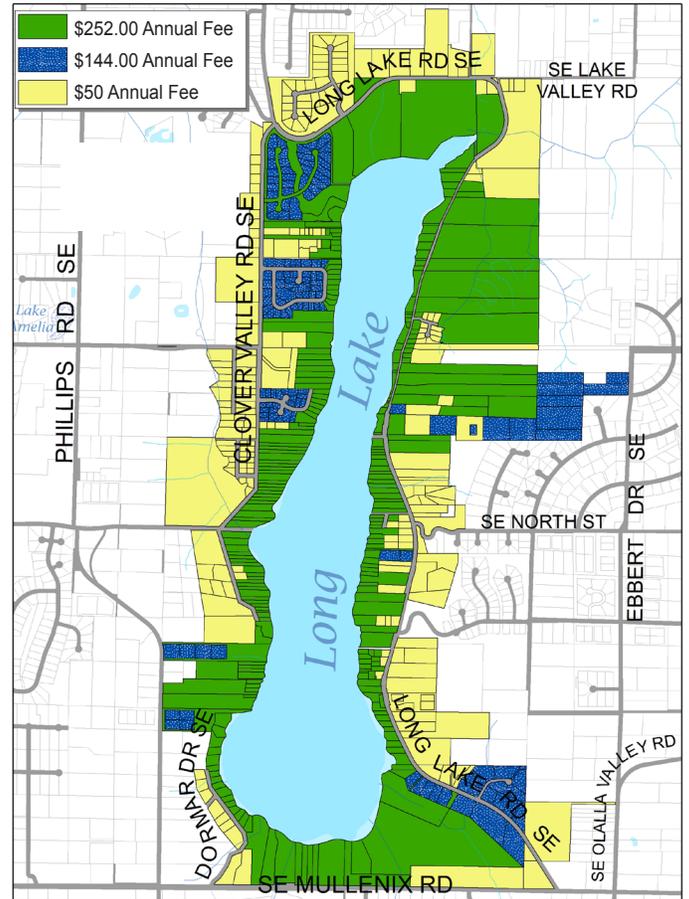
Not at all. CILL has been working with neighbors for 11 years, and more intensely in the last year to determine the best option for forming a Lake Management District. Additionally, CILL has held public meetings, talked to neighbors and maintains current information on their website and Facebook.

What will I pay?

Through careful review of property owner benefits and the total cost of the treatment program over 10 years, the recommendation is a fee that property owners would pay annually per lot: lake-front property owners pay \$252, near-the-lake property owners pay \$144, and lake-view property owners pay \$50. As one property owner said at the last public meeting, "We know that treating the lake works and improves my property value; where do I send the check?" For more information on which category your property falls into, see the map below.

How is the Lake Management Formed?

A lake management district can be formed by an election of property owners (not registered voters) within a specified boundary. A public hearing is held prior to establishing the final boundary and setting the election. The election is held by mail with property owners given between 20 and 30 days to cast their vote. The election is based on a weighted voting system with each property receiving one vote for every dollar of the proposed assessment (properties proposed to pay higher assessments would have a greater number of votes). The lake management district would be formed based upon approval by a simple majority of votes cast.



Please support this effort...For more information go to www.sites.google.com/site/longlakecill/. Your feedback is very important to us. Go to our Facebook page – Citizens For Improving Long Lake. Look for more information about a public hearing and voting on the formation of the Lake Management District.

Links to Find out More:

Citizens for Long Lake

<https://sites.google.com/site/longlakecill/>

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Citizens-for-Improving-Long-Lake/288487062784>

Forming a Lake Management District

<http://www.mrsc.org/subjects/environment/water/spd-lake.aspx>

Other Lake Management Districts in Washington State

<http://www.thurstontalk.com/2011/07/06/barnes-lake-management-district-2011-summer-update/>

<http://www.ci.sammamish.wa.us/projects/BLMD.aspx>

<http://www.cityoffederalway.com/?nid=189>

For more Information....

Contact Citizens for Improving Long Lake
206.755.9443

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Property owners would pay an annual fee per lot for 10 years: \$252 for lake-front properties, \$144 for properties near the lake, and \$50 for lake view properties. Look at the map to see how your property would be assessed.

What's the problem with Long Lake?

Long Lake is naturally shallow and contains high levels of phosphorus in the sediments. The phosphorus "feeds" algae and weeds in the summer when sunlight and warm temperatures increase. The algae can produce toxins, which make the water unsafe for pets to drink, swimming and eating fish. During these algae blooms Kitsap Public Health District posts signs to discourage lake activities. The sight and smell of the lake is unpleasant, and the lake is unusable.

What can be done?

Treating the lake with alum locks up the nutrients and results in a clear lake that is safe for recreation. Long Lake was treated most recently in 2007. That treatment is now wearing off and water quality is once again deteriorating.

Federal and State grants paid for previous applications and weed control to see if these treatments would work, but grant funding is not available as a long-term solution. Similarly, Kitsap County's funds are committed to county operations. However, the County will continue to provide staff support to CILL as we work through the process of implementing a Lake Management District.

How is the Lake Management District Formed?

A lake management district is formed by an election of property owners within a specified boundary. The election is held by mail, and is based on a weighted voting system with each property receiving one vote for every dollar of the proposed assessment. The district would be formed based upon majority approval.

For more information...

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