



Ben Shumaker <ben@ci.stevenson.wa.us>

Flood Stuff

carlsonandhood@earthlink.net <carlsonandhood@earthlink.net>

Sat, Mar 9, 2024 at 9:15 AM

To: Ben Shumaker <ben@ci.stevenson.wa.us>

Cc: Pat Hood <pathoodart@earthlink.net>

Hey Ben,

Just looked at the Planning Commission packet and I saw all the flood plain stuff. To my knowledge, we didn't get any notification regarding the issue. You may or may not be aware of our water issues, but let me recap:

1) Our yard fills with water at some point nearly every year. We had minor flooding out there twice this year. If you look at our property compared to the Birkenfeld's, you'll notice that their property is about 30" higher than ours. This happened in the 50's when Birkenfeld Sr dredged and made the property that exists now. As Ken Woodrich pointed out, that actually violates a current law called The Common Enemy Law. Surface water is, in effect, dammed up and pools in our property. There is a culvert under the Birkenfeld property that Grandpa Shippy (with the help of the County) put in back in the 50's to help mitigate some of our yard issues.

2) During big rain events, the sewer backs up and comes out of the man-hole that is at the end of both properties near the footpath. This is exacerbated by the power going out and the pump station nearby shutting down. When the sewer gets backed up, it comes up into our sink in the basement and overflows. Fun stuff.

3) We have 5 sump pumps in our basement to handle the water issues, otherwise our basement would flood regularly.

4) All of these issues are made worse by the fill that is the field next to us, as well as the fill that is *still* in the cove (for some reason). It was at it's worst when the big dredging happened in 2007 and all that wet muck sat out there. The ground water was stifled in it's search for release. After a portion of the fill in the cove was removed, our water issues were lessened somewhat.

Just when you thought it was safe to go back in the water...

Jeff