

## LAKES PROJECT UPDATE: CURRENT ACTIVITIES AT TANASBROOK LAKES

FROM JEANNA CERNAZANU, CLEAN WATER SERVICES

August 20, 2005

### Dewatering and seeding completed

The first big step in the Bronson Creek/Tanasbrook Lakes Enhancement Project – dewatering the lakes – has been completed by Clean Water Services staff.

The process went smoothly with staff working long hours to get the work done quickly. The project is on schedule and within budget.

Here's a summary of what was done in the past month:

- ✓ Fish and domestic geese were removed and relocated as the lakes were drained.
- ✓ The dewatered lakes were seeded with native grasses and covered with straw mulch. The seeds will be watered using fire hoses to promote germination.
- ✓ Invasive blackberry was removed along

the edge of the lakes below the Lakes Apartments and other areas. The roots will be "spot sprayed" with herbicide to further prevent their regrowth.

- ✓ Fencing was placed around the two lower ponds and signs were posted warning the public to keep away from the lakes because of the deep mud. Additional fencing will be added below The Lakes Apartments where blackberry has been cleared.

There is some debris, as well as shopping carts and tires, in the mud and once the soil is dried, these will be removed.

Thanks for your patience during this disruptive time; we know this is a difficult transition!

If you have any comments or suggestions about the project, please send an e-mail to [cernazanuj@CleanWaterServices.org](mailto:cernazanuj@CleanWaterServices.org) or call Jeanna at (503) 681-3619.

**REMINDER FROM THOA: HOMEOWNERS WHO ARE SELLING THEIR UNITS MUST DISCLOSE INFORMATION ABOUT THE LAKES PROJECT TO THEIR REALTORS AND TO PROSPECTIVE BUYERS.**



**DO YOU HAVE A BROADBAND INTERNET CONNECTION AT HOME?**

**WE ARE CONDUCTING AN INFORMAL POLL OF INTERNET USAGE IN OUR COMMUNITY, AND WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

**CONTACT KERRY IN THE HOA OFFICE, OR JEN (REV.JEN@VERIZON.NET, 503-690-7293), TO LET US KNOW WHAT KIND OF SERVICE YOU HAVE IN TANASBROOK.**

## Do You WiFi?

BY JENNIFER WILLIS

After years as an internet dial-up customer -- I was a true power user on a 56K connection, if you can believe it -- I finally made the jump to broadband when I moved to Tanasbrook in 2004. My DSL connection has made a world of difference in my productivity and has allowed me to keep in touch with friends back East via video chat. When another resident wrote to the HOA office asking about WiFi, we got to wondering how many broadband users we have here in our community.

"Broadband" is the term adopted nearly a decade ago to describe high-speed internet access via cable modems, DSL modems, and even satellite. With speeds up to fifty-times faster than the standard 56Kbps (kilobytes-per-second) of dial-up access through the computer's built-in modem -- and with monthly costs typically ranging \$30-50 -- most home offices and many recreational Internet users have made the jump from dial-up to broadband.

Okay, so what then is WiFi?

WiFi -- "Wireless Fidelity" -- is the popular term for a high-frequency, wireless local area network (WLAN). In other words, it's a localized connection offering broadband connection speed without having to be physically plugged into a modem.

Most laptop computers -- and even desktop machines -- now come pre-loaded with a wireless card that allows the user to take advantage of these wireless networks. An admitted web-nerd, I have a secure wireless network in my own home, thanks to the simple addition of an Airport Express wireless hub to my DSL modem. (My apologies for the geek-speak!) This means that I can take my laptop anywhere in my condo -- even outside on my deck -- and still be able to use the Internet, without having to be physically plugged into anything. But you don't have to set up your own network to take advantage of wireless internet.

Many local businesses are now hosting what are called "WiFi hot spots." These hot spots (also called nodes) offer wireless connection to the Internet on the host's premises; all you have to do is show up with your laptop computer and start web-surfing! Some establishments offer WiFi as a free service to their customers, while others require a paid subscription to use their hot spot.

Our local Coffee People up the street in Tanasbourne offers free WiFi access, and you can typically find me working from the comfort of their over-stuffed chairs at least once each week. (Note that their Chocolate Mocha Shake is pretty spectacular.) Across Evergreen,

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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### CONCERNING MIDLAKE'S AMBASSADOR CAT

Dear Jen,

*I read in horror, your account of the possible (nay, probable) animal abuse on Midlake Lane. As we all know, to abuse an animal is often the first step to abusing people. We can be assured the individual responsible for kicking a cat has a dark and nasty history of other sorts of anti-social behavior. If this was the act of one single adult or a group of youth, it is horrendous in its implications for our community.*

*I was struck by the irony of one reader's letter politely questioning your choice to include a lighthearted article about ghosts on Midlake. Seems there are actually real monsters lurking in the shadows, and crime will drive our property value down faster than anything else.*

*Thanks for keeping us informed.*

*Lake Boggan  
Bridgeway Lane*

Lake:

Thanks for writing!

I have spoken with Vicky Rogers, with whom Pooh Bear makes his home on Midlake Lane. I am very pleased to report that this little kitty is doing much better and that he is healing from his injuries. He is making better progress than anyone had hoped for.

While he is not yet back outside the way he'd like to be, Vicky estimates that it won't be long before he's prowling the neighborhood again as Midlake's friendliest and most curious cat.

There has been an outpouring of concern and support from neighbors following Pooh Bear's serious injury, though there has been no forthcoming information about what may have happened to him.

I hope that Pooh Bear will come visit my courtyard again in the coming months, when he is back to his old self, and that he won't have to sacrifice any more of his nine lives.

– Jen

## DO YOU WiFi? (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6)

the Starbucks at Barnes and Noble also hosts a WiFi hot spot, but you'll need to be a T-Mobile WiFi subscriber to use their service.

But the really exciting news comes from the non-profit Personal Telco Project, "a volunteer group of Portlanders who believe that... wireless networking, or 'Wi-Fi', technology is both cool and empowering." According to the group's website, members initially "started out by turning our own houses and apartments into wireless hot spots... and then set about building these nodes in public locations such as parks and coffee shops." In other words, this group is helping to set up free WiFi hot spots all over Portland; they currently support more than one hundred active hot spots and are working toward eventually covering the entire city of Portland and beyond.

One of the Project's newest hot spots can be found not too far from Tanasbrook at the Cedar

Hills Crossing shopping center, offering free, high-speed, wireless connectivity to patrons and merchants alike. Says Nigal Ballard, a Personal Telco Project advisor, "Shoppers and visitors can be fully connected.... Parents can bring their teens to shop and the parents don't ever have to be out of touch. They can be connected and productive." The Cedar Hills Crossing hot spot covers the indoor Barking Frog area.

With so many free wireless hotspots available, the question may not be, Do you WiFi, but Why not WiFi?

### sources:

Personal Telco Project  
(<http://www.personaltelco.net/>)

Cedar Hills Crossing  
(<http://cedarhillscrossing.com>)

