

## **Quarterly Summary to Washington State Department of Health On-the-Ground Efforts in the Portage Bay Shellfish Protection District 1st Quarter of 2004**

Efforts continue in the Portage Bay Shellfish Protection District to effect change in the water quality over the shellfish beds and throughout the district as a whole. The following is a summarized list of activities that have occurred in the district over the first quarter of 2004.

### **Agricultural practices** (Department of Ecology and Whatcom Conservation District)

- **0**- dairy farm inspections completed
- **0**- dairy complaint investigations
- Department of Agriculture is still in the process of taking over the dairy inspection program from Department of Ecology. The three inspectors will began work in January 2004. During the transition period of up to two years, Ecology will have the authority to enforce violations of the state's Water Quality laws, RCW 90.48

### **Municipal Events** (Department of Ecology)

- Department of Ecology issued an Administrative Order to the City of Ferndale. The Order was composed of two sections: 1) Conduct a flood modeling study on the Nooksack River and 2) Submit an update to the Storm Water Plan before continuing construction in the floodplain of the Nooksack River. The Order is being appealed.

### **On-site Septic Systems** (Whatcom County Health Department)

- **29**-On-Site Sewer System inspections performed – 16 were loan inspections, and 13 complaints
- **11** have been repaired and 2 are in the process of being repaired.

## **OTHER PROJECTS/EVENTS IN 2003**

### **Port of Bellingham**

- As part of the Pledge Program, RESources has designed and is preparing to mail "Clean Boating Pledge" pamphlets to Port of Bellingham marina customers. RESources received lower than expected pledges from area boaters. The pamphlet will remind boaters of the pledge program and encourage them to participate. RESources is also reaching out to boating groups and organizations (Power squadrons, yacht clubs, etc) to coordinate work and presentations for the program.