
Administration:

Rachel Cardone, Chair

- Members Present: Valerie Cholvin, Ron Rochon, Helen Ross Pitts, Eric Anderson, Frank Metheny, Tom Grant, Dave Magorty, Alice Lanczos, Rachel Cardone
- SPU Staff Present: Dave Hilmoe, Julie Burman, Sue Morrison, Cornell Amaya, Wylie Harper
- Review of April Meeting Summary – One change requested.

Dave Hilmoe reported that the Utility has accelerated the plan to deal with removal of invasive species in the watershed. He would like to meet before the June meeting to discuss. Julie will setup a 1+ hour meeting with Dave for interested members. Helen Pitts and Frank Metheny indicated they would be interested.

Agenda Topics:

Lake Youngs Algae Bloom, Part 2

Dave Hilmoe

Lake Youngs has always had algae. Recently, there have been different types of algae. Before ozonation on the Cedar, there was an earthy taste to the water. An increase in algae has been seen with the sunny days. There was a bloom in February that may have caused the spring bloom to be smaller. Cedar Water is treated, but not filtered.

Impacts of the 2008 Algal Bloom

- Cedar Water Treatment Plant
- Wholesale Customers
- Seattle Direct Service Customers

2008 SPU Response

- Monitor in the lake – staff take samples from boats
- Communication with wholesale customers
- Responding to direct service customers
- Kept in contact with Public Health – State health said it is an aesthetic issue

Plans Forward

An expert panel of 6 members reviewed Lake Youngs data and said it is a high quality lake, and do not know what caused the different types of algae. The expert panel recommended that SPU improve understanding, preparedness, and plan for dealing with other types of algae. They recommended improving partnerships. The panel said SPU has a very good limnology program.

Wylie Harper of SPU's lab presented various slides showing coliforms. SPU would check a coliform growth and perform further tests for bacteria such as E-coli. Wylie indicated that other microscopic pictures could be sent to the committee.

Frank Metheny commented that SPU has managed the issue well. He suggested that the department have a thoughtful response planned in advance - should a media event occur regarding algae blooms.

Drinking Water Quality Report

Cornell Amaya

The Drinking Water Quality report has gone to the printer. 125,000 copies will be printed. It was decided to use the darker colors. The reports should be received in the mail before the June meeting. The online survey at the SPU website will ask questions such as "Do you find the information helpful?", and "What else would you like to see?" Cornell concluded by thanking the WSAC for their helpful input. The next report could say something about the WSAC, and also perhaps the algae bloom. Cornell stressed that the main goal of the report is education.

Recruitment

Helen Pitts & Alice Lanczos

Helen and Alice created a document to get thoughts moving. Julie stated that Aurora Mendoza has drafted a recruitment strategy. She will be asking what each member's personal plans are for re-upping. WSAC has been less strategically focused in recruitment than the other committees. It was suggested that SPU determine the inequities and make an effort to go out to constituencies. Previously, SPU's recruitment was passive. Recruitment could be a much more direct and thoughtful method. It was suggested that targeting different groups of people such as apartment dwellers or low income might be a strategy. Tom suggested adding industrial & commercial customers to the target recruitment. There is a ½ hour meeting scheduled between Chuck Clark, Rachel Cardone and Alice Lanczos. Members should email questions to Rachel. There was some discussion between members regarding whether or not the WSAC should be involved in recruitment. Helen asked that committee members think about interest in continuing on the WSAC.

Wrap Up

Rachel Cardone

- Next meeting Wednesday, June 17th.