

Madeline Sutherland

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To: Community Development Email
Subject: Camas Heights-Save Oregon white Oaks

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I am helping to speak up for the trees in Camas and this time specifically for the 10 Oregon White Oak trees of which Lennar homes is only willing to save 2. It is no revelation that these trees are on this property so Lennar should make adjustments and we, or you, the Mayor and City Council who represent us, need to be more adamant about what Camas values and expects from those who come into our home and change the landscape with a new development.

Citizens in Camas have been telling you for years that we are tired of letting developers ruin our land and environment. If there are laws favoring developers let's challenge these laws and join with other WA communities who see the same devastation happening to them. Caring and taking action is critical.

The Oregon White Oak is on the decline and according to the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife this fact "has been accelerated by human activities - primarily oak removal." Also...."it is aggravated by urban development..."Management recommendations are designed to maintain and enhance the integrity of Oregon white oak woodlands, reverse the trend of habitat loss, and promote the protection of oak habitat that is presently in good condition. Oaks in Washington may play a critical role in the conservation of neotropical migrant birds that migrate through, or nest in, Oregon white oak woodlands.

We're running out of time to do the right thing for our environment.

Greta Thunberg inspires me in so many ways but this quote from her speaks loud and clear to me about the ongoing issue in Camas with allowing developers to continue to clear cut trees year after year - she says, "Adults keep saying: "We owe it to our young people to give them hope." But I don't want your hope. I don't want you to be hopeful. I want you to panic. I want you to feel the fear I feel everyday. And then I want you to act. I want you to act as you would in a crisis. I want you to act as if the house is on fire. Because it is."

Please.

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Madeline Lyne

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." - Margaret Mead