



Snohomish County Council

NEWS RELEASE

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Flood Clean Up Relief Planned for Snohomish County

The Snohomish County Council is expected to act Wednesday to provide clean up relief to flooded residents. The Council will approve a voucher system that will allow flood victims to dump their damaged items at county transfer stations for the next 90 days.

“Our first priority is the immediate safety of our citizens,” said Council Chair Kirke Sievers. “But once the rain and floodwaters recede, we want to be ready to help residents clean up and get on with their lives.”

The council has provided the free solid waste service to flooded residents in the past. Those who suffered damage will have to get a voucher from county or flood recovery officials to participate in the program.

Snohomish County Council Vice Chair Dave Gossett said, “We know some of the hardest hit by the floods will be those who can least afford to pay dumping fees to clean up. This is the county’s way of helping relieve what is already a stressful situation for them.”

Council members John Koster, Dave Somers, and Gary Nelson all indicated their support for the measure saying that the solid waste collection system was one of the basic elements of county government and it should be ready to respond in an emergency. Encouraging quick clean up is also a way to avoid other problems, from health issues such as mold to more costly problems such as structural issues in homes and buildings.

The council is expected to pass a emergency legislation at its 9:00 a.m. council meeting on Wednesday November 8. The meeting is in the Jackson Board Room, 8th floor of the county’s East Administration Building, 3000 Rockefeller, in Everett. Staff from County Executive Aaron Reardon’s office and the County Department of Public Works are preparing the legislation for council action.

Snohomish County’s Department of Emergency Management is coordinating the county’s flood response. In addition, the county fairgrounds in Monroe is open to receive livestock from flooded farms.

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