

Dear Legislators in Olympia,

I hope this letter finds you well. We are students from Regal Elementary in Spokane WA. We are writing to you as a concerned group of students, regarding a pressing environmental and public health issue: the contamination of the Spokane River with lead, particularly in the area around Boulder Beach, where many of us swim and enjoy recreational activities.

The Spokane River is a cherished natural resource that provides immense value to our community—from its ecological significance to its role as a hub for outdoor recreation. However, lead contamination poses a severe risk to both human health and the river's ecosystem. Lead exposure, even at low levels, is known to cause a range of serious health issues, particularly for children, who are more vulnerable to its toxic effects. The presence of this contamination in a popular swimming area like Boulder Beach underscores the urgent need for action.

I am reaching out to ask for your support in addressing this issue. Specifically, I urge you to advocate for and allocate funding to initiatives aimed at:

1. **Conducting comprehensive lead testing** in the Spokane River and surrounding areas to determine the full extent of contamination.

2. **Implementing lead remediation efforts** at Boulder Beach and other affected locations to ensure the safety of our community and wildlife.

3. **Raising public awareness** about the risks associated with lead exposure and providing guidance on safe recreational practices until cleanup efforts are complete.

4. **Establishing long-term preventive measures** to protect the Spokane River from future contamination, including stricter regulations and enforcement on sources of pollution.

Addressing this issue is not only a matter of environmental stewardship but also a public health imperative. By supporting these efforts, you can help safeguard the well-being of our community and preserve the Spokane River for future generations.

I would be grateful for the opportunity to discuss this matter further and provide any additional information that may assist in your advocacy. Please feel free to contact us at 509-354-3900 or our teachers email address [lucast@spokaneschools.org](mailto:lucast@spokaneschools.org).

Thank you for your time and attention to this critical issue. I trust in your commitment to the health and safety of our community and look forward to your support in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

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