Lake Tyee Trail Signs

Autumn 2026 (Collector's Edition)

Rain or Shine – Always A Good Time!

It's Autumn – The Pumpkin Spice time of year!

Temperatures are getting cooler, leaves are changing color, it's the perfect setting for a few friends to get together around a nice warm campfire.

If you can get away, Lake Tyee in the Fall is the perfect place to relax and enjoy some quiet time.

What's been happening?

Our Lake –

- 2026 has been another year of drought here at Lake Tyee. All the water sources that typically supply our lake dried up early this year. We didn't get the late Spring, early Summer rains that help keep the Creeks and Springs flowing, which in turn, help to keep the lake at higher levels going into the heat of Summer. As a result the lake level dropped early and quickly. It went from overflowing the Weir (dam under the bridge) to 0 on the gage by the Putt-Putt. That's a drop of 5.3 feet of water across a 55 acre lake.
  The lake being so low and shallow along with the days of warm temperatures and lots of sunshine created the perfect environment for the algae to grow.
  We experienced a couple of significant algae blooms this year. We tested the blooms as they happened and despite being ugly and smelling bad, they didn't produce toxins that ever exceeded the State's recommended levels for recreation. Not all algae blooms are toxic but the only way to be sure is by laboratory testing. You can see the results of all the algae testing we have done on the Washington State Toxic Algae website (https://www.nwtoxicalgae.org/) under "Find My Lake".
  The algae blooms die off as conditions change. Wind helps to circulate the water, temperatures dropping help reduce the algae growth and the rains help to put fresh water in the lake as well as cool the water temperature. We're happy the test results have been below the quidelines but you never know when a bloom could be or turn toxic.

  The State advises that if you see an algae bloom you should avoid contact by people and pets.
  We will post the appropriate State signage if we ever get tests showing toxins above the States recreational guidelines.
- A new Lake Health Committee has been formed to review the current status of the lake, research methods, equipment, policies and costs and to make recommendations to the Board for maintaining and improving the health of the lake.

Other -

- Contractors finished up the remaining punch list items for the pool change rooms, completing that project.
- Gate security cameras have been upgraded.
- During the changeroom construction, the contractors found the attic space above the entrance vestibules to the changeroom was infested with bats and there was a heavy presence of guano in that space causing a foul odor.

What's been happening – cont.

- We contracted a company to remove the bats, block any further entry by them and clean up the bat guano. That work has been completed.
- We have purchased two new replacement pieces of equipment for the maintenance staff. We purchased a new excavator and a new RTV utility vehicle. The old ones were at the end of their lifecycles and were scheduled for replacement on the Reserve study.

Our staff have been busy this summer,

Maintenance Work Orders

	June	July	August	September
Total Submitted	80	40	61	44
Total Completed	54	21	48	26

Submitted/Completed

	June	July	August	September
Electrical	7/7	0/0	2/2	1/1
Water	8/5	7/4	17/12	9/4
Septic	5/5	6/2	7/7	2/0
Trees	11/2	7/4	7/3	9/2
General	47/33	23/12	27/23	23/19
Lockouts/Restore utilities	2/2	2/2	1/1	0/0

Some of the Maintenance highlighs include,

- Finished adding the additional kayak racks at the Fan.

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What's been happening – cont.

- Removed the broken concrete in front of the pool house and graveled the area.
- Patched the large hole in the asphalt on Tyee Drive South in front of the office.
- Cleaned out the ditches and culverts in the Meadow. They replaced several culverts with larger drainage pipes.
- Added additional gravel to roads in the Meadow that were thin or hadn't received gravel yet.
- Exposed and cleaned out the culvert pipe that runs along Burpee Hill Road under the entrance to the Meadow.
- Removed and re-poured the low area of the concrete sidewalk in front of the office.
- Re-painted main and Meadow gates, added lights and reflectors.
- Numerous water repairs were made to leaking pipes, replaced several hydrants.
- Repaired multiple septic backups, repairing damaged lines from tree roots, crushed pipes and multiple clogs.
- Worked with the hazard tree teams to clean up tree debris after cutting.
- Painted/caulked several comfort stations.
- Applied dust control to the roads.
- Removed Alders on the Fan.
- Maintained the landscaping.

