



Skagit

CONSERVATION NEWS

Volume 27, Number 1

SOIL • WATER • WOODLAND

WINTER 2011



Galanthus nivalis ~ SNOWDROP



Winter 2011

ANNUAL PLANT SALE EDITION



AWARDS BANQUET

SCD ANNUAL RECOGNITION BANQUET



The Skagit Conservation District hosted its Annual Recognition Banquet on Tuesday, September 14th at the Sedro-Woolley Community Center to honor those who have made significant contributions toward conservation and natural resource enhancement in Skagit County.

The Skagit County Cattlemen provided a wonderful meal for guests to accompany the events of the evening. The social hour was hosted by the Skagit CD Board of Supervisors and staff. This year the talented Emcee was Thijs Jacobson, Skagit CD Board Auditor. Carolyn Kelly, District Manager, and Kristi Carpenter, Public Information and Education Coordinator, presented the awards to the admirable crowd.

Awards were presented to the following:

Patrick Hurley – Inspirational Award

The inspirational award recognizes an inspirational volunteer who has made an outstanding contribution to our community throughout the year. Since participating in the Fall 2008 Watershed Masters program, Pat has contributed hundreds of volunteer hours, is always willing to help when needed, is dependable, and has contributed to the success of numerous SCD programs and projects. His volunteer activities are too many to list. We will give it a try: Pat has participated in the Marine Biotoxin Volunteer program the last two years; has participated in the Skagit Stream Team program for the last 2 years; has participated as a Samish Storm Team volunteer for the last 2 years, and even participated in the Watershed Masters program again in the Fall of 2009. He also has helped with set up and clean up at numerous workshops, including the Samish public meetings, assisted with the planting at the new County rain garden, has volunteered at all work parties for the Kulshan Creek Butterfly Garden, volunteered at the Samish Bay Bivalve Bash & Mud Run, the Samish Seed Sale, our annual plant sale, and has planted thousands of trees for the Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group and Skagit Land Trust – volunteering at almost all of their planting work parties, and also helped with blackberry removal projects.

Patrick has been a consistent source of energy and his dedication and great work have provided not only a source of inspiration, but has contributed to the protection and conservation of our natural resources and our community as a whole.



Patrick Hurley, winner of the Harry Taggart Inspirational Award.

Awards were also presented in the major categories listed as follows:

CONSERVATION IMPLEMENTATION:

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTATION:

Richard Ackerman, Gary Knaus, Sr., Don & Natalie Stewart, Dick & Jason Vander Kooy – Harmony Dairy #2, Larry & Beth Vander Veen – LB Veen Holsteins, LLC.

CREP IMPLEMENTATION:

Carlos Aguero, Earl Hanson, Larry Jensen – Country Cousins, Lawrence McCormick, Ron Spragg, Samish Indian Nation

FIREWISE PROGRAM

Ken Bullock & Laura Curley, Margaret & Robert Case, Debbie & Richard Cassel, Randy & Vicki Hawkinson, Doris & Ted Irvin, Jackie & Rob Johnson, Anne Murphy, Carol Slayton, Marilyn & Richard Webb, Cascade River Park, Hoxie Lane.

HEDGEROW PROGRAM:

Alan Cooper, Ben Day, DVF Management INC., Jim Youngsman

FOREST STEWARDSHIP:

Dave Chamberlain – C&G Timber, Vicki Hanson, Paul Kriegel – Goodyear Nelson

VOLUNTEER AWARDS:

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

Tony Breckenridge, Kurt Buchanan, Stephen Farmer, Peter Haase, Patrick Hurley, Hal Lee, Christine Longdon, Anne Middleton, Jack Middleton, Grace Payne, Herb Payne, Jack Sekora, Wendy Sekora, Ingeborg Siller

BACKYARD WILDLIFE HABITAT PROGRAM

Stephen Farmer, Jon Gerondale, Ani Gurnee, Donna Helgeson, Patrick Hurley, Keegan McAdams, Anne Middleton, Jack Middleton, Mike Newman, Heidi Nichols, Kerry Salaz, Corinne Sande, Loren Sande, Donna Schram, Stefanie Spatzier

MARINE BIOTOXIN VOLUNTEERS

Glenda Alm, Chet Bradley, Nihla Bradley, Kurt Buchanan, Jim Crone, Kathy Crone, Chuck Davis, Stephen Farmer, Bud Freeman, Cherie Freeman, James Fukuyama, Donna Helgeson, Patrick Hurley, Keegan Janicula, Dick Kent, Dick Lease, Elaine Lease, Jack Mercer, Jack Middleton, Henry Nyland, Shirley Nyland, Jessie Sauer, Marina Schmidt, Jon Stables

STREAM TEAM SUPER STARS

SUPER STAR (10 Years of Monitoring)

Alec McDougall

SHINING STARS (5 Years of Monitoring)

Scott Doman, Shirley Doman, Luanne Goodrich, Steve Goodrich, Peter Haase, Michelle McPhee, Vivian Mizuta, Patrick O'Hearn, Carol Schwartz, Dean Schwartz.

SAMISH STORM MONITORING TEAM

Kurt Buchanan, Stephen Farmer, Pete Haase, Patrick Hurley, Jack Middleton, Patrick O'Hearn, Jack Sekora

WATERSHED MASTERS

Glenda Alm, George Bullock, James Fukuyama, Teresa Hansen, Donna Helgeson, Patrick Hurley, Rhonda Jennings, Hella Lee, Lisa Mirante, Cindy Montanez, Michelle Morse, John Patton



ABOVE ~ L to R: Ted & Doris Irvin, and Marilyn & Dick Webb, residents and leaders of the Cascade River Park Firewise Community/USA.

LEFT ~ F to B: Grace & Herb Payne, Ingeborg Siller, Jack & Wendy Sekora, Christine Longdon, Anne Middleton, Tony Breckenridge, Patrick Hurley, Stephen Farmer, Kurt Buchanan, and Jack Middleton received Community Volunteer awards. (Not pictured: Peter Haase & Hal Lee).



“Someone’s sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago.”

