

Bob Bush

Vancouver Lake, in Clark County, Washington, can and will be a valuable resource for the city of Vancouver. The lake's proximity to the city's population, its large size and surrounding parks and protected areas, provide tremendous natural and recreational opportunities to people of Vancouver and the surrounding area. The lake itself, and the geography and micro-climate of the surrounding area are well suited to using the lake for many recreational activities. To take advantage of this wonderful area, the lake needs to be safe for people, fish and animals of the area, and this is where we need the resources that the State can provide.

Currently, the lake has many problems, and the comments and technical reports provided by other professional scientists and engineers spell this out very clearly. Clark County is taking a lead in acquiring and managing the land around the lake for public use and for preserving of the wonderful animal and bird sanctuaries close by. But we desperately need the State to be involved with the Lake itself and with managing the waters coming into and going out of the lake. I urge you to devote resources now – this coming year, and in future years to improving Vancouver Lake.