Security –

5/8/2026-6/19/2026

- **Warnings – 22 –** 3 speeding, 3, nuisance, 2 tarp policy, 2 disorderly conduct, 2 prohibited parking, 2 unauthorized garbage,1 each - untidy lot, motorized vehicle policy, multiple trailers, unlicensed driver, trespassing, pool/spa rules, unleashed pet, boat storage.
- **Notice of violations – 8 –** 2 untidy lot, 2 abusive to staff, 1 each speeding, tent policy, nuisance, unauthorized garbage.

6/20/0226-7/09/2026

- **Warnings – 22 –** 8 pool/spa rules. 4 boat storage, 2 unleashed pets, 1 each, speeding, unauthorized burning, other, care and caution, tent policy, trespassing, fishing, prohibited parking.
- **Notice of violations – 3 –** 1 each disorderly conduct, abusive to staff, unauthorized garbage.

7/10/2026-8/6/2026

- **Warnings – 23 –** 8 Untidy lot, 4 speeding, 3 210-day occupancy, 2 pool/spa rules, 2 unleashed pet, 1 each, unauthorized burning, other, tarp policy, complaint
- **Notice of violations – 2 –** 1 each untidy lot, unauthorized garbage.

8/7/2026-9/10/2026

- **Warnings – 33 -** 8 untidy lot, 6 speeding, 4 Pool/spa rules, 4 unleashed pet, 3 tarps, 2 fires during burn ban, 2 disorderly conduct, 1 ea. Boat storage, tailgating, unlicensed driver, prohibited parking,
- **Notice of violations –** 1 ea. 210-day, discharge of firearm, abusive to staff, untidy lot

What's been happening – cont.

Social Committee –

The Social Committee and the volunteers that help organize and run the events at Lake Tyee are awesome! A lot of time and effort goes into each event and the people working on the events deserve a huge THANK YOU!!!

The committee sponsored events for,

- 4th of July – Band was Sammy Steele
- Sports Day
- Labor Day – Band was Driftwood Drive

- Plus, Bingo nights, a free chili/nacho feast and more.

We have booked Driftwood Drive to perform for next 4th of July event.

DID YOU KNOW…

Lake Tyee is much more than just a great place for a vacation, it's actually good for you too!

Nowadays, there are so many reasons for us to spend our time staring at phone or computer screens and it affects our overall health. A recent study found that people who spend six hours or more per day in front of screens have a greater risk of developing depression symptoms yet other research found that as little as ten minutes outdoors can improve mood and cognitive function.

Making your health a priority isn't just about how you spend your time but also where you spend it. Just how much nature's healing powers may help isn't fully understood yet but it is known that spending time in a natural environment can affect humans both mentally and physically.

The American Psychological Association claims spending at least two hours per week out in nature can have benefits for both your physical and mental health. It could be a two-hour session or multiple smaller sessions either will help.

The health benefits include,

- Boosting your immune system – Being in nature, regardless of rain or shine you are exposing yourself to vitamin D, which is good for your immune system and your bones. People with lower vitamin D levels have been linked to higher risk of viral infections.
- Being immersed in a forest atmosphere is especially good for your immune system. The forest air you breathe is full of phytoncides, chemicals shed by forest plants. Their antifungal and antibacterial qualities stimulate your body to increase its white blood cells, which are responsible for fighting tumor and virus infected cells.
- Enhances cognitive function – Being in green space can benefit your cognitive abilities both in the short and long term. But just being outside isn't enough. You need to be in a natural and peaceful environment. Urban settings require you to use your attention to overcome all the stimulation of the environment and your cognitive abilities can suffer.
- Sparks creativity – Research shows being in nature stimulates curiosity and helps recharge your focus which is critical to developing new ideas.
- Improves heart health – Being in nature tends to increase movement which helps reduce stress. Many studies report that time in nature decreases blood pressure levels.

DID YOU KNOW cont.

- Better sleep – Exposure to natural light, especially first thing in the morning, helps regulate your circadian rhythm (your body's natural 24-hour cycle). When your internal clock is aligned with the day and night cycle, it can improve the quality of your sleep and improve your alertness during the day.
- Reduces stress – Time spent in a natural environment reduce stress, just 20 minutes in any space that evokes nature can significantly lower cortisol (stress hormone) levels, but 20-30 minutes in a completely natural environment leads to the greatest drop in cortisol, beyond that cortisol levels tend to level out.
- Stimulates physical activity – Exercising in nature offers a different experience than exercising indoors. It can lead to increased motivation which helps people stick with an exercise routine. Researchers have also found when people exercise in nature they tend to work out longer and at higher intensities.
- Improves your mood – Surrounding yourself with nature can improve your mood and reduce symptoms of anxiety and depression. It alters the brain activity in your prefrontal cortex which regulates emotions.

