



Live OAK

Moran Lake is a dying body of water—can it be restored?

## Restoring Moran Lake will be costly

A neighborhood meeting on the future of Moran Lake will be held tonight by Live Oak Supervisor Phil Baldwin.

Baldwin is seeking community reaction on county plans to refurbish the dying water area.

The meeting will be held at the Advent Christian Church meeting room, Portola Drive and 26th Avenue in Live Oak. The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. All interested persons are welcome.

The lake, at the bottom of the 38th-41st Avenue drainage area, currently suffers from stagnation and pollution due to the runoff of oil, grease and heavy metals from the urban areas.

The county owns eight acres of land at Moran Lake which it acquired in 1975 for park purposes.

The county is seeking \$160,000 to restore the lake to a healthy condition, said Steve Singer of the county Office of Watershed Management.

The Watershed Manager's Office submitted a report to the county supervisors last October, proposing a four-point program as phase two in the lake restoration.

Baldwin is now looking for reaction to those proposals.

They call for the dredging and re-shaping of Moran Lake at an estimated cost of \$80,000; replacing the culvert under East Cliff Drive with a bridge or similar structure, \$60,000; increasing the frequency of street sweeping in the watershed area, \$3,000 a year; and an analysis and monitoring program for the storm water runoff into Moran Lake, \$3,600.

The replacement of the existing culvert with a larger box culvert or bridge and dredging would allow natural tidal flushing on the lake area. "The purpose of this work would be to restore Moran Lake to as near a natural state as possible," said the report signed by Environmental Health Director Ray Talley.

The county parks department says initial park development costs would be \$45,000; including \$30,000 for a restroom; \$10,000 for a parking lot, \$5,000 for landscaping.

"If the program is approved by the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund Program," notes Talley, "they would reimburse the county for 50 per cent of the total project costs — \$92,500.

"The remaining \$92,500 would have to be funded by the county, or possibly in part by a 75 per cent grant from the state's Roberti-Z'berg Urban Open Space and Recreation Program. "Otherwise," noted Talley, "the county's share of funding for

park development (\$22,500) could be met by the county general fund. The county's share of funding lake restoration (\$70,000) could be made from Zone 4 (county flood control district) special district tax revenues or some other source."

The increased street sweeping program calls for the county to spend \$3,000 in increasing its sweeping schedule. The report also suggests that the city of Capitola spend an additional \$1,500 to sweep streets in the city and sweep streets once a week.