– Warren Buffet





FIELD NOTES



Samish Storm Team 2009-2010

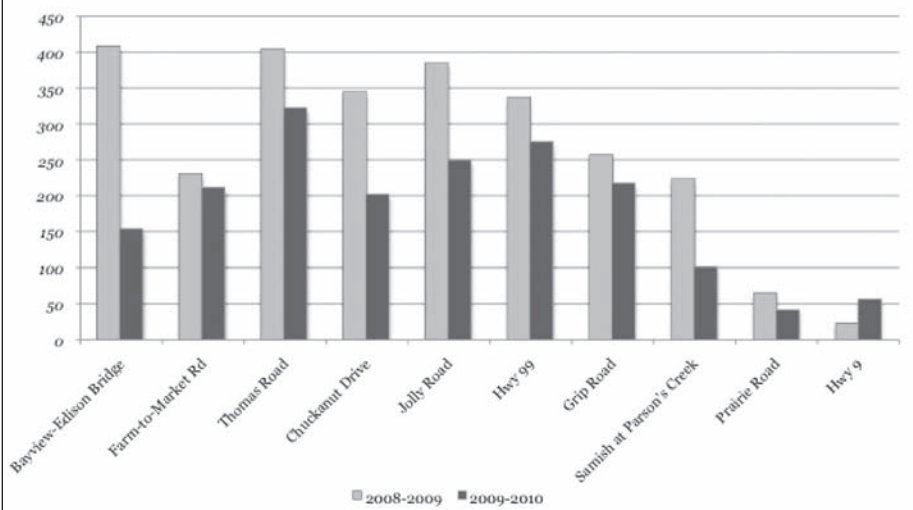
Monitoring Results Show Positive Trend

Of the ten mainstem Samish River sites sampled regularly by Samish Storm Team volunteers throughout 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 seasons, nine sites showed improved (lower) fecal coliform levels the second year (refer to graph at right). The improvements are inspiring and likely due to the collaborative efforts of the numerous Samish community property owners who have applied conservation and stewardship practices on the ground to help improve water quality in the watershed!

Over the last year, considerable attention and support have been given to clean up efforts in the Samish River basin. The Clean Samish Initiative (CSI) brought together more than 20 local and state government agencies, non-profit groups, tribes, businesses, and citizens to identify sources of fecal contamination and find ways to correct them. Most recently, Skagit County was garnered \$941,980 from a highly competitive EPA grant process. The grant will help fund the Clean Samish effort, including a new Pollution Identification and Correction Program (PIC), which is being administered by the County with support from numerous partners. As a partnering organization, the Skagit Conservation District will continue working one-on-one with commercial and small acreage farm operators to develop conservation plans, provide cost-share assistance for implementation of best management practices, and continue outreach efforts in the watershed, including newsletters, workshops, and presentations.

Substantial progress has been made! However, even so, there continues to be commercial shellfish closures (10 over the last year) and, as indicated on the graph, fecal coliform levels continue to violate state standards when rainfall reaches 0.3" or more. Is water quality in the Samish River basin improving? This seemingly simple question is still difficult to answer for the long-term. As we have seen, seasonal and annual fluctuations make this a complex question. Long term and specially focused studies, such as being provided through the PIC program, are key to understanding the health of the river, and the continued support, land stewardship, and involvement of the Samish community provides the foundation that will lead to a healthy, clean Samish watershed.

Samish Mainstem Geomean FCU/100ml



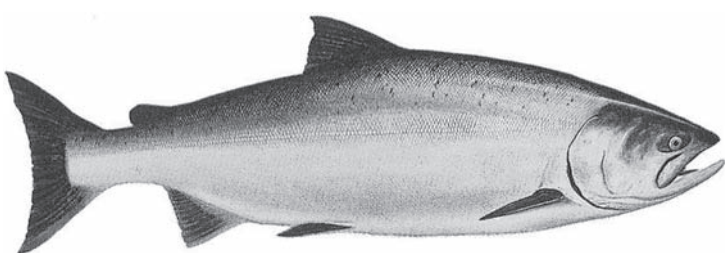
To meet state standards the annual geometric mean of fecal coliform bacteria levels cannot exceed 100 colonies/100 ml. Thus, although fecal coliform levels have improved, there is much work still to be done - the majority of stations still do not meet state standards.

Clean water starts with everyone!

Over the last year, Skagit Conservation District, in partnership with the Cities of Mount Vernon, Sedro-Woolley, Burlington, Anacortes, and Skagit County, has designed stormwater educational tools for a variety of community audiences, including local businesses.

10 Ways to Love Your River

1. Make sure your onsite sewage system is in good working order. Schedule an inspection as required by Skagit County Public Health.
2. Manage your livestock so they can water away from a stream or ditch. Skagit Conservation District can help with fencing and watering alternatives.
3. Safeguard manure piles from rain and surface runoff. Call the Skagit Conservation District for help.
4. Use proper waste management when you are boating, fishing, birding, hiking, hunting and camping.
5. Bag pet waste and put it in the garbage, not in the onsite sewage system where it can cause expensive problems.
6. Protect the natural vegetation along ditches, streams, lakes and rivers and consider enhancing these riparian areas with native plants appropriate to the site. Vegetation slows and filters pollutants carried in runoff.
7. Stabilize your soil. Make sure that bare dirt is not exposed during the wet season. Use native plants for long term stabilization, and straw or mulch to temporarily protect exposed areas.
8. Talk to your neighbors and work together to reduce neighborhood impacts on water quality.
9. Go outside and get to know your section of the river.
10. Attend public meetings and workshops.



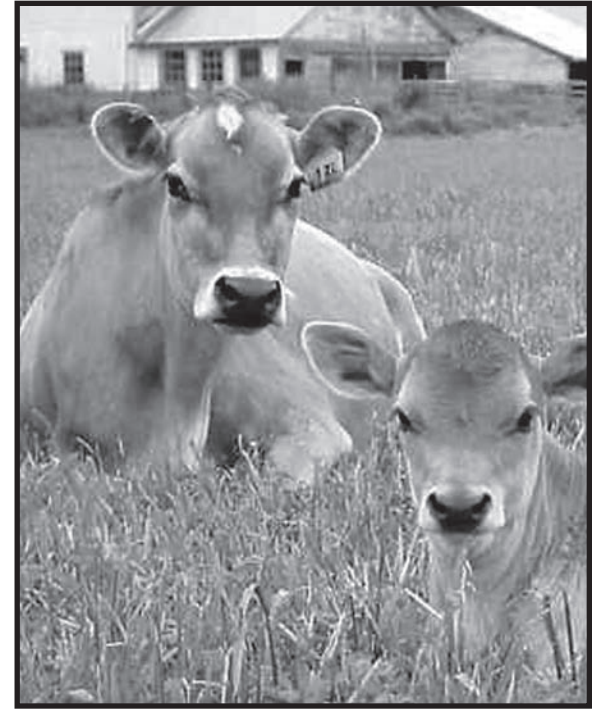
Chinook Salmon

For a FREE poster contact Kristi Carpenter, Skagit Conservation District, 428-4313 or email: kristi@skagitcd.org.





FIELD NOTES



Additional manure storage pond constructed at a dairy that operates within the Samish Watershed.

Currently, there are 6 commercial dairy operations located in the Samish Watershed, which consist of 4 conventional dairy operations, one organic operation and one goat dairy. Two other dairy operations control cropland that is located in the Watershed.

Dairy farms are a benefit to the Watershed because they produce dairy products, which most people enjoy, they provide jobs and a way of life, and preserve precious farmland.

Dairy farms produce large amounts of wastewater and manure, but when properly handled can be a benefit because it supplies a natural source of nutrients to crops and provides organic matter back into the soil.

