

SNOHOMISH REGIONAL FIRE & RESCUE

For Immediate Release

Date:July 13, 2022Contact:Peter Mongillo, Public Information Officer<br/>peter.mongillo@srfr.org ● 425-395-0325

## Lake Stevens Lifejacket Giveaway and Fitting

[Lake Stevens, WA] On Saturday July 16th from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at Lundeen Park in Lake Stevens, Snohomish Regional Fire and Rescue, in partnership with Safe Kids Snohomish County, will be giving out 150 free lifejackets and fittings to the community.

So far this season, in Snohomish County waterways there have been six drownings and four of them fatal. On June 26th, 2022, two teenagers drowned in Lake Stevens including another teenager that was pulled from the water in critical condition. On June 25th a four-year-old drowned in Silver Lake in Everett, WA. None of them were wearing a life jacket. For every reported drowning there are a handful of unreported close calls. And for those that survive chances of long term injury can be life altering.

Even strong swimmers can drown. Direct supervision, along with a properly fitted Coast Guard approved life jacket, provide layers of protection to prevent drowning. In response to the incidents that have occurred this season, and to prevent another tragedy, we aim to distribute life jackets along with swim safety and drowning prevention education to our community.

This event is open to all of Snohomish County and the public is also welcomed to bring their own personal lifejackets to make sure they are properly fitted. Representatives from fire, police and Seattle Children's Hospital will be on hand to support our event. We hope you can join us for this opportunity to speak to knowledgeable experts about water safety.

Want to donate to the cause? New or gently used life jackets can be donated at the event or to any fire station in Snohomish County. For more information on how to donate contact outreach@southsnofire.org.

Life jackets save lives.

What: Free life jacket giveaway with fitting for the public, while supplies last When: July 16th, 2022 11:00 AM – 1:00pm Where: Lundeen Park 10020 Lundeen Park Way, Lake Stevens, WA 98258 Who: Event partnerships include Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue, Safe Kids Snohomish County, South County Fire, Lake Stevens Police, City of Lake Stevens, Lake Stevens Rowing Club, Seattle Children's Drowning Prevention Network, North Cascades Crew Rowing Club, Lake Stevens Open Water Swimmers.