



Rainbow Springs Community Club, Inc., P.O. Box 388, Granite Falls, WA. 98252 | Phone: 360.691.2683

<http://www.rscconline.org> info@rscconline.org

Board Welcomes New Members

The board of directors is pleased to announce the addition of two new board members. Kenny Jans joins us as a trustee, is an eight year resident, and a jack of all trades, who volunteered during our Community Work party. Kenny has a lot of great ideas, and is a welcome addition to our board of directors. Also new to the board as a trustee, is resident Hope Larson. Hope moved into Rainbow Springs in June of 2013 and immediately began to volunteer, by updating our Lake Park Bulletin Board, attending meeting,s and working hard during our Community work party.

Also taking on a new expanded role is John Angell, who was elevated to the position of Vice President at our September meeting. John is an 8 year resident and has served previous 4 years as a trustee. John is a small business owner, astronomer, ham radio operator, avid biker and operates the Rainbow Springs weather station. For the latest weather conditions you can follow his weather station at:

www.wunderground.com
search KWAGRANI3



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New Parking Stickers

A few residents have mentioned that they were not able to park at our parks in convertibles or open jeeps without fear of towing, since the hanging Parking Passes could be removed. To remedy that issue the Association is now offering Parking stickers which can be placed on the bumper of an open vehicle or motor bike.



If you have a motor cycle, or an open vehicle, you need a sticker, and have paid your dues, you can call the hotline and request one.

360-691-2683

Community Work Party Thanks

Participation at our Summer Work Party (which was held on July 12th) was as usual ...*very low*. Even though a reminder was sent out with dues notices, a sign was posted at the gate for several weeks, and the Work Party was on the first page of the last newsletter, the turnout was disappointing. Because of the low turnout only half of the projects were completed.

The following people did show up and our heart felt thanks goes to them:

Kevin Hayes – board member

Annette Blandino – board member

Vicki Jans – board member

Kenny Jans – spouse of board member

Warren Rainville – board member

Molly Ronne – board member

Kiana Ronne – daughter of board member

Ashlynn Ronne – daughter of board member

John Yauger - resident

Pete Weinert - resident

Jeff Baus - resident

Hope Larson – resident

Lily Vaughn – young daughter of a resident

Trinity Freeman – young relative of a board member

Besides the Board and their families, 4 residents and two youngsters showed up. Many residents are quick to complain but very few will actually show up to volunteer.

Reset your clocks as Daylight Savings Time ends

Don't forget to reset your clocks
on Sunday Morning
November 2nd at 2:00 AM.



It's also a great time to change
the batteries in your smoke
detectors and carbon monoxide
alarms

Join nextdoor.com website for important Neighborhood Updates

You can track all kinds of neighborhood updates for Rainbow Springs by joining Nextdoor.com. Find out important items such as crime updates, lost and found, items for sale and neighbor communication. You can even download an app to get updates on your cell phone.

To join go to:

www.nextdoor.com/!UJL6FK



It's your community too! Treat it like your own home! – by John Angell, Vice President

Yes! Rainbow Springs is your community & your home too! But Too often, I see evidence that not everyone feels that way! Everything from leaving garbage on the beach to reckless driving in the community! You would not want someone leaving their garbage all over your property, but when we allow people to do this at the river - that is in effect what you are doing!

You would not allow a group of under age kids have a party on your property ... but when it happens at the river - and you look the other way - that is what you are doing! Most the rules in our community are simple and common sense, but you also need to realize that Washington State Laws & Snohomish County Laws still apply! You cannot drive unlicensed vehicles on county roads, and the same is in our community. Also, you need to be a licensed driver to operate a motor vehicle in our community as well.

Here are some of the issues we have recently seen that need attention and/or discussion.

- 1) Littering in community areas. You would not leave garbage all over your lawn - but many do not remove garbage from our parks
- 2) You would not destroy yard furniture in your yard, yet we have had a lot of vandalism at our community parks
- 3) You would not let a stranger park on your property - but when you look the other way when non-residents park here - that is what you are doing!