Manure storage is very important because if it is not handled and stored properly, then the manure can find its way into water bodies. Manure should be stored so that it can be applied agronomically and when the potential for runoff into waterways is low. The typical storage period is from November 1st - March 1st depending on weather and soil conditions. Manure should not

be applied to cropland on bare soil after harvest in the fall and should not be applied when the soil is frozen or saturated. Commercial dairy operations are inspected by the Washington State Department of Agriculture at least once every 22 months to ensure that dairy operations have adequate storage and that the nutrients that are contained in the manure are applied at agronomic rates.

One dairy in the Samish Watershed was in need of additional manure storage, so the operator contacted the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Skagit Conservation District to obtain technical and financial assistance to construct a second waste storage pond. Through the technical and financial assistance of the NRCs and the financial assistance of the District, the dairy operator was able to construct a second pond. Now that a second pond is in place, the dairy operator has more options as to when manure can be applied to his crop fields. Having additional storage provides the operator the benefit of applying manure when the crops need it the most and when the potential for runoff is low. This is just one of the recent land-use improvements that benefit the health of the Samish Watershed.

Voluntary Compliance in the Samish Watershed

Over the past 14 months, the Skagit Conservation District has presented several workshops in the Samish Watershed to educate landowners on the importance of livestock management and how implementing best management practices can have a positive effect on water quality in the Watershed.

One landowner in particular participated in a three-part livestock workshop series in October and November 2009 and became aware that their cattle having access to the Samish River to obtain drinking water was a potential water quality issue and decided to contact the District to obtain assistance in coming up with alternatives. The solution they chose was to install two solar powered water pump systems that draw water from the river and into water troughs that are placed well away from the river's edge. The end result is that the cattle can still obtain drinking water without accessing the Samish, which could cause streambank erosion and contamination of the water.

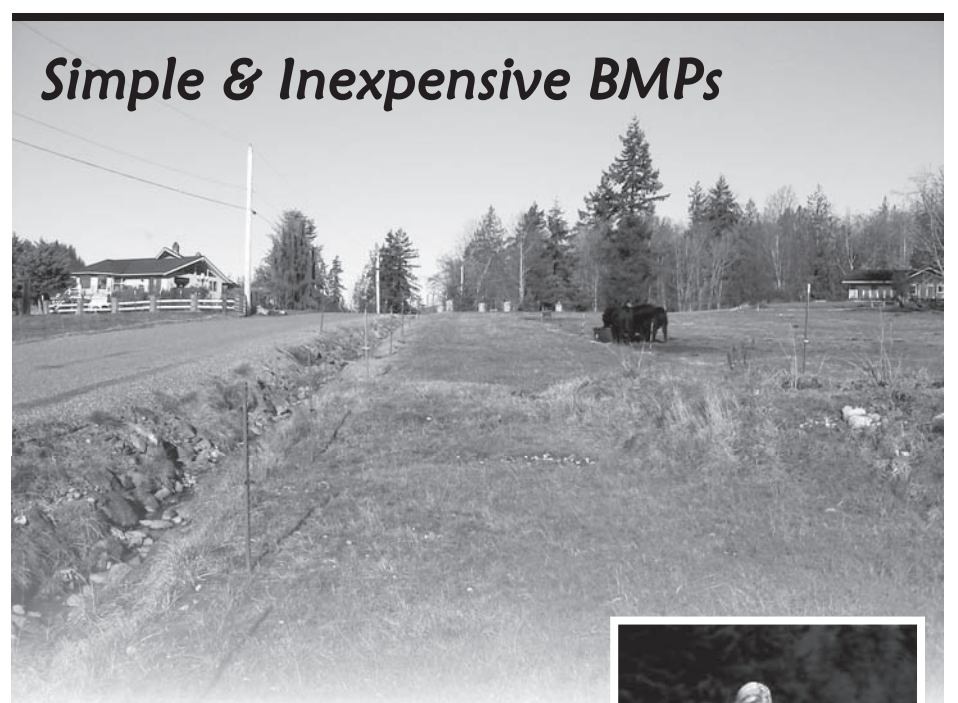
It is important to recognize that there are landowners located in the Watershed that are making a difference without enforcement actions.

If you are a landowner in the Samish Watershed that has implemented Best Management Practices on your property, we would love to hear about it! Feel free to call the District at 360-428-4313 or email John Schuh at john@skagitcd.org



An example of one of the solar powered water pump systems.

Simple & Inexpensive BMPs



Some best management practices are simple and inexpensive to implement. One example is a one-strand electric fence, installed to exclude livestock from pasture areas that are adjacent to surface waterways, such as drainage ditches. This fence (pictured above) was installed 20 feet away from a drainage ditch in November and will be taken down sometime in the spring once the soil is no longer saturated. The purpose of installing the temporary fence is to create a "filter strip" to collect sediment and bacteria before runoff reaches the ditch.





Fire & Forestry



EMERGING FORESTRY ISSUES:

BIOMASS

Forest biomass may provide future opportunities for forest landowners. Biomass harvest has the potential to improve forest health and provide jobs and create income in rural communities.

BCAP (Biomass Crop Assistance Program)

The USDA Farm Service Agency has developed new rules for the producers and purchasers of forest biomass. The BCAP program will assist forest landowners with payments for the collection, harvest, storage, and transportation of eligible materials to a qualified Biomass Conversion Facility. The USDA recognizes landowners with Forest Conservation Plans ensuring operations are within the context of sustainable forest management practices.

What is Forest Biomass?

Forest biomass will come from:

- Residuals from ongoing harvest operations, (called slash)
- Products of pre-commercial thinning, (small saplings from over-crowded young forests)
- Trees thinned from forests that are at risk from wildfire, insects, disease, (forest health treatments)

Forest biomass will NOT come from:

- Stumps – removal of stumps from a forest can increase soil erosion and is not considered a forest practice, but a conversion activity
- Traditional timber that would otherwise be made into lumber, paper, tissue, or other existing products
- Down logs required to be left on the forest site or material incorporated into the forest floor
- Old growth forests
- Any acres restricted from harvest by the Forest Practices Act or Administrative Directives, (State or Federal)

Woody biomass is already part of the natural “carbon cycle” and as a result, using it sustainably for bioenergy greatly reduces greenhouse gas emissions by replacing energy that would have been produced by fossil fuels. In addition, modern biomass power facilities contribute to a reduction of greenhouse gases beyond the displacement of fossil fuels. The use of forest fuels in a modern boiler also eliminates the methane emissions from incomplete oxidation following open burning, landfilling or decomposition. This is important because methane is a 25 times more powerful greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide, and modern biomass combustion typically lowers the greenhouse gas footprint of these alternative fuels by 50% or more.

