

The Kitsap County Parks and Recreation Department would like to nominate a small, but very effective group of volunteers for their service in helping us reopen a park that was once closed to the public due to budget restraints. This park is View Point Park, and the volunteers are members of the West Sound Improvement Club and neighbors of the park.

In October, 2008, Kitsap County made a decision to close this park due to vandalism and budget constraints that reduced staffing levels. Rex and Carol Tauscher, members of the West Sound Improvement Club organized a group of volunteers to help clean-up, maintain, and secure the park for the County. In February 2009, View Point Park was reopened due to the efforts of the West Sound Improvement Club and local neighbors. The West Sound Improvement Club has picked up the cost of maintenance for the park, and Rex Tauscher has done most of the park maintenance work himself. Carol Tauscher took on the role of recruiting and organizing a group of volunteers to open and close the park gate every morning and evening in order to secure the park. These key volunteers are Betty Crickmer, Al Gilson, Kim Kruzner, Betty Langton, June Nolting, and Andy and Melody Maupin. They have all been known to open and close the gate in all types of weather, the crisp cold of the early morning, and the dark of night!

Without all of their help, View Point Park would have remained a closed park. Now, it is a nice little neighborhood park that is once again enjoyed by the public. Kitsap County Parks and Recreation Department would like to recognize and thank this very dedicated group of volunteers!