Some other rules we have recently seen violated are

- 1) Transferring of parking passes. You cannot "give" your pass to a friend or neighbor for use. All passes have numbers and are registered
- 2) Driving ATVs or other non-street legal vehicles on the property
- 3) Parking vehicles on the Lake Dam

Our board and a few community members have been charged with enforcing these rules. We are not the cops! But, we would like to resolve any issues or disputes without involving law enforcement. If you are asked by a board member to either do something or to discontinue – Please listen to them & respect them! We are only looking out for all of us here! You may wonder what the big deal is - but understand that we do not want things to get out of hand either!

Here are some of the most common complaints we get

1. Dogs or other pets running loose.
2. ATV's driven in our community
3. Littering
4. Use of drugs or alcohol at community parks
5. Conducting inappropriate business from inside our community
6. Blocking or denying community members access to their property

Our community bylaws are available on our website.

Remember, these as well as local laws apply to EVERYONE!

This summer vandals destroyed the sign at the Lake Park. This little "prank" cost the community \$477.00 to replace the sign with aluminum sign that will last longer. There are a lot of better ways to spend Community funds than repairing vandalism.



Halloween is coming

Since Halloween falls on a Friday night this year, there will likely be heavier traffic and more parties. The gate will remain closed for the security of our residents. Please take extra care driving. **SLOW DOWN AND WATCH FOR TRICK OR TREATERS.** If your children go out after dusk or dark, remember to use glow sticks or flashlights to keep them safe and visible to drivers. Be sure and lock all your vehicles to guard against car prowls.



Why Do We Have the Rainbow Springs HOA?

This question comes up occasionally and usually by people who don't like to follow a few simple rules. Historically Rainbow Springs Assoc. never owned the property that is now Rainbow Springs. A developer bought the property and sold the lots as vacation property. When he refused to make good on certain promises he had made, like creating the Lake and River Parks and bringing in drinkable water to replace the well water, the few residents that were here organized and took him to court. The Homeowners Association was formed from that first action.

We are a private non-profit corporation. If the members vote to dissolve the corporation by a majority vote the following things would have to happen. The assets would have to be liquidated. That means the Lake Parks and River Park and Track B behind 119th and 120th would be sold. Developers would come in and build homes on those lots. The money that comes in from developers would not be enough to do the mandatory widening of all the streets to comply with county standards. Each home owner would lose the front easement and part of their front yards to widen the streets. AND they would be assessed for the cost of that widening of the streets. If the county deems it appropriate to add culverts, or drains or sidewalks the property owners will also be on the hook for that cost as well.

The speed limits would go up to 35. That means some people who drive 35 now will likely drive 50 instead. If the county deems it necessary to also install street lights, the initial installation costs could be placed on the property owners as well. There would be no gate or speed bumps and the quality of life would be forever changed. There would be no access to the lake or the river parks on a hot day, unless you live on either frontage.

Years ago when the county came in and installed the first water main, the cost of that project was assessed to each lot owner. Each member had to pay over \$5,000.00. Many of them could not afford the cost and had to move away or lost their homes to county auctions.

The roads will become county roads and added maintenance costs for those roads could then fall on the taxpayers....you, and could be a factor in your future property taxes. While it does at times seem like a burden to have a community governed by the Association it also offers a way of life that can be very desirable. This association offers more for the money than most associations. This HOA tries not to interfere with people's lives, or place burdensome restrictions that are unreasonable. Just common sense rules that help us live peaceably together. You can paint your house any color you like. You can fly our nation's flag if you so desire. You can even fly a Seahawks 12 flag if you like. You can park your RV next to your house. You can have weeds in your yard and we won't fine you. Your children can play in the neighborhoods. And if you can follow the county laws you can have a quality of life that is better than most HOAs and at a much better price.

Our Parks are Drug Free Zones! That includes Marijuana Use....