The use of biomass will help create a market for a product previously seen as a “waste”. Forest sector jobs will be created from clean renewable energy sources. Studies included in the new biomass rules include supply, economics, ecological protection and the carbon “footprint” of forest biomass energy facilities. The carbon “footprint” was found to be significantly less than the carbon “footprint” of fossil fuels that have been shipped from other parts of the world. On-going research at the University of Washington in conjunction with the Department of Natural Resources will sort out issues surrounding forest biomass.

Wildfire Hazard Reduction

Biomass removal can reduce the risk of intense wildfire, by removing hazardous fuels, and help prevent large scale insect and disease problems. This can also mitigate future large expenditures on wildfire suppression costs and dead / dying tree removal for public safety. This can be a win-win for communities providing healthy, resilient forests, additional revenue streams to forest landowners (therefore, an incentive to keep their land forested), safer landscapes and provide jobs.

For more information on forest biomass visit:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=ener&topic=landing>

Society of American Foresters: http://www.eforester.org/fp/documents/2009_top3_emerging_issues.pdf

Forest Biomass in Skagit County

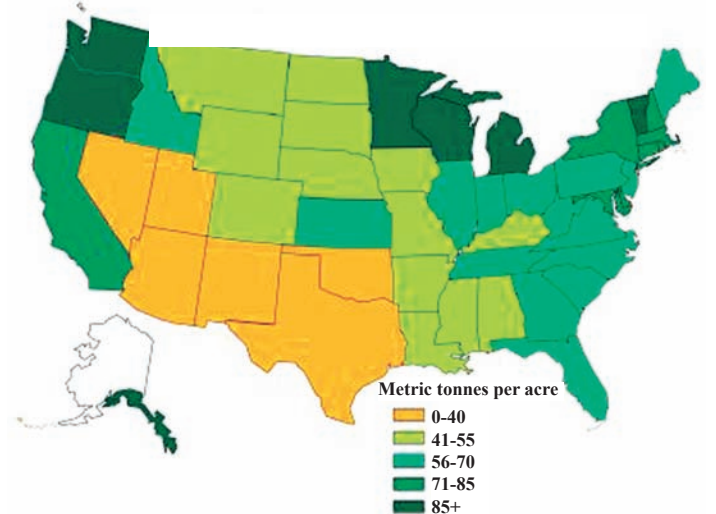
Currently in Skagit County the infrastructure is in place to begin biomass harvesting, however, the USDA is in the process of revising and publishing the federal rules related to the BCAP. A Fact Sheet for producers in Washington State is expected in the near future from the USDA Farm Service Agency that will explain how the program works and how producers can get involved.

For more information, please call the Farm Service Agency in Skagit County at (360) 428-7758 x 2.



Debris left after a harvest may be suitable for biomass. Small trees of non-commercial value may be utilized as biomass.

Average per acre carbon in forests in the U.S.



United States Forest Service, October 2010

Soil & Water Stewardship Poster Contest Theme for 2011

The Skagit Conservation District will be hosting its annual poster contest in March using this theme. The contest will be open to Skagit County students grades K-12.

For contest information, please contact Cindy Pierce at (360) 428-4313.

Further information can be found at

http://www.nacdnet.org/education/contests/poster/2011/forestry_2011.html



Forestry Tidbit

Washington’s forests are some of the most carbon rich in the world and are continuing to increase. “The U.S. Forest Service provided its first ‘snapshot’ of how much carbon trees store at state and regional levels in new figures released [Friday, October 15, 2010]. Washington, Oregon, Minnesota, Michigan, Wisconsin and Vermont ranked highest in terms of average carbon stored per acre, trapping upward of 85 metric tons in an average forestland acre, the analysis found.” (Climate Wire, Oct. 18, 2010).



2010 SKAGIT CONSERVATION DISTRICT SUMMARY

Report of Accomplishments



Thinned stand under EQUIP

Forest Stewardship Program and EQIP

- 11 forest conservation plans covering 856 acres written
- 9 forestry conservation practices implemented
- 4 plans written for NRCS Environmental Quality Incentive Program participants treating 250.92 acres
- 5 forestry outreach events



Manure transfer project

Commercial Livestock and Small Farm Operations

- 14 small farm plans written
- 42 small farm landowners assisted
- 2 new dairy plans written
- 11 dairy operators assisted
- 4 nutrient management plan updates completed
- 9 commercial livestock operations assisted
- 4 commercial livestock operation plans written
- 10 best management practices designed and implemented utilizing \$19,693.81 in cost-share funds



Removal of rock groin at March's Point

Professional Engineering

- 9 cooperators, agencies, and committees received engineering technical assistance
- 5 projects designed, such as bioswales/rain gardens for the cities of Burlington, Anacortes, and Sedro-Woolley
- Long-term project work on Cottonwood Island Slough and the WDFW Goose Preserve
- 2 projects implemented: Marches Point rock groin removal and a pipeline stock watering tank installation



Firewise outreach with Smokey Bear

Firewise and Community Wildfire Protection Planning

- 1 new certified Firewise Communities/USA
- 4 home wildfire risk assessments completed
- 3.0 acres of fuels reduction completed with 29 homeowners participating
- 1 community level wildfire risk assessment completed
- 5 Firewise presentations & outreach events conducted – audience: 647
- 1 Firewise Community/USA certification in progress
- 5 certified Firewise Communities/USA in Skagit County
- WA State ranks 2nd in the nation for number of Firewise Communities/USA



Fence being installed through CREP

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) & Hedgerows

- 81 CREP projects implemented to date providing 554.3 acres of buffer totaling 154,184 stream bank feet totaling 29.2 miles
- 6 new CREP projects implemented
- 2 new CREP contracts signed
- Provided technical assistance on hedgerows to 4 landowners
- Planted hedgerows along 2,700 feet of stream with 2,720 shrubs
- 1 Hedgerow workshop; 25 participants

Purchased Development Rights Monitoring

- Assisted the Farmland Legacy Program by monitoring approximately 8,665.55 acres under easement with status reviews conducted

2010 Feature Accomplishment

Samish Watershed Improvements

Skagit Conservation District (SCD) has been addressing high fecal coliform bacteria levels in the Samish Watershed this year by:

- Providing farm planning technical assistance to 36 landowners in the watershed
- Completing farm plans for 19 landowners in the watershed
- Planning and designing 21 best management practices and treating approximately 400 acres
- Installing 14,000 feet of fencing
- Providing \$9,260.98 in cost share for the implementation of 9 structural best management practices
- Coordinating 11 educational workshops for Samish watershed residents with over 265 attendees
- Publishing and distributing the Samish newsletter and 3 other informational mailings to over 5500 residents
- Hosting educational displays at 6 events reaching 500 people



