

April 2020 News

In this issue...

- Rep. Larsen Call-In
- Social
- Take Action
- Events
- Legislative Session
- Good News
- Ray of Hope

Rep. Rick Larsen Call-In for Environmental Issues

Sno-Isle Conservation Chair Nancy Johnson will join Rep. Larsen on a call-in this Thursday, April 2 at 5:30 pm. You can submit questions!

He will provide a quick update on congressional COVID-19 actions, and then take environmental questions from Nancy.

Thursday, April 2 Please dial in at 5:25 pm We'll start at 5:30 pm

Dial-in number: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 635 183 820



Please email your name and questions to Jack Wellman at jack@ricklarsen.org by 12 pm on Thursday. Questions will be compiled for Nancy to select and ask Rep. Larsen.

Ready for a Virtual Social?

Still the third Thursday, April 16, but now connect on your smartphone or computer via Zoom meeting software.

Visit face-to-face virtually with environmentalist friends and colleagues from the safety of your own home. Share action items as well as isolation survival tips. BYOB.

At 5:30 pm we'll be available to welcome you and help you connect. At 6 pm the Social will begin and at 6:30 pm the feature video begins. Drop in anytime.

This month's feature is a short video about the inspiring *Students for Sustainability*.

Before the meeting download **ZOOM** - if you don't already have it. The install process varies, so please read the screen instructions carefully and forge ahead relentlessly.

Then join the **Social** when you can: https://zoom.us/j/200716378



The good old days....

Get Zoom setup help before April 16: Tom.Crisp@Washington.SierraClub.org

What we CAN do now

If you are looking for ways to share your concerns and hopes regarding the climate, you may want to express your sentiments through social media on sites such as the Sno-Isle Sierra Club group Facebook

Or these other sites:

- Earth Day Network: hashtags #EarthDay2020 and #EarthRise, social media @earthdaynetwork
- Twitter #ClimateStrikeOnline
- Earthday.org



Take Action

These are challenging times, with much uncertainty: Vacations, celebrations and other events have to be cancelled, students are missing out on school, and many people fear for their livelihood, some may even go hungry.

What are some things we can do to focus our thoughts and energy in positive ways? We can discuss this during our virtual social, and some people have begun sharing ideas in the Sno-Isle Sierra Club Facebook group. Gardening can be a soothing and rewarding activity, and pulling out invasive plants could be a way to vent frustration.

Those of us fortunate enough to have secure shelter and food sources may be able to contribute to food banks or help the less fortunate in other ways.



Events

How can we highlight Earth Day?

How disappointing that we are unable to gather for the 50th anniversary of Earth Day on April 22. There was hope of rallies surpassing the turn-out of 20 million participants in 1970.

This year's Earth Day theme is Climate
Action -- a topic that cannot be postponed.
Therefore many virtual Earth Day events
and activities are being planned. Check
these resources to plan how you can
celebrate Earth Day while keeping safe.
Read our List



Legislative Session Outcomes

This year's short legislative session ended with mixed results for Sierra Club supported bills.

For deeper insights, see Crosscut's <u>Review</u> and Washington Environmental Council's <u>Wrapup</u>



Good News from the Legislature

A long overdue win, the Suction Dredge Mining bill prohibits that destructive practice on all critical habitat and spawning areas for salmon, steelhead and bull trout.

The Zero Emission Vehicles Mandate passed and will make Washington a preferred state (with California, Oregon, and BC) for electric cars, plug-in hybrids and hydrogen fuel cell vehicles.



Photo by Bill Truitt

We will hope for more good news in the future when the Clean Fuel Standard bill passes.

We live in a very tense society

We are pulled apart

and we need to learn

how to pull ourselves together

I think that at least part of the answer

lies in solitude.

Helen Hayes

from the Sierra Club Daily Ray of Hope