

Snohomish County Executive
AARON REARDON



Priorities in Action



Latest News & Upcoming Events

Friday, December 14, 2007

www.snoco.org

 **Reports of flood damage continue to filter in, FEMA crews on the ground**

Residents and businesses in Snohomish County are still cleaning up after last week's flooding. The speed at which the storm arrived, its intensity and where the bulk of the rain was concentrated led to a different type of flooding than we saw in 2007.

Areas in the south end of the county were impacted by urban flooding to a greater degree than past storms, including many locations usually immune from the effects of rising flood waters. Individuals and large companies alike suffered damages, including the county's own Department of Emergency Management (DEM) building.

While Snohomish County was not as affected as the Southwestern portion of the state, the total damage estimates as of December 12 were in excess of \$6.5 million. Urban flooding occurred primarily in areas not typically prone to flood events, where many residents have little or no flood insurance.

Several events and the county's response are worth noting:

- The Snohomish County Sheriff's Office (SCSO) helicopter flew more than 35 hours providing damage assessments and over flights in flood fighting and recovery efforts. The Washington State Patrol also flew several missions, supplementing the County's efforts.

continued

In this issue:

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County housing award wins regional award, national nomination

Planning Director named "Public Employee of the Year"

County airport honored for ongoing support

- SCSO's search and rescue personnel were staged throughout the County to assist in rescue efforts.
- Sandbags were delivered to the Cities of Bothell, Granite Falls, Lake Stevens and the Town of Index during the storm.
- Snohomish County activated the Animal Disaster Plan. The plan's activation allowed for prearranged shelter of animals at the Evergreen State Fairgrounds in Monroe.
- The Snohomish County Chapter of the American Red Cross provided shelter for 20 people during the storm, served warm meals to citizens and volunteers on the front lines, and helped complete initial Damage Assessments.

So far a total of 132 households have reported damaged resulting from the storm and flooding, with reports still coming in to DEM.

The Governor has requested and received a disaster declaration from the President for several counties. To date, Snohomish County is not included in the list but it is likely that one will be issued, clearing the way for individuals to receive recovery assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

FEMA crews are currently on the ground in Snohomish County, assisting with damage assessments and will likely remain through the weekend.

If your home or business sustained damage from last week's storm and flooding and you have not yet filed a damage report, please call or email DEM today.

You may report damage via phone by calling: (425) 388 – 5060 or go to the DEM website to download the proper forms. [Click here](#) to go to the DEM website, or visit www.snoco.org and search “**storm damage.**”

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 effectiveness of service delivery.

Simply visit our [SnoStat website](#).

Contact me:

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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

County housing loan wins regional award, national nomination

An agreement between Snohomish County, the YWCA of Seattle-King County-Snohomish County and the Everett Housing Authority to preserve more than 200 affordable housing units in Snohomish County has won a regional “Deal of the Year” award and received nomination for national recognition.

The Bond Buyer “Deal of the Year” Awards are selected from more than 100 nominations of municipal bond projects ranging in size from a few million dollars to several billion. Separated into five regions, two projects from each region are selected to receive regional awards.

Signed by Executive Aaron Reardon in July 2007, the agreement is an innovative public-private partnership that utilizes the County’s bond credit for the purchase and preservation of affordable housing in Snohomish County.

The project was made possible through Snohomish County’s contingency loan program to assist in the financing of affordable housing units, in support of its 10-year plan to end homelessness. The project was led by Executive Director Deanna Dawson and county staff. Financed by Seattle Northwest Securities Corp., the use of the County’s bond rating saved approximately \$2.4 million on the total cost of the \$28.8 million project.

The units to be located in Everett, Lynnwood and Mountlake Terrace, will serve families at or below 50% of area median income.

Planning Director named "Public Employee of the Year"

Snohomish County’s Craig Ladiser has been named “Public Employee of the Year” by the Puget Sound Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA) and the Master Builders Association of King and Snohomish Counties (MBA).

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The first annual awards were created to honor employees in the public sector who demonstrate a commitment to finding meaningful solutions to the challenges of growth while pursuing responsible environmental stewardship.

“Craig is a great asset to Snohomish County,” said County Executive Aaron Reardon. “His hard work and dedication have allowed us to pursue a balanced approach to growth that protects the environment and promotes economic development.”

One of two award recipients, Ladiser was chosen for the award for his ability to build reasonable compromise on Snohomish County’s residential code update, buildable lands report and the County’s recently adopted critical areas update.

“We’ve brought transparency and a consensus building approach to planning for growth in Snohomish County,” said Ladiser. “Everyone has a seat at the table and a role to play in planning our County’s future.”

 **County airport honored for ongoing support**

The Snohomish County Airport, also known as Paine Field, has received the Washington Pilots Association’s inaugural President’s Award.

The association honored the airport’s director, Dave Waggoner, and his staff for their continuous support of and partnership with the organization.

For decades, the Washington Pilots Association has operated a local chapter at Paine Field. Through that cooperative relationship, both have been able to better promote aviation training, education and enjoyment.

County staff has supported WPA-run programs such as the General Aviation Day, Aviation Academy and Science of Flight for Teachers. Kelley said this continuous service earned Paine Field the group’s first President’s Award.
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“We are honored by the recognition and appreciate the support of the Washington Pilots Association,” Waggoner said. “The WPA-Paine Field partnership is a key to building our reputation as the Airport of Choice.”

Thank you very much for taking the time to read my electronic newsletter.

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You may also contact me directly by phone at 425.388.3460.

