

NEWS RELEASE

June 22, 2010

**MASON COUNTY COMMISSISONERS
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TO: KMAS, KRXY, SHELTON-MASON COUNTY JOURNAL, THE OLYMPIAN, SHELTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, NORTH MASON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, CITY OF SHELTON, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, THE SUN.

RE: Parks and Recreation Month - 2010

Mason County Parks and Trails Department and City of Shelton Parks and Recreation to Celebrate National Park and Recreation Month

Shelton, Washington, June 22, 2010 – Mason County and the City of Shelton will celebrate Park and Recreation Month during July for the residents and visitors of Mason County.

Each July since 1985, America has celebrated Park and Recreation Month. This year's theme is Celebrate, Advocate, Recreate! Park and recreation agencies and citizens are encouraged to plan special events and initiatives that remind local decision makers and the community of the exciting and *vital* role that parks and recreation play in the lives of Americans.

Mason County Parks, Shelton Parks and Recreation, the Mason County 4-H, Mason Conservation District, and the Capitol Land Trust will be hosting a special Parks Appreciation Dinner to celebrate Parks and Recreation month at Oakland Bay County Park on Thursday, July 29. Cost will be announced shortly and the public is invited to attend. A catered dinner will be provided by Xinh's from Shelton.

"Park and Recreation Month is the time to show all of America, citizens and public decision makers alike, of the extremely exciting and important role that parks and recreation play for communities," said Barbara Tulipane, CEO of NRPA. "I can't think of a better excuse for citizens to get out every day and experience for themselves the positive health effects, economic benefits, social interaction, and connection to nature and open space that comes with vibrant and supported parks and recreation."

Park and Recreation Month is a program of the National Recreation and Park Association. For more information, go to www.nrpa.org/july.

About the National Recreation and Park Association

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) is a national not-for-profit organization dedicated to advancing park, recreation and conservation efforts that enhance quality of life for all people. Through its network of 21,000 recreation and park professionals and citizens, NRPA encourages the promotion of healthy lifestyles, recreation initiatives, and conservation of natural and cultural resources. For more information, visit www.nrpa.org. For digital access to NRPA's flagship publication, *Parks & Recreation*, visit www.parksandrec-magazine.org.

If you have any questions about July is Parks and Recreation Month, please contact John Keates at Mason County Parks, 427-9670, ext. 669 or Mark Ziegler at Shelton Parks and Recreation 432-5194.

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