

# Spanaway Lake Advisory Group

Pierce County Parks and Recreation

Chemical Use at Spanaway Park, Spanaway Lake Golf Course, and Sprinker Recreation Center

## Spanaway Park

Spanaway Park is located adjacent to the northeastern shore of Spanaway Lake. The Park is 135-acres in size, and public use includes aquatic recreation, picnicking, fishing, and walking along the waterfront.

- Spanaway Park was connected to the local sewer system in 1993
- Spanaway Park has a maintenance shop located adjacent to Military Road, which is downgradient of Spanaway Lake and over 300 feet to the northeast of Spanaway Creek
- The parking lots and roadways were upgraded in 2007 to infiltrate stormwater and reduce runoff; this includes pervious pavement, permeable pavers, stormwater ponds and biofiltration units
- Landscaping maintenance in Spanaway Park is mostly passive (mowing) with herbicide spot treatments to control weeds along curbs and around signs:
  - Glyphosate
  - Crossbow
  - Syl-tac (an oil that allows herbicides/fertilizer to stay on foliage)
- Spanaway Park contains one maintained physical fitness field approximately 400 feet from the shore of Lake Spanaway; the physical fitness field receives one fertilizer application in the spring:
  - Q4 and Speed Zone herbicide applied in alternating years
  - SuperTrace micronutrient fertilizer 2-0-4 (nitrogen-phosphorous-potassium)
  - 25-3-10 fertilizer (nitrogen-phosphorous-potassium)
  - Syl-tac (an oil that allows herbicides/fertilizer to stay on foliage)

## Lake Spanaway Golf Course

Lake Spanaway Golf Course is located to the east of Spanaway Park. The nearest part of the golf course is approximately 300 feet from the northern end of Lake Spanaway.

- Lake Spanaway Golf Course is connected to the local sewer system
- Water Rights
  - Allows 92.5 million gallons a year from Lake Spanaway for irrigation
  - The Golf Course average use is 20 million gallons a year, highest use was in 2015 when approximately 30 million gallons were used due to record heat
- Water drainage
  - There are no ditches, piles or conduits that could convey surface water runoff from the course to Spanaway Lake
  - Based on existing groundwater data, groundwater recharge from the Golf Course would flow to the northwest and not to Spanaway Lake

- The Golf Course is run by professional groundskeepers, the course superintendent Tony Bubenias, is an agronomist
  - The soil is tested to determine the minimum level of sustainable nutrients for turfgrass, fertilizer is expensive and not over-applied
    - Example, the amount of phosphorous recommended for turfgrass is 21 parts per million, the most recent soil test in June of 2016 indicated phosphorous level of 17 parts per million; indicating that the Golf Course has a phosphorous deficiency
  - Phosphorous applications are liquid foliar feedings (uptake through the grass foliage) and not soil feeding applications
    - The total amount of phosphorous that will be applied to the greens from April to September is 124.5 pounds over 9 applications (about 3 lbs for 4 acres)
  - Maintain pesticide application records for all fungicides and herbicides (pesticides are currently not used)
    - Fungicides applications are only to the greens, which average one application per month

### Sprinker Recreation Center

Sprinker Recreation Center is located over 1,000 feet to the northeast and downgradient of Lake Spanaway. The Sprinker Recreation Center is actively used as a sports facility, and contains maintained ball fields, tennis courts, an ice-skating rink, and skate park. Spanaway Creek flows through Bresemann Forest, a natural area that contains a mature and old-growth Douglas-fir forest.

- Sprinker Recreation Center is connected to the local sewer system
- The parking has been updated to pervious asphalt to reduce stormwater runoff
- The following herbicides and fertilizer are used to maintain the ball fields:
  - Q4 terf herbicide
  - SuperTrace fertilizer micronutrient fertilizer 2-0-4 (nitrogen-phosphorous-potassium)
  - Speedzone broadleaf weed control
  - 25-0-10 fertilizer (nitrogen-phosphorous-potassium)
  - Syl-tac (an oil that allows herbicides/fertilizer to stay on foliage)
- Glyphosate (a herbicide) is used to control weeds in and around the hardscaping
- Chalk and paint are used on the ball fields

Please send any questions or comments regarding this site information to:

Jess Stone, Natural Lands Steward

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