This summer there were complaints from some of our residents concerning the open drug use in our parks. Since the new Marijuana laws have gone into affect many people, including some of our residents seem to think that it is okay to openly smoke Marijuana in public (meaning out in the open) in our parks and common areas. These are areas where families and young children could be present. That is against the law! Our parks are “**Drug Free Zones**” if anyone witnesses another person using Marijuana or any drugs in our parks they are encouraged to call the Sherriff. The new law only permits usage in small quantities for those 21 and older, in private. Like alcohol it is illegal for anyone under age 21 to use Marijuana. Keep it out of our parks and common areas.

While not all-inclusive, here are the highlights of the places where **YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED** to smoke pot or consume cannabis products in Washington State, according to the law:

- in public
- in view of the general public (this applies to our common areas)
- at the retail shop where you bought it
- most hotels and other accommodations
- restaurants
- lounges, clubs, and bars
- sports stadiums
- concert venues
- all federal land, including national parks and national forests, & buildings
- some Indian reservation land
- As a driver or passenger in a vehicle

What If You Do Get Caught Smoking Marijuana in the Wrong Place?

If state or local law enforcement catches you smoking Marijuana or consuming Cannabis products where it remains illegal, you might receive a ticket or citation and have to pay a fine. If you are caught with marijuana by federal agents on federal lands, the penalty may include a citation, losing your driver's license, performing community service, and/or a probationary sentence. Either way the citation will be on your record.

Please be respectful of your neighbors and be responsible when using alcohol at our parks and leave the Marijuana use at home. If you see any drug use please call **911**. The non-emergency number is: **425-388-3411**.

To find out where it is legal to use Marijuana:

<http://gonw.about.com/od/statelawsforvisitors/ss/Where-You-Can-and-Cant-Smoke-Pot-in-Washington-State.htm>

And for the legal definition of the use of Medical Marijuana you can go to this site:

<http://app.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=69.51A.010>

Did you know? It is **illegal** to burn these materials in an outdoor fire **anywhere** in Washington:



Paint



Garbage



Asphalt



Cardboard



Tires



Plastic



Metals



Pesticide Containers



Lumber



Construction Debris



Paper



Petroleum Products



Dead Animals



Demolition Debris

The materials shown above create toxic smoke when burned. Breathing this smoke can harm your health.

It is illegal to burn during a burn ban. It is *always* illegal to use a burn barrel. It is illegal to burn garbage, paint, tires, asphalt, cardboard, plastic, metals, pesticide containers, lumber, construction debris, demolition debris, paper, petroleum products, and dead animals.

RSCC ANSWERS - The following are responses to actual questions asked RSCC through their hotline, email or to board members.

Q: "Why don't renters get parking passes to use the parks?"

A: Well actually renters can get parking passes to use the parks. Provided their landlord has paid their Annual Dues. If they have not paid their dues they were not issued parking passes to pass on to their renters. If you are a renter, you should call your landlord for your parking pass.

Q: What is that big giant log cabin on the end of 117th on the river?

A: That is the Tolatam Lodge. It is privately owned by a person in Seattle. It was originally built by a private member of a church to use as a retreat lodge. It may surprise people to know that even though the road access to that Lodge it is through 116th in Blue Spruce Grove, technically the lodge is within the boundaries of Rainbow Springs and the owners faithfully pay dues on both lots that the private lodge is built on.

Q: Why do we allow fireworks? On the Fourth of July bottle rockets were landing on my roof.

A: Rainbow Springs follows the Snohomish County guidelines for the use of fireworks. According to that law, bottle rockets are illegal throughout the county including Rainbow Springs. That does not stop people from using them. To ban fireworks in our community we would have to have the association membership vote for such a ban. If it happens again call the Sherriff.

Q: Can anyone have an unauthorized car towed?

A: Unfortunately NO, if the unauthorized cars are parked at the River or Lake Park they can only be towed by one of the association members listed on our Tow Contract. The best thing to do is to call the Hotline and report the vehicle so someone can follow-up. Cars left abandoned on private property can be towed by the property owner.

Q: Is there fish in the lake? Do we stock it?

A: Yes there is a variety of fish in the lake, Rainbow Trout, small mouth Bass, Yellow Perch Crappe, Sunfish, and Bullfrogs have been reported. The quantities aren't known. We used to stock the lake regularly with trout and there was a netted trout fry nursery in the shallows of the south end of the lake. The local otter population feasted on the trout we provided, and it became a waste of money to stock the lake just to feed the otter. Another interesting fact is that the originators of our man-made lake registered it with the Department of Ecology as the "Rainbow Springs Reservoir Fishery".

