

Help Review the City's Shoreline Master Plan this Spring and Summer

The shorelines of our rivers, lakes and streams are important not only for people to enjoy, but for healthy natural resources and wildlife.



Join us for an Open House! Turn over for more information »

What's happening

The City of Camas is reviewing its Shoreline Master Program (SMP), as required every eight years by the Washington State Shoreline Management Act. Whether you live or work near shorelines or visit them for recreation, you can give your input to help keep the SMP:

- Current with changes in laws and rules.
- Consistent with other City plans and regulations.
- Responsive to changed circumstances, new information and improved data.

Save the date for an open house April 22nd, and plan to attend any of the upcoming public hearings.

The City anticipates adoption of the reviewed and revised plan in spring 2021.

What's likely to change

You can see a list of all proposed changes on the project website, cityofcamas.us/planning/planningenvironmentalshorelinemaster, and at the April open house, but in brief:

- Permits for some types of shoreline development may become easier to obtain, and less often required—especially for homeowners.
- Some development could require restoration afterward—which typically involves planting trees and other vegetation.
- The Shoreline Management Review Committee could be eliminated. Instead, city staff would review standard development permits. The hearings examiner would review conditional-use permits and variances. This would be more efficient and more in line with other jurisdictions. The public would still be notified and have a chance to give input.

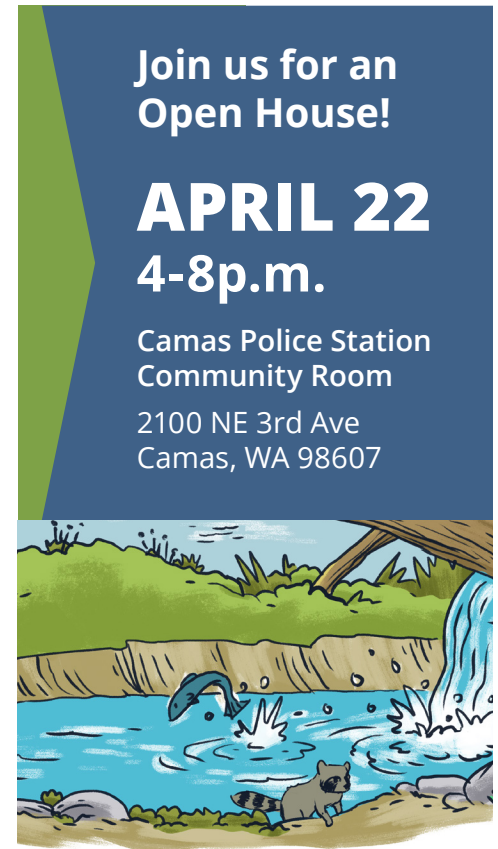
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Background

Camas and its urban growth boundary have 946 acres on 26 miles of shorelines—along Lacamas Creek, Fallen Leaf Lake, Lacamas Lake, Round Lake, and the Columbia and Washougal rivers. Of those, 136 acres are undeveloped.

The goals of the Camas SMP are to:

- Balance the preservation and development of shorelines to allow mutually compatible uses, and to identify and reserve areas with unique attributes for commercial, residential, industrial, water, wildlife, fisheries, recreational and open-space uses.
- Promote public health, safety, and general welfare, and minimize public and private losses due to flood conditions in specific areas.
- Increase the general public's ability to enjoy the water's edge, travel on the water, and view the water and the shoreline from nearby locations.
- Ensure safe, clean water for the public's needs and enjoyment, and protect wildlife habitat.
- Protect shoreline resources, vegetation, important shoreline features, shoreline ecological functions and the processes that sustain them.
- Re-establish, rehabilitate and otherwise improve impaired shoreline ecology through voluntary and incentive-based programs and actions.
- Avoid or minimize the need for shoreline armoring—and when armoring is necessary, protect ecosystems, shoreline functions, and downstream properties.



Timeline