Family Night at Samish Bay workshop



Sprig the Treeture at the Festival of Family Farms

Environmental Education

- Over 700 students participated in the annual Sixth Grade Conservation Tour in May
- 250 seedlings distributed to students in honor of Arbor Day
- A community proclamation in recognition of "Soil and Water Stewardship Week" televised, presented, and signed at a Skagit County Commissioners meeting in April
- 222 posters entered for the Soil and Water Stewardship poster contest for local youth
- Hosted educational displays and distributed educational and program promotional materials at 3 farm locations at the Skagit County Festival of Family Farms – 3,000+ attendees combined for these locations
- Recruited 136 volunteers and 17 resource agencies/organizations to host displays for the 8th annual Samish Bay Bivalve Bash and Mud Run – attendance: 1,400
- Hosted an educational display with a cow-milking contest at the Skagit County Fair in August – 20,000 attended the fair



Skagit County Fair, 2010

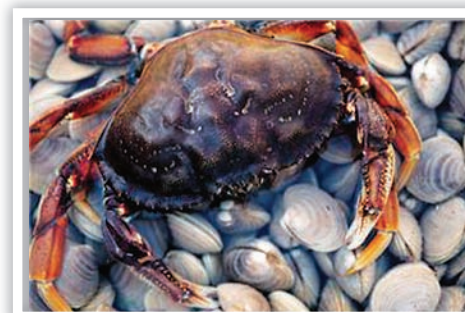


Culvert Replacement



Forest Road Projects

- 8.68 miles of roads treated
- 0.8 miles of road surfacing treatment
- 95 drivable dips constructed
- 83 culverts permanently removed
- 32 old or undersized culverts replaced
- 3.722 miles of road decommissioned



Marine Biotoxin Monitoring Program

- 24 community volunteers participated in the 2010 sampling season
- 77 sampling events conducted by volunteers at 10 recreational shellfish harvesting beaches

District Media

- Skagit Conservation News – 2 newsletters distributed to over 4,600 readers
- Skagit Conservation District website upgraded: www.skagitcd.org



Skagit Stream Team volunteers

Skagit Stream Team

- 71 volunteers are participating in the 2010/11 Stream Team Program
- 7 Stream Team volunteers are participating in the Bay View/No Name Storm Team program
- 54 stations, located in the Padilla Bay, Samish, Fisher Creek, Kulshan Creek, Trumpeter, Gages Slough, Brickyard Creek, and Nookachamps basins, are monitored for fecal coliform, temperature, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, and depth twice a month
- 1,192 Stream Team volunteer hours reported for 2009/2010 monitoring season
- Annual Stream Team report completed and distributed



Kulshan bird & butterfly garden

Backyard Conservation Stewardship Program

- National Wildlife Federation recognition of "Community Wildlife Habitat" for zip codes 98273, 98274, 98232, 98238, & 98235
- 25 backyard conservation practices installed on 6.25 acres of land
- Provided presentations on backyard conservation to 89 people
- Coordinated work parties and constructed a community bird and butterfly demonstration garden in the Kulshan neighborhood in partnership with Skagit Valley Backyard Habitat Team, City of MV Police Department, Boy Scout Troop 461, and the Kulshan Creek neighborhood kids and families
- Labeled 8 storm drains & distributed 500 educational door hangers in the Kulshan Creek neighborhood with the assistance of 23 Kulshan kids and families, City of MV Police Department and Backyard Habitat volunteers



Storm drain marking group

Low Impact Development (LID) & Stormwater Education

- 400 storm markers installed on storm drain inlets by volunteers and 1,200 educational door hangers distributed in the City of Burlington and the City of Mount Vernon
- 30 stormwater education presentations provided to 950 county students
- 35 Clean & Green car wash events for 2,170 cars with 141,050 gallons of water treated
- 2 rain garden designs completed & approved
- 9 LID presentations given to 225 people
- 2 stormwater educational posters designed & distributed

"The best time to plant a tree was twenty years ago. The second best time is now."
~Anonymous



Watershed Masters 2010

Watershed Masters Volunteer Training Program

- 29 individuals completed the fall 2010 Watershed Masters Training Program, bringing the total participants to date to 418
- 4,099 Watershed Master volunteer hours reported in 2010, bringing the total hours to over 20,600
- Over 130 sustainable backyard practices employed & reported by Fall 2010 graduates





COMMUNITY

Congratulations! Fall 2010 Watershed Master "Graduates!"

On November 16th, twenty-eight enthusiastic and dedicated community residents celebrated their "graduation" and became official "Watershed Master Volunteers." The celebration, held at the Padilla Bay Research Reserve, culminated eight weeks of intensive training, which included 8 evening classes and 3 Saturday field excursions. Since 1995, over 425 community residents have participated in the Watershed Masters Volunteer Training Program. In addition to educating and involving local residents in the protection of our streams, rivers, and marine waters, the program has also provided numerous partnership opportunities, kindled many new friendships, and enhanced our community!

The Skagit Conservation District and partners, including the City of Mount Vernon, City of Burlington, City of Sedro-Woolley, Skagit

County, and the Washington Department of Ecology, would like to thank and welcome the participants of the Fall 2010 Watershed Masters Volunteer Training Program:

- David Alger, Mount Vernon**
- Steven Day, Burlington**
- Eric Dennis, Sedro-Woolley**
- Kraig Hansen, Sedro-Woolley**
- Henry Hash, Mount Vernon**
- Donna Helgeson, Sedro-Woolley**
- Sabrina Jones, Burlington**
- Carol Kesti, Mount Vernon**
- George Koerber, Mount Vernon**
- Baseema Krkoska, Anacortes**
- Ward Krkoska, Anacortes**
- Jim Kunzmann, Bow**
- Edward Lawler, Mount Vernon**
- Lachelle Lorentz, Burlington**
- Rebecca Love, Mount Vernon**
- Lisa Mirante, Sedro-Woolley**
- Sue Mitchell, Burlington**
- Blake Musselman, Burlington**
- Chris Pettit, Mount Vernon**
- Nancy Richard, Sedro-Woolley**
- Gordon Sjorgren, Kirkland**
- Jon Stables, Anacortes**
- Vicky Stables, Anacortes**
- Brigid Stockton, Burlington**
- Bill Swartz, Sedro-Woolley**
- Josh Underdahl, Sedro-Woolley**
- Sara Van Zandt, Bow**
- Kris Walker, Bow**



The Fall 2010 Watershed Masters spent an evening session at Taylor Shellfish farms to learn about our local shellfish resources, water quality, and the Clean Samish Initiative.



Watershed Master program participant, Rebecca Love, learns about the Hansen Creek Floodplain Restoration Project, during a Saturday field day lead by Chris Gourley, Upper Skagit Indian Tribe.



The Fall 2010 Watershed Masters smile for a group photo during a Saturday field day, which included a tour of a stream restoration project, a "walk in the woods" forestry tour, and a tour of the PSE Baker Dam and salmon spawning grounds.

For information about the Watershed Masters Volunteer Training Program, please contact Kristi Carpenter, Skagit Conservation District, at (360) 428-4313 or email: Kristi@skagitcd.org

The Watershed Masters Volunteer training program is a great way for local residents to find out more about the place we live and to make a difference right here in our own community and neighborhoods. The course is offered each fall, with volunteer activities occurring year-round.

