

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Experience King Tides in Oak Harbor

Learn about future sea level rise in Washington and how you can participate

Friday, Jan. 25, 2019

King tides are the annual extreme-high tides that occur whenever the moon is closest to Earth. They are a dramatic feature of Washington winters – and a glimpse of what our future in Western Washington may look like as sea levels rise. A public event in Oak Harbor on Friday, Jan. 25, presented by Washington Sea Grant offers an opportunity to learn about king tides, why they expect sea levels to rise and the latest sea level rise projections in Washington.

The Washington Sea Grant king tides viewing party is an opportunity for the public to take pictures of king tides from the shoreline and learn about sea level rise in their community with experts on site to answer questions about king tides and sea level rise and talk about ways citizens can participate.

Event Information:

What: **King tides Viewing Party** When: Friday, Jan. 25 8:28 a.m.

Where: Flintstone Park, in Oak Harbor, WA

What: The public is invited to come down to the shoreline and learn about king tides and future sea level rise; Hot coffee and snacks with be provided. Bring your cameras and download the MyCoast app.

Get involved: Dates and times of predicted tides are found on the <u>Washington Sea Grant king tides calendar</u>. A new app is also available for anyone to photo document Washington State king tides at <u>MyCoast app</u>. Upload king tide photographs from any king tide events around the state.

Learn more: Sea level rise is a real concern for homeowners, tribes, government planners and communities living near the shore. The King Tides program assists scientists, managers, planners and communities as they attempt to visualize and plan for the changes coming to coastal regions around Western Washington. The Washington Coastal Resilience Program is a group of state partners collaborating with local jurisdictions to help communities further prepare for future sea level rise. The group recently published a report documenting what shorelines will look like in the next 50 years. To find out how much sea levels could rise in a specific community, visit the Washington Coastal Resilience website — and check the report's current sea level rise projections.

<u>The King Tides program</u> is a partnership between Washington Sea Grant and Washington Department of Ecology.

Washington Sea Grant, based at the University of Washington, provides statewide marine research, outreach, and education services, helping people understand and address the challenges facing our ocean and coasts. The National Sea Grant College Program is part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce. www.wsg.washington.edu.