Q: How old is the lake?

A: 48 years, it was created in 1966.

Q: Is fishing allowed on the lake?

A: YES and contrary to popular belief you ***DO indeed need a valid fishing license to fish even on private property on a privately owned lake anywhere in the state of Washington.*** Anyone fishing without a license is poaching and large fines can be levied. *If you are age 14 or under, you do not need a fishing license.* The only difference about fishing on a private lake is that the daily catch limits do not have to be followed. Exception is that if you are 14 or under, and fishing for salmon on the river you do need a punch card so they can keep track of the catch. You can get a fishing license at the ACE Hardware in downtown Granite Falls. ALSO a fishing license is not required for Bullfrogs if you happen to like frog legs. Non-residents are never allowed to fish on our lake unless accompanied by a resident. Poachers can be anonymously reported by calling **1-877-933-9847**

Q: Is there a boat launch on the lake?

A: No if you are not a lake resident, you will have to portage your boat from the Lake Park. Remember vehicles are not permitted on the Dam Dike surrounding the Lake Park, according to state Department of Ecology regulations.

Q: When is the fishing season for the river?

A: Because the seasons vary depending on the species of fish it is best to check the Washington State Dept. of Fisheries pamphlet for specific rules and dates. You do need a license unless you are 14 years or under <http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/01590/wdfw01590.pdf>

Q: Why aren't there ducks on the lake?

A: We do have wild ducks on the lake, just not many. Years ago we had migrating Canada Geese all along our dam dike, which made it difficult to walk along because there was so much Goose poop. We also had an aggressive territorial resident Muscovy Duck that lived at the lake park and was non-migratory and chased out all other ducks for many years. Most of the newly hatched ducklings are swallowed whole by the Bass and Bullfrogs in the lake and the Eagles hunt ducks as well. We have ducks just not as many as in previous years.

Q: Why can't we raise chickens for fresh eggs?

A: Chickens smell and make noise. The association membership voted to ban them along with all other types of livestock.

RSCC ANSWERS – Continued....**Q: Why didn't we have a Community Garage Sale this year?**

A: All the work was previously done by the Board of Directors and with only 6 members this year they were spread too thin. Anyone can organize the community sale if they want to. Every time the board gets this question they ask that person if they would like to organize a sale and they are turned down. We have some signs in our shed, if anyone wants to organize a sale next year they are welcome to.

Q: What happened to the Gate Keypad?

A: On July 2nd there was a local transformer that blew and it created a power surge that fried some of our electronics. The gate still worked for remote controls only. Because not everyone has a remote we had to leave the gate open until a repair can be done. We also had reports of coffee makers and small machines that were plugged in at the time were also fried.

Q: Why doesn't the Sheriff patrol in Rainbow Springs?

A: Actually they occasionally do. They are spread thin and most are responding to local emergencies. They do have jurisdiction in Rainbow Springs if you do ever need to report something. Do not use the 911 system unless it is a real emergency. They also have a daytime (9:00 am to 5:00 pm) number for other non-emergent business **425-388-3411**.

Q: What can be done about youth partiers down at the River?

A: Either call the Sheriff if there is underage drinking and drugging, or tell the offenders to clear out or you *will* call the sheriff. Be careful, some are unsavory types. If you are a parent, it would help to know where your youth are, who they are with and what they are doing.

Q: I heard there was some abandoned land down along the river, can we use it?

A: NO!!!! There is no such thing as abandoned land. Someone owns it. Just because a property owner is not physically present, that does not mean you can trespass on that property! That is against the law! Some of our lots are non-buildable, and used only occasionally as recreational lots by their owners. If you were not home would you want someone entering and using your house? You shouldn't be accessing the river from private property lots. Use the River Park only to access the river. No exceptions!

Q: Why do I have to pay multiple dues for owning multiple lots?

