



NOTIFICATION OF WORK ON PANAMA FLATS

July 23, 2013

Dear Resident,

This letter is to inform local residents of some upcoming work on Panama Flats which the District of Saanich acquired in late 2011.

Since the flats have not been actively farmed for several years there has been a significant build up of vegetation and organic matter (eg. goose droppings) across the site. Saanich Parks will be undertaking measures to try and prevent a repeat of last winters' odour problem by reducing the build up of decaying organic matter which is suspected of causing the strong odour. The first step in the process involves letting the site completely dry out. With the recent hot, dry weather the site should be fully dry within a week or two. Beginning in mid to late August the existing vegetation that has overtaken the site will be mowed. Shortly afterwards the fields will be tilled to further breakdown the vegetation. It is anticipated these steps will cease or significantly reduce the odour problem.

This necessary and short term work is independent of the longer term Panama Flats planning process which is expected to conclude by the end of 2013.

Additional work that you may observe on site over the next few weeks involves soil testing by an agrologist who is providing a detailed assessment of the soil for agricultural purposes. This data will help to inform the Panama Flats Management Plan.

For further information about the Panama Flats planning process, visit www.saanich.ca/parks, scan the QR code below, e-mail parks@saanich.ca or phone Saanich Parks at 250.475.5522.



Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary Darrah", written over a horizontal line.

Gary Darrah, Manager of Park Planning and Design

cc: Marlene Todd and Richard Dominey, Co-Presidents, Residents Association of Strawberry Vale, Marigold and Glanford
Rae Roer, Senior Manager Saanich Parks
Doug Henderson, Director Saanich Parks and Recreation