

NEWS RELEASE
September 20, 2011

MASON COUNTY COMMISISONERS
411 NORTH 5TH STREET
SHELTON, WA 98584
(360) 427-9670 EXT. 419

TO: KMAS, KRXV, SHELTON-MASON COUNTY JOURNAL, THE OLYMPIAN, SHELTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, NORTH MASON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, CITY OF SHELTON, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, THE SUN, TACOMA MORNING NEWS TRIBUNE, NORTH MASON LIFE.

RE: Mason County Parks and Trails Department announces a major sponsorship from Fred Meyer to support MCRA Park in 2012.

Mason County Parks and Trails Department would like to announce that the department has received a major sponsorship commitment in the amount of \$8,000 from Fred Meyer, which will be used to supplement maintenance funding at MCRA Park in 2012. The sponsorship was made with the expressed interest that the funds be used for the purpose of "operation and maintenance expenses for the Mason County Recreation Area - MCRA." MCRA Park is located at 2100 East Johns Prairie Road, just outside of Shelton and is the County's highest attended park site.

With the county budget reductions from 2008 to the present, MCRA Park has experienced a steady reduction in funds for operations and maintenance. In 2011, for the first time ever under County management, MCRA staff was unable to bring on any part-time staffing assistance for the baseball and softball season, impacting maintenance operations and the complex users.

County staff recently contacted the Fred Meyer Stores Philanthropy Coordinator to inquire about possible sponsorship assistance for the 2012 season. Recently the County was informed of the pledge for \$8,000 for next season. The County intends to use the funding to supplement the maintenance program.

Fred Meyer has a strong sense of community and is happy to be able to step in and provide assistance and support during these challenging economic times, not only assisting the County and the youth and adult ball players and the citizens and visitors of Mason County.

If anyone has any questions about the MCRA Field sponsorship, please contact John Keates at Mason County Parks, 427-9670, ext. 669 or by e-mail, johnk@co.mason.wa.us

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