Lake Tyee is the perfect opportunity to spend time in nature and even fully immersing yourself in a forest environment. In addition to all the other fun amenities (pools, spas, putt-putt, pickleball, etc.) Tyee offers us nature, a break from the urban scene, a chance to spend time exploring and relaxing and breathing fresh forest air…a chance to break away from our computers and phones and relax watching what only nature can provide. Enjoy!

Suggested Trails –

- Lake Trail – Connects Tyee Drive to Tyee Drive South. Starts behind the firewood location by the pit, follows around the lake and comes out on the East end of 2F. East hike, few small hills, forested.
- Trail 1 – Begins on Suiattle Trail (Ladner Lane) ends in last loop in 2C. short steep, forested.
- Trail 2 – Begins on Tyee Drive South at the West end of Kloshe Trail (2E). Ends at the top of Kahtai Trail in the upper park (top of 5 corners area). Alternating steep and flat sections. Steady climb, forested, peek-a-boo views of the lake.
- Trail 3 – Begins on Tyee Drive South across from the fan beach, Ends on Tillicum Trail in the upper park. Follows creek coming down from Lost Lake. Some steep sections, forested, views of Lake Tyee.
- Ridge Trails (Jays Way) – Connector trails linking Trail 1, 2 and 3. Trails follow along the ridge, forested with views of Lake Tyee. Can be accessed form any of the three trails.

Additionally, with short drives numerous hiking trails are available. Cascade National Forest offers amazing hiking opportunities, as does, Sauk Mountain.

REMINDER

The Lake Tyee Emergency Preparedness Committee has met often with the first responders that would assist us in the event of an emergency at Lake Tyee. Discussion with these experts helped identify a significant thing owners can do to help prevent wildfire from spreading through our community is to keep the roof of all structures free of dead/dry debris and keep their lots free of tall dry grass or overgrown with vegetation.

In the event of a wildfire one of the big threats and problems controlling a fire is the burning embers from the fire floating up on the hot air drafts and floating to a surface where there is something they can ignite causing the fire to spread. The first responders when they toured the park immediately pointed this out as a hazard since so many units had debris on the roof.

In November of 2025 the Board of Directors approved a resolution that states " Lot owners are to inspect and remove dead/dry debris from the roof of all structures on their lot annually. Lots are to be maintained free of tall dry grass and not overgrown with vegetation".

We stated at the time that we would send warnings to owners and publish reminders about the new requirement during 2026 but beginning in 2027 we will start enforcing the requirement.

Our standard policy when we identify a lot in violation will be to send the owner a warning notice with a time frame to correct the issue. If the issue does not get corrected, then a Notice of Violation will be sent to the owner with the appropriate fine based on the Lake Tyee Fee/Fine schedule.

Some owners may wish to contract this work. The Lake Tyee office (frontdesk@laketyee.org or stop in) has a contact list for a number of contractors that are willing to do work within the park.

Spring and Fall are both good times to clear the roof. Clearing it in the Fall helps slide off snow and avoids building up the snow load on your structure. Cleaning in the Spring clears any debris left over from the Fall and Winter storms that may become a fire hazard.

Sierra Pacific

Sierra Pacific has requested that we remind Lake Tyee members that the property bordering most of Lake Tyee is owned by Sierra Pacific and though they allow recreational use on their property there are very strict rules regarding what is allowed. Recently they have found a number of their trees cut down and trails built for motorized vehicles along with ATV's and motorcycles coming from Lake Tyee and accessing their roads.

No trees are ever allowed to be cut down on Sierra Pacific property by anyone unless authorized by Sierra Pacific. Motorized vehicles are strictly prohibited on their land, including their road systems. No trails are allowed to be cleared. Fires are not allowed. It is against their rules to build anything on their property, use it to store items, etc. It is also against the rules to take anything from their property.

They do allow hiking and bicycles in areas not being actively worked. This is very generous of Sierra Pacific to allow neighbors the ability to use their land.

Please be respectful of our neighbor's property. The rules are in place to protect their business and also to prevent fires.

You can visit Sierra Pacific's website to see a complete list of rules (what is and is not allowed) for recreating on their properties.