Volunteer Spotlight! Ani Gurnee



Heartful thanks to Ani Gurnee of Aulos Design, for volunteering her time, expertise, and creativity, to create a beautiful garden that will benefit local wildlife and provide a place of inspiration for community residents of all ages to enjoy for years to come. Ani is pictured on the right providing a tour of the garden.

Hats off and special thanks to local landscape designer, Ani Gurnee of Aulos Design in Conway, for giving freely of her time and expertise to design the beautiful new Kulshan Creek Demonstration Bird and Butterfly Garden, located on the corner of 26th and Kulshan in Mount Vernon. Ani, who is a participant of the Skagit Valley Backyard Wildlife Habitat Team and a Conservation District volunteer, has been an inspiration for all of us! Over the summer, Ani designed the low-maintenance landscape plan, was instrumental in plant selection, helped solicit plant donations, helped lead planting and maintenance work parties, and has been involved in planning future garden activities. The demonstration butterfly garden was designed to provide valuable habitat for butterflies, birds, and bees, to reduce storm-water runoff, to create a sense of community, raise public awareness, provide an outdoor learning experience for the neighborhood children, and to beautify the environment. Stay tuned for upcoming tours of the Kulshan Creek Neighborhood Bird and Butterfly Garden, which will be held at the garden this spring. If you would like to be included on the invite list, contact Kristi@skagitcd.org.

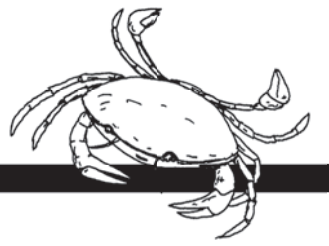
Congratulations SKAGIT VALLEY!

Leading a nationwide trend in community concern for habitat loss, the Skagit Valley Community was officially designated a "Community Wildlife Habitat," the forty-fifth in the country and tenth in Washington State to receive this honor. A special ceremony in recognition of this achievement was held at the Kulshan Creek Neighborhood Station on Thursday, August 26th with over 50 people attending. Skagit County Commissioners Sharon Dillon, Ron Wesen, and Ken Dahlstedt, and Gary Molenaar, Mount Vernon City Council received the award on behalf of the community, which was presented by Courtney Sullivan of the National Wildlife Federation. The Skagit Valley Backyard Wildlife Habitat Team, under the leadership of Donna Schram of Mount Vernon, spearheaded the effort, in partnership with Skagit Conservation District, the National Wildlife Federation, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and hundreds of local community residents. Community support for the program continues with a new Friday Creek Neighborhood group currently forming! For information on the program or how to certify your own yard, contact Kristi Carpenter, SCD, at 428-4313 or email: Kristi@skagitcd.org.



On August 26th, the Skagit Valley Community was officially designated a "Community Wildlife Habitat," the forty-fifth in the country and tenth in Washington State to receive this national honor.

STEWARDSHIP



Welcome 2010/11 Skagit Stream Team Volunteers!

Skagit Stream Team is a partnership of local citizens, Skagit Conservation District, Padilla Bay Research Reserve, City of Mount Vernon, City of Burlington, City of Sedro-Woolley, and Skagit County.

2010/11 Skagit Stream Team Volunteers

Bay View

Brittany Colins
Charlie Huddleson
Monte Richardson

Brickyard Creek

Bill Bowen
Jerry Corrion
Kyle Deerkop
Jim Johnson
Jack Middleton
Richard Oickle

Fisher Creek

Scott Doman
Shirley Doman
Peter Dowden
Luanne Goodrich
Larry Labo
Henry Nyland
Carol Schwartz
Dean Schwartz

Kulshan Creek

Gena Dilabio
Terri Dix
Maria Magaña
Alec McDougall
Sandy McDougall

Nookachamps Creek

George Bullock
Sean Den Adel
Nicole Espe
Stephen Farmer
James Fukuyama
Patrick Hurley
Sarah Huntington
Hal Lee
Hella Lee
John Patton
Sally Saxton
Marina Schmidt
Joyce Siniscal
James Stavig

Gages Slough

Emilia Blake
Robyn Blankenship
Donna Helgeson

Joe Leary Slough

Scott Adams
Donald Brassington
Doug Edwards
Luanne Goodrich
Laura Paise
Nate Schuh
Daniel Sosa

No Name Slough

Hamilton Hayes
Michelle McPhee
George Miller
Patrick O'Hearn
Corey Peterson
Bertis Rasco
George Viverette



Storm Team volunteers, Jack Middleton and Stephen Farmer, assisted in a field day to identify and map potential monitoring stations in the Padilla Bay Watershed. This year the Storm Team volunteers will be gathering baseline data (storm related) in the Bay View and No Name Slough drainages.

Samish Bay

Mariepaule Braule
Deryl Hart
Stephen Farmer
Steve Goodrich
Dick Lease
Elaine Lease
Marcie Maulden
Sue Mitchell
Vivian Mizuta
Joyce Moon
Dick Redmond
Jeanette Redmond
Tom Schmidt

Trumpeter Basin

Sheila Berry
Rhonda Jennings
Rod Miller
Michele Morse
Frank Repplier
Jack Sekora

Storm Team (No Name Slough/Bay View Watersheds)

Kurt Buchanan
Stephen Farmer
Lin Folsom
Pete Haase
Patrick Hurley
Jack Middleton
Patrick O'Hearn
Jack Sekora

STORM TEAM MONITORING IN THE Padilla Bay Watershed

A new rain event monitoring study for fecal coliform bacteria was launched this fall in the Bay View and No Name Slough drainages, with support from our dedicated Storm Team volunteers. Recent and historical data indicate that bacterial contamination is a significant and ongoing problem throughout these two freshwater drainages that flow to Padilla Bay. In addition, marine water sampling at stations located off the Bay View area shoreline (conducted by the State Department of Health), resulted in the decline of a request for commercial shellfish harvesting on Padilla Bay tidelands, and the closure of Bay View State Park for recreational shellfish harvest in 2005.

Assessing water quality during high flows is important since storms can flush large volumes of pollutants into streams that may impact beneficial uses such as water supplies for domestic, industrial, or agricultural purposes, fish, shellfish, wildlife habitat, recreation, aesthetics, research and education, etc. The storm event monitoring will help detect priority areas for clean up as well as provide data that will compliment the Stream Team's regular ambient monitoring program. Special thanks to our Storm Team volunteers for 2 years of commitment in conducting storm event monitoring in the Samish and beginning the new Padilla Bay study this year: **Kurt Buchanan, Stephen Farmer, Lin Folsom, Pete Haase, Patrick Hurley, Jack Middleton, Patrick O'Hearn, and Jack Sekora!**



Storm Team volunteers, Stephen Farmer, Jack Middleton, and Jack Sekora pictured with Susan Wood (PBNERR) on the shores of Padilla Bay.

