



Snohomish County FIRE DISTRICT 7

Earning Trust Through Action

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: July 19, 2018
Contact: Heather Chadwick, Public Information Officer
Hchadwick@snofire7.org • 425-245-2662

Fire District 7 and City of Monroe partner to promote water safety



[Monroe, WA] – This spring Snohomish County Fire District 7’s Water Rescue Team has been busy training and preparing for the summer swimming season. Many of the trainings have taken place at Lake Tye, a prominent swimming area in Monroe.

Lake Tye is a manmade lake that gradually slopes into the water, but then has a shelf that drops off to depths that can reach up to 30 feet deep. Conversations between the City of Monroe and Fire District 7 were started to discuss swimmer safety and emergency responder awareness due to the shelf in the lake.

“In the past there has not been a designated swimming area established to signal swimmers to stay within their abilities closer to the shoreline where there is a more gradual slope,” says Heather Chadwick, Public Information Officer with Fire District 7. “Furthermore, having a buoy line as a reference point helps aid in rescue efforts.”

On July 18th, City of Monroe Parks staff and Fire District 7’s Water Rescue Team worked together to install a buoy line at the beach area that will outline where the lake bottom begins to drop off.

“We value opportunities to partner with Snohomish County Fire District 7,” says City of Monroe Mayor Geoffrey Thomas. “Our community benefits from a coordinated approach to promote and improve water safety in Monroe.”

There are no lifeguards on duty at the lake. Swimmer do so at their own risk.

At the beach there is a prominent teal blue-colored information kiosk with important water safety information posted in both English and Spanish. The information includes life jacket safety, waterfowl feeding prohibition and water quality information.

Fire District 7 recommends the use of life jackets for all when on the water. The Fire District participates in a free life jacket loaner program through Safe Kids of Snohomish County. Free day-use life jackets are available at the Fire District 7 station located at 163 Village Ct. Monroe, and also at the Lake Tye Park concessions stand.

The lake is sampled and tested monthly. Citizens can read the results of the testing on the City's website: <http://www.monroewa.gov/721/Lake-Tye-Water-Quality-Testing>

###

Snohomish County Fire District 7 provides fire and life safety services to over 116,000 people over 98.5 square miles in central and east Snohomish County, including the communities of Clearview, Maltby, Mill Creek and Monroe. In 2017 our emergency personnel responded to over 11,500 emergency calls. Through taxpayer support, Fire District 7 has built the most advanced emergency response system in Snohomish County with highly-trained personnel, facilities, apparatus, and rescue programs. We appreciate your support and are grateful for the opportunity to serve your community.

163 Village Court, Monroe, Washington 98272 • 360-794-7666 or 425-486-1217 fax 360-794-0959
www.snofire7.org