Save Union Bay Association
Spring Newsletter, April 2026

Dear Laurelhurst shoreline neighbors,

SUBA is a 501c3 non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of Union Bay on Lake Washington. Founded in 1975 by waterfront neighbors concerned with the spread of Eurasian watermilfoil, SUBA has over the years become an advocate for the beneficial ecological management of the bay. Many of you will remember how the density of the weed made our shoreline completely unusable before SUBA worked out an effective treatment. Organizing to solve the problem holistically is much more cost-effective than each homeowner trying to do it individually.

SUBA works collaboratively with the UW, coordinating our treatments of the Laurelhurst shoreline with their management of the UW recreational center shoreline and the UW crew lanes. Last July, we commissioned one invasive weed treatment for milfoil and other weeds. Our usual contractor, Aquatechnex , conducted the treatment, and the area treated was the near-shore Laurelhurst shoreline, from Yesler Swamp out to Webster Point (in addition to the UW areas).

Over the decades we have found that using herbicide treatments - usually once or twice a year in the late spring or summer - have the proven the most effective method to reduce invasive aquatic weeds. Note these herbicides are registered by the EPA as a "Reduced Risk" products: They are effective at very low doses, break down rapidly, and generally do not harm native aquatic plants or animals. SUBA's projects and accomplishments in Union Bay have been recognized by the WA State Department of Ecology as a model for other lake associations to follow.

This year in June, we will commission Aquatechnex to conduct a vegetation survey of the bay to determine the extent of weeds, and then likely contract for one treatment in July.

2026 FUNDRAISING: We did not ask for funds in 2024 or 2025, but we did conduct weed control treatments in both those years using our reserve funds. This year, we are asking $500 per shoreline household. In past years we have had near 100% participation. Please send checks to SUBA c/o Stowe Talbot 3121 W Laurelhurst Dr NE Sea WA 98105. Or online (PayPal / Venmo) at https://saveunionbay.org/ We thank you in advance for your prompt payment!

SUBA Board
Stowe Talbot, President
John Impert, Vice President
Paul Garner, Treasurer
Colleen McAleer, Secretary
Susan Holliday, Past President
John Jacobs, Member at Large
Tina Yamagiwa, Member at Large
Steve Sulzbacher, Emeritus Director
Bill Watts, Emeritus Director


Union Bay Conrtrol Area Map
Legend
Control_Areas
N
W
E
S
AquaTechnex
0
290
580
1,160
1,740
2,320
Feet