EATING SHELLFISH FROM THIS BEACH CAN MAKE YOU SICK!

People enjoyed harvesting clams and oysters at Bay View State Park for many years. However, water pollution has made it necessary to STOP all shellfish harvesting.

WHAT HAPPENED? When septic systems in people's homes get clogged up or old, they no longer prevent sewage from running into Padilla Bay. Clams and oysters filter water for their food and get contaminated by germs in the sewage. These germs do not always hurt the shellfish, but they can make you sick if you eat the contaminated shellfish.

WILL IT EVER BE SAFE? State and local agencies are working with the people who live in Bay View to make local waters cleaner and safer. Once the water running into the bay is safe, the clams and oysters here will be safe to eat again.

NEW OYSTER SEED Skagit Marine Resources Committee, together with the Samish, Swinomish, and Upper Skagit tribes and community volunteers, planted oyster seed here in 2003 with the hope that they will be harvestable in three to four years.

YOU CAN HELP! If you want healthy clams and oysters, take good care of your own septic system! And to prevent runoff of damaging chemicals into the bay, be careful what chemicals you put on your lawn, use on your farm, or keep on your boat.

WANT TO LEARN MORE? Skagit County Health Department - 360-336-9380
Skagit Conservation District - 360-428-4313

This sign was installed at Bay View State Park in 2006 to warn people that the shellfish from this beach are unsafe to eat.



Rick Haley, Skagit County Public Works, demonstrates proper procedures for taking a water quality sample during the annual Stream Team training event, held in September.

"Conservation is a state of harmony between man and the land."

~ Aldo Leopold

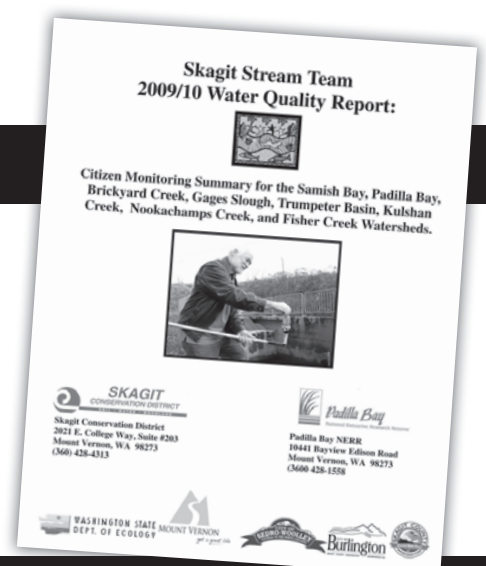
2009/10 Annual Stream Team Report Now Available!

Interested in learning about the health of your local streams?

The 2009/10 Skagit Stream Team annual report is now available. The report includes the results of ambient water quality monitoring by Skagit Stream Team volunteers from September 2009 through August 2010, and includes the following freshwater streams: Samish River, Joe Leary Slough, No Name Slough, Bay View drainage, Brickyard

Creek, Gages Slough, Kulshan Creek, Trumpeter Creek, Nookachamps Creek and Fisher Creek. Each freshwater stream reach is monitored on a regular twice a month schedule for fecal coliform, turbidity, temperature, dissolved oxygen and total depth.

The report is on the district's website: www.skagitcd.org or contact kristi@skagitcd.org.



SCD Annual Plant Sale

About the Plant Materials Center

The Plant Materials Center (PMC) is owned by the Washington Association of Conservation Districts and provides high quality conservation grade plants, shrubs, and services that benefit natural resources. The 60-acre bare-root nursery located in Bow, where the SCD holds its native plant sale every year, produces over 70 species of quality conservation seedlings and cuttings. Once the seedlings are lifted, they are kept in cold storage until the day of our plant sale. The PMC provides plants to conservation districts around the state of Washington.

Purpose of the Plant Sale

The purpose of the plant sale is to promote natural resource conservation by providing quality, conservation-grade plants at wholesale prices to the public for use in conservation related projects. Some examples of conservation projects include erosion control, riparian restoration, reforestation, backyard habitat enhancement, wetland restoration and wildfire mitigation.

Availability of Plants

Every year, the SCD purchases a large number of plants from the PMC to sell at our annual plant sale. The decision of what type and how many seedlings to buy is based on the previous year's sales and what is available depending on the cultivating success of certain species that year. While most of the plants come from the PMC and are grown on site, some are brokered stock, which means that they are contracted out and grown elsewhere. Because we don't always know what our supply will be, especially if certain species failed or ended up being too small to sell, we cannot guarantee that all the species listed in the newsletter or on the order form will be available for pre-orders or during the open sales. Pre-orders will be filled in the order received, and open sale orders will be on a first come, first served basis.

Open Sale Days

For organization and budget purposes, our plant sale is run on a first come, first served basis. Sometimes the lines can get long and the atmosphere can be hectic. We ask that you please be patient with the staff and our many volunteers who work very hard to make the sale run as smoothly as possible for you, our customers. Each year holds new challenges that we try our best to adjust to and accommodate for. The SCD welcomes suggestions on how we can improve the process on sale days. Thank you for your patience.

Remember

Please note that these are conservation-grade plants. They are intended for shelterbelts, erosion control, wildlife habitat and other conservation purposes. Most are sold as bareroot seedlings and are generally small; therefore, high hauling capacity is NOT necessary.

Payment

A 50% deposit must accompany all preorders, and the balance of the order must be paid at time of pick up. Open sale orders must be paid for at the time of purchase.

We are unable to accept credit or debit cards, so please bring your checkbook or cash.

DISCOUNT AVAILABLE!

For purchases of \$500 or more (before sales tax),

there is a **15%** discount.

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING AT OUR PLANT SALE?

We need your help!

Thursday, March 24—12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Friday, March 25—8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturdays, March 26 and April 9
8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Please contact Jenny Hinderman at (360) 428-4313
or email jenny@skagitcd.org to sign up.



OPEN SALE DATES

(First Come, First Served)

Friday, March 25, 2011

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

and Saturdays, March 26 and April 9

9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

PRE-ORDER OPTION!

Presale orders will be accepted
until 4:30 p.m. on Monday, February 28, 2011

Required Minimum Pre-Order:

\$100 before taxes with a 50% deposit
at the time your order is placed

See pre-order form insert to pre-order.

