

April 13, 2020

Spokane River Shoreline: Our Most Valuable Asset

The River District has nearly three miles of Spokane River frontage, running both East and West of Harvard Road. The Spokane River, the Centennial Trail and the native habitat surrounding them are the River District's most valuable assets and they distinguish us from any other community in the region.

As part of the master plan for the community, we have designated a 200-foot shoreline buffer area upland from the ordinary high water mark of the river. No construction will occur in this designated shoreline area and everywhere possible we will retain and not disturb the native habitat and plants. While some of the shoreline protection area is on private land, most of this is public land owned and managed by Washington States Parks. This mean it is public land held in trust for public use.

Access to the river and shoreline area are very important. We have worked consistently over the past decade, with Washington State Parks, to provide access trails connecting the community to the Centennial Trail and on habitat restoration and enhancement. We urge all residents to use the designated paved pathways to access the Centennial Trail. This will minimize habitat damage. If there are areas where you feel trail access can be improved please let us know.

Protecting the shoreline is the responsibility of each of us. Stay on the paved trails to avoid damage to native plants. In addition, the shoreline is home to many birds and animals, let's respect their homes as we do our own.

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