A: Each lot is listed at the county as an individual parcel of land. The more parcels you purchase, the more dues you have to pay. You can have a boundary line adjustment done at the county, and merge the multiple lots together to make one big lot and are issued one tax ID number you will be charged for one dues payment. Your tax at the county will still be assessed by the value of the property. If your lots are separate you are charged for separate dues because you can sell the individual lots. If your home takes up 2 lots, you are responsible to pay 2 dues. The only way around that is to do a boundary line adjustment.

Q: Can you put a trailer, modular or mobile home on a lot?

A: Mobile or Modular homes are not allowed to be placed on lots in Rainbow Springs as residences. However a recreational trailer, RV, motor home, or camper is allowed on non-buildable recreational lots not longer than 3 months at a time. We are zoned for single family dwellings only. Empty RVs and motor homes and trailers can be stored by their owner on lots with single family dwellings, unless they are parked on the road easement which obscures vision for drivers on those roads. Short term visiting friends and family in trailers or RVs are welcome.

Q: Why don't we make residents mow their lawns?

A: Unless we re-write our Bylaws to require residents to mow their lawns, the association cannot regulate the length of lawns.

Q: Why can't we use off road dirt bikes, ATVs, or quad runners in Rainbow Springs?

A: The Association membership voted to ban them 6/27/2007. Only legal licensed road vehicles can be used on our roads. Also No motorcycles are allowed without original factory muffler system due to the noise. Contrary to popular belief... AND according to the Snohomish County Sheriff Dept. all county laws and rules of the road also apply and are enforceable inside Rainbow Springs even though our roads are private, and Quad runners are not allowed on any county roads.

Q: Why are there so many cars parked on some of the lots?

A: Some families have multiple drivers, some people collect cars. Rainbow Springs does not regulate or enforce the laws that already exist. Snohomish County Code enforcement allows for 5 vehicles to be parked on each lot. If a lot exceeds that number they can be reported to Code Enforcement for a code violation.

Q: Why can't people be ticketed for traffic violations inside Rainbow Springs?

A: Violators can be, and have been ticketed. Some of the violations we very frequently see are blowing through stop signs, speeding, and failure to yield right of way at stop signs.

VOTE Yes to approve Fire District 17 Levy. Your property taxes will NOT go up!***The following is a letter from our Fire Chief:***

The Granite Falls Fire Department (also known as Snohomish County Fire District 17) has received calls from people we serve who are confused about a recent flyer they received. The flyer was about a ballot measure for Snohomish County Fire District 21, a fire district near Arlington.

The Granite Falls Fire Department is asking voters to renew its levy for emergency medical service (EMS) at the same rate previously approved by voters. This is NOT the same request being made by the fire district near Arlington.

When in doubt, please read your ballot and make sure that you know what your fire district is asking before you vote. You also may look up who provides you with fire service online at the Snohomish County Auditor's web site:

<http://www.snoco.org/app2/aud/audprecinct/AudPrec01-EnterAddr.asp>.

Thank you,

Granite Falls Fire Department

Jim Haverfield

Fire Chief

Snohomish Co. Fire District #17 | PO Box 1049 | Granite Falls, WA 98252

Office: 360-691-5553



**DON'T FORGET TO PUT YOUR
ALUMINUM CANS OUT AT CURBSIDE,
ON SUNDAYS BY 2 PM, TO SUPPORT
TROOP 114**



Check out our community website

<http://www.rscconline.org>

Calendar of Upcoming Events

OCTOBER 2014

- Fri. Oct. 31st - . HALLOWEEN – Gate remains closed

NOVEMBER 2014

- Sun. Nov. 2nd - . Fall Back – daylight savings time ends
- **Tues. Nov. 4th – VOTE yes Fire District 17 Levy**
- Wed. Nov. 19th – @ 6:30 PM; Monthly BOD Meeting - Location posted
- Thurs. Nov. 27th – THANKSGIVING DAY

DECEMBER 2014

- Wed. Dec. 17th - @ 6:30 PM; Monthly BOD Meeting - Location posted
- Thurs. Dec. 25th – CHRISTMAS DAY

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