



Lights and Shadows from the Dishman Hills, January, 1997

ICE STORM RESULTS

Our president, Michael Hamilton and Guy Gifford, Department of Natural Resources, surveyed parts of the Hills for tree damage and found several trees that will have to be cut down since they pose a hazard to adjacent property. Many trails are blocked with downfall. April when State Youth Cleanup will begin in move debris off the trails.



have to be cut down since cent property. Many trails Cleanup will begin in Corp workers can help There is a lot of work to

do and we can use some volunteers for this task in March, April, and May. Fallen trees will simply be laid aside to rot and go back to the soil, which is Nature's way. Trees with tops broken off may become snags that will attract woodpeckers, which will excavate nest cavities in them. Afterwards, chickadees and bluebirds will find these cavities suitable for nesting. Insect infestation is not expected, since bark beetles attack only live, standing trees. Fallen trees may serve as homes for carpenter ants, whose galleries hasten their decomposition. Their colonies would also attract more woodpeckers.



NEW FORMAT

We are in the process of transferring newsletter composition and printing to the new computer system that was donated last year by Hewlett-Packard here in Spokane. The overall "look" of the letter may change somewhat from month to month till we refine the format. We also have to transfer the accounting responsibilities since Dave Lentz (and his accounting dept.) has resigned as treasurer due to lack of time. The new computer will be very busy! Dave Adams has volunteered to be our new treasurer. Meanwhile keep those donations coming please.

OUR ORGANIZATION



We are a non-profit organisation dedicated to saving natural areas of the Spokane region for people to enjoy and learn from.

President: Michael Hamilton (747-8147 for questions); Vice President: Tom Rogers; Secretary: Helen Lininger; Treasurer: vacant; Board Members: Francis & June Potter and Ray Staley. All serve without pay, we have no paid employees. We strive to keep expenses at a minimum.

Our monthly meetings are at Opportunity Elementary, South 1109 Willbur on the third Tuesday at 7 PM, **You are cordially invited.**

CONSERVATION FUTURES TAX



Last month the County Commissioners voted unanimously to extend the Conservation Futures tax for one more year, and to put it to the vote of the people next Fall whether or not to keep the tax past this year. While there is a very strong support amongst those familiar with its benefits, the public, in general, may not support it if they do not understand the tremendous returns derived from saving Spokane's Natural Heritage. Revenues from the tax will be used exclusively for the purchase of nature areas in Spokane County. The tax is collected from Property taxes and is very small, about \$.60 per \$1,000 assessed value. Parks and Recreation has already make up a priority purchase list and land for our Tower Mountain Project is at the top of the list. This tax is the best means we have to protect many of the beautiful nature areas for generations to come, despite the development we are experiencing. The DHNAA plans to support the Conservation Futures tax by "spreading the word" about how important this program will be for maintaining the quality of life in these parts. We hope that you will keep this issue in mind as 1997 progresses towards the Fall vote, and make it a topic of conversation with your friends, family, and associates. Stay tuned for further developments on the Conservation Future tax vote.



NEXT MONTH

The Dishman Hills Natural Area has been expanding. Find out what, where, and why in next month's Lights and Shadows.

Please use this form when sending **CONTRIBUTIONS** or **DUES**
All contributions are tax deductible

SEND CONTRIBUTIONS TO: DHNAA
E. 10820 Maxwell
Spokane, WA 99206

Your Name: _____

Please put your account no. 13080 on your check

\$ _____ MEMORIAL FOR _____
\$ _____ LAND PURCHASE FUND
\$ _____ ANNUAL DUES due in January (\$10 regular, \$5 student
or living lightly, \$2 to cover bulletin expenses)

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