

REMINDER

May 1, 2020

TO: Meadows-Ferndale Homeowners and Residents

FROM: Meadows-Ferndale Board of Directors

SUBJECT: Protection of Life in Our Wetlands

In spite of the "Stay Home – Stay Healthy" and physical distancing restrictions, it's hard to overlook the fact that spring is here in full force and summer is rapidly approaching. Trees are budding and flowering. Natural flora and fauna are erupting everywhere. Our prized wetlands are stirring and so too are our neighbors and their pets. These are all good things. But they also incur some responsibilities – applicable everywhere in the community, but especially as they relate to our wetlands.

The wetlands are a protected habitat, to which entrance is prohibited – except to use the pathways accessed through specified entry points. This "protection" applies to all the plants (e.g., trees, shrubs, and grasses) and to all the animals (e.g., mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and birds). They are ALL protected by the terms and conditions imposed on us by the US Army Corps of Engineers and the Washington State Department of Ecology. We must all strive to avoid harming, disturbing, or removing anything within the wetland habitat.

The Board of Directors (the "Board") suggest that these measures apply equally to areas within our community that are outside the boundaries of our wetlands – subject always to the fact that paramount importance goes to the health and safety of our residents and the protection of our properties. Subject to that distinction, we need not, and should not, unnecessarily harm or disturb any flora or fauna anywhere in the community. We can, and should, live in harmony with nature. The Board also suggests that minors should enter the wetlands only with adult supervision as they may not fully appreciate or understand the restrictions and potential hazards (e.g., bridges and ponds).

Please share this information with all members of your families – as well as with visitors and guests.

All this having been said, let's hope that the COVID-19 restrictions can soon be safely relaxed or lifted so we can get on with our lives – including enjoying life within our community. As always, if you have any questions or concerns about this or any other community-related issue, please contact us through the "Send Us a Message" portal at the bottom of our web site's home page (www.meadows-ferndale-hoa.org).

Stay safe and well.

/Meadows-Ferndale HOA Board of Directors/