WARNING – WATCH OUT – It's Bigfoot Season

Pfluger Phun Pfacts

Pfluger Pfun Pfacts

As Halloween approaches and we consider the costumes that we will be wearing for the big night, you might consider Bigfoot! He's always in style, you don't have to have big feet and she's our Lake Tyee mascot! You can see Sassy in our trophy case at the clubhouse.

Bigfoot was made world famous right here in the Pacific NW, when caught on film. Back in 1967, Roger Patterson made the famous home video that became known as the "Patterson film."

Why does Bigfoot have such big feet. Well, he is said to stand over 8' tall, so it just stands to reason that if you are taller than normal, your feet would have to be bigger than normal, hence the name.

One last pfun pfact, Bigfoot sightings go way back into Native American lore. In fact, our southwestern B.C., First Nations peoples call the Bigfoot, "Sasquatch", which in their Salish tongue translates into, WILDMAN!

Hope to see some WILD ONES on Halloween!

Roger Patterson Photo

A few other Bigfoot facts,

- WA State has the highest number of reported Bigfoot sightings in the United States with over 700 reported credible sightings.
- In 1992 Whatcom County passed a resolution declaring the area a Sasquatch Protection and Refuge Area.

Pfluger Pfun Pfacts cont.

Did you know that Lake Tyee was originally named Skagit Lake? Yes, and the outflow was known as Skagit Creek. In 1930 it went from nothing more than a frog pond to a manmade lake. This took some doing. Trees and brush had to be removed, and a large gate valve was installed to control water levels. This gate valve vault remains today and is located just offshore over by the putt-putt golf course. My Brother-in-law Jeff Gallagher's father Chuck, helped with this work. He was just a boy back then and one of his summertime jobs was to help clean up the woody debris before the area was flooded.

Why, you might ask, did anyone want to go through all that trouble? Logging.

Skagit Lake was a mill pond. The mill was located in what is now our maintenance yard. It was owned and operated by a Concrete resident, Art Hansen and was simply named Hansens Saw Mill.

In 1969, Bob Rogers purchased the 300 acres from the Hansen family and began developing it into the RV Park we have today.

This is when the name changed to Lake Tyee.

Part of Bob's development included dredging the mill pond, to help make it more habitable for fish and then a fish hatchery was eventually added.

A water diversion was also eventually added, so that more fresh water could be diverted from Grandy Creek into Lake Tyee.

One last pfun pfact, most of our road names here at Lake Tyee were taken from the Salish tribal language, including Tyee Drive and the word Tyee means, "King".

This is why the Salish people call a king salmon, a Tyee.

Calendar of events

- **Social Events** - Watch for announcements from the Social Committee about events.
    - **Halloween Trunk or Treat – Oct 24th**
    - **Thanksgiving – Nov 7th**
    - **New Year's Eve – Dec 31st**

- **Meetings –**
    - Social committee meeting – Office conference room / zoom 10am – 11am. 2nd Sat of the month. (1st Sat of the month in Nov and Dec).
    - Lot owner meeting – Office conference room / zoom 9am - 10am 3rd Sat of the month. (2nd Sat of the month in Nov and Dec).
    - Board Meeting – Office conference room / zoom 10am - 12pm 3rd Sat of the month. (2nd Sat of the month in Nov and Dec).

Contact Information

Board

President, presidentlaketyee@gmail.com – Dan Pfluger
Vice President, vicepresident@laketyee.org – Sandra Bertall
Treasurer, treasurer@laketyee.org – Terry Walton
Secretary, secretary@laketyee.org – Connie Lewis
Director, director@laketyee.org – Shane Kerpan

Office: www.laketyee.org
4571 Burpee Hill Road
Concrete, WA 98237
Manager, manager@laketyee.org – Scott Curdie
Office Administrator, frontdesk@laketyee.org – Christina Braaten
Bookkeeper, bookkeeper@laketyee.org – Danielle Cocherl

Office: (360) 853-7020
Security: (360) 421-7035 (message line only)
Maintenance: (360) 421-7036 (message line only)

The Lake Tyee Security and Maintenance phone numbers are message lines. These lines are monitored, please leave a detailed message explaining your issue. Remember to leave your name, call back number and lot number.

Skagit County Sheriff Department:

https://skagitcounty.net/Departments/Sheriff

Emergency 911 / non-emergency 360-428-3211

Local Resources

Local resource contacts available on https://www.laketyee.org/local-resources-and-emergency-contacts/

Skagit County Events Web Source

https://www.visitskagitvalley.com/events/