

# Snohomish County Executive **AARON REARDON**



**Priorities in Action**



**Latest News & Upcoming Events**

**Friday, March 19, 2010**

[www.snoco.org](http://www.snoco.org)

## **Reardon urges residents to fill out 2010 Census forms**

Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon is urging residents to complete and return their 2010 Census forms, which were mailed this week.

The information the census collects helps determine how more than \$400 billion of federal funding is spent nationally on infrastructure and services each year, including hospitals, job training centers, schools, senior centers, road projects and human services.

“Snohomish County’s future federal funding for quality of life services depends on an accurate population count,” Reardon said. “Take 10 minutes to answer 10 questions.”

During the 2000 Census, Snohomish County reported a 73 percent return rate of census forms, 1 percent higher than the state and national average. The county is hoping to beat that percentage with at least a 75 percent return this time if not higher.

In 2000, the county population was 606,024, a 30 percent increase since the 1990 Census reported a county population of 465,628. Estimates in 2009 placed the county’s population just over 700,000.

“But we won’t have an accurate count unless residents take the time to fill out and return their census forms,” Reardon said.

An accurate count of the U.S. population is mandated by the U.S. Constitution. Every 10 years, residents get the chance to be counted. This census, residents can track national, state, county and municipal return rates with comparisons to 2000 Census numbers at the [Take 10 Map](#).

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### **How are we doing?**

Did you know that you can track how well the County is meeting its performance goals?

The SnoStat system tracks how well the County is delivering services, the costs of those services, and the efficiency and

Census forms are available in different languages, and local help is available at many Sno-Isle community libraries. For information on locations, go to [Sno-Isle Libraries](#).

Federal law protects the confidentiality of the information collected during the census so residents don't have to worry about sensitive information being shared with others. Private information is never published.

Households that do not fill out and return a form will receive a visit from a census taker, who then will collect the data. Census workers are clearly identifiable by their badges, however, residents should take care not to divulge sensitive information to someone other than a census worker. Census workers will not ask for financial information or social security numbers, nor will they solicit or collect money.

"Beware of criminals looking to take advantage of the 2010 Census," Reardon said. "If you're unsure, ask to see the person's U.S. Census I.D. badge."

For more information on how information is used, or general questions about the U.S. Census, go to the 2010 Census [home page](#) or follow the link from the county's [home page](#).



## **Input needed on Kayak Point Park's day uses**

Snohomish County will host a public workshop to discuss potential changes to the day use portion of Kayak Point Regional Park.

The meeting, which will begin at 6:30 p.m. March 31, will be an opportunity for residents and park users to offer feedback on design alternatives. The workshop will be held at Lake Goodwin Community Club, 17323 42nd Ave. NW, Stanwood.

Planning for improvements to the day use portion of Kayak Point Regional Park is being considered in response to maintenance, ecological and user issues that have arisen during the past several years. Kayak Point Regional Park is easily one of Snohomish County's most popular facilities and demand during peak summer days regularly exceeds park capacity.

Design of the park has not been reviewed since it opened in

effectiveness of service delivery.

Simply visit our [SnoStat website](#).

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### **Contact me:**

3000 Rockefeller Ave.  
M/S #407  
Everett, WA 98201

Phone: 425.388.3460  
Fax: 425.388.3434

Or, [send me an email](#).

And please be sure to [visit me on the web!](#)

Sincerely,

Aaron Reardon

1972, and Snohomish County Parks and the county's Marine Resource Committee are taking this occasion to seek opportunities for site improvement.

Draft designs presented at the workshop will be based on feedback collected during a public visioning workshop held last November, as well as information collected in a variety of other ways, including e-mail, phone calls and an online survey. A summary of that feedback can be found at [www.snocoparks.org](http://www.snocoparks.org) (search "Kayak Planning").

For individuals unable to attend the March 31 workshop or for more information, go to [www.snocoparks.org](http://www.snocoparks.org) or call 425-388-6616.

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## **County's salary commission meets again March 31**

The Snohomish County Citizens Commission on Salaries of Elected Officials met March 17 to begin reviewing the salary schedule for elected officials for 2011 and 2012.

The commission is an independent group that meets every two years to set the salaries of elected officials in Snohomish County. Elected officials whose salaries are determined by the commission are the members of the county council, the executive, assessor, auditor, clerk, prosecuting attorney, sheriff and treasurer.

All meetings of the salary commission are open to the public and begin at 7 p.m. They will be held in the 6th Floor Executive Board Room, 3000 Rockefeller Ave., Everett. Remaining meetings are scheduled for March 31, April 14 and 28. A public hearing on recommendations is scheduled for the April 14 meeting.

By law, salary recommendations must be made by May 1 for the next two-year period. A 2006 amendment to the county charter eliminated the need for council and executive approval of the salary changes.

The commission is made up of 10 members, nominated by the county executive and confirmed by the county council. Six members of the commission are selected by lot by the county auditor from among all registered voters in Snohomish County. The remaining four members are required to have experience in the field of personnel management and come from four sectors: business, professional personnel management, legal profession

and organized labor. Commissioners serve two-year terms.

For more information, go to [www.snoco.org](http://www.snoco.org) and search “salary commission.”

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***You may also contact me directly by phone at 425.388.3460.***