Pick-up date for pre-orders is

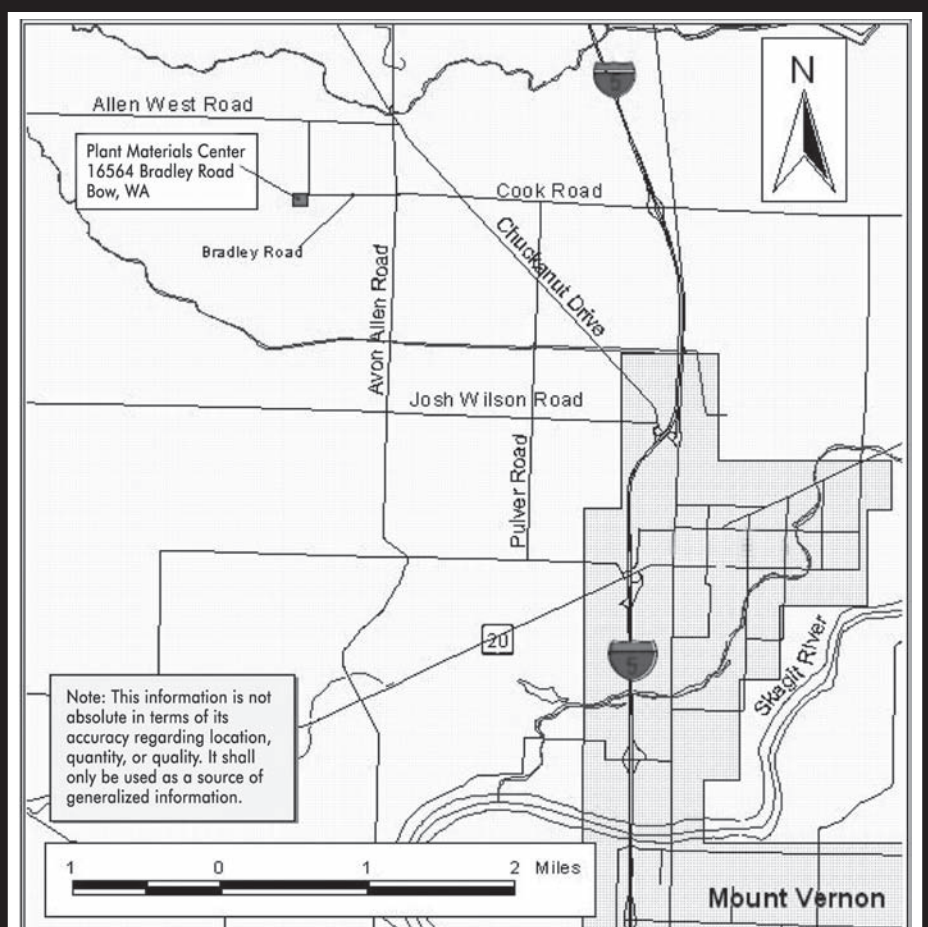
Thursday, March 24, 2011 from 1 to 5 p.m.

at the WACD Plant Materials Center

Questions? Call Sue or Cora at (360) 428-4313

PLANT SALE LOCATION:

WACD Lynn Brown Plant Materials Center
16564 Bradley Road, Bow



DIRECTIONS TO PLANT MATERIALS CENTER:

From I-5 take the Cook Road Exit (#232). Go west on Cook Road. Cross Chutkanut Drive and Avon Allen Road. Cook Road will become Bradley Road after Avon-Allen. Continue west for about one mile. The PMC will be on your left. If you come to a sharp right turn, you have gone too far.

SKAGIT CD 2011 NATIVE PLANT SALE

Plant Descriptions and Pricing

Common/Latin Name Genus Species	Max. Ht	Classification & Species Characteristics (see key)	Classification & Species Characteristics (see key)	Est. size	Bundle Price
EVERGREEN/CONIFER TREE SEEDLINGS (SOLD IN BUNDLES OF 25 EXCEPT AS NOTED**)					
*1. *Cedar, Incense <i>Calocedrus decurrens</i>	2-0	70'		Favors dry sites; Uses: high screen, windbreak, shelter, woodworking	16" \$12.50 for 25
2. Cedar, Port Orford <i>Chamaecyparis lawsoniana</i>	2-0	200'		Grows in exposed sites to rocky, dry ridges, needs good drainage; Uses: boat building, construction	14" \$13.75 for 25
3. Cedar, Western Red <i>Thuja plicata</i>	P-1	200'		Favors moist sites; Uses: riparian plantings, wildlife shelter & food, lumber	18" \$27.50 for 25
4. Fir, Douglas <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	2-0	300'		Favors acidic, well-drained soils; Uses: windbreaks, lumber, wildlife food & cover	18" \$12.50 for 25
5. Fir, Grand <i>Abies grandis</i>	2-0	200'		Grows in moist to dry sites; Uses: wildlife food & shelter, Christmas trees	12" \$13.75 for 25
6. Fir, Noble <i>Abies procera</i>	P-1	100'		Favors dry sites & well-drained acidic soils; Uses: wildlife food & cover, Christmas trees	10" \$27.50 for 25
7. Hemlock, Western <i>Tsuga heterophylla</i>	P-1	200'		Grows in moist, well drained sites; Uses: wildlife habitat, cover & food, pulp	16" \$30.00 for 25
8. Pine, Shore <i>Pinus contorta</i>	2-0	100'		Grows in dry to wet sites; Uses: windbreak, wildlife food, shelter, fuel	12" \$13.75 for 25
9. Spruce, Sitka <i>Picea sitchensis</i>	P-1	200'		Favors moist acidic soils; Uses: wildlife food & shelter, lumber	18" \$30.00 for 25
10. **Yew, Pacific <i>Taxus brevifolia</i>	P-0	30'		Prefers river banks, damp canyons, shade; Uses: wildlife food & medicine	6" in 4" pot \$30.00 for 10**
DECIDUOUS TREE SEEDLINGS (SOLD IN BUNDLES OF 10)					
11. Alder, Red <i>Alnus Rubra</i>	2-0	80'		Grows near streambanks, valley bottoms & slopes with rich soil; Uses: wildlife habitat & food, erosion control, lumber	12" \$18.00 for 10
12. Aspen, Quaking <i>Populus tremuloides</i>	2-0	80'		Grows in mineral soils & exposed sites, tolerates wet soils; Uses: wildlife food & habitat, fire break, erosion control	18" \$18.00 for 10
13. Birch, Paper <i>Betula papyrifera</i>	2-0	80'		Favors moderate to wet sites with loamy soils. Uses: wildlife food & shelter, fuel	36" \$17.00 for 10
14. Cascara <i>Rhamnus purshiana</i>	2-0	35'		Prefers shady and moist areas in forest openings; Uses: wildlife food, medicine	18" \$18.00 for 10
15. Cherry, Bitter <i>Prunus emarginata</i>	1-0	60'		Grows in partial to full sun; tolerant of many soil conditions; Uses: wildlife habitat & food, fuel, lumber	18" \$18.00 for 10
16. Maple, Big Leaf <i>Acer macrophyllum</i>	1-0	80'		Grows in dry to moist sites in full sun; large leaf; Uses: lumber, syrup, wildlife food, fuel	30" \$18.00 for 10
17. Maple, Rocky Mountain <i>Acer glabrum</i>	2-0	40'		Grows in moist to well-drained seepage sites; Uses: wildlife cover & habitat, landscaping	12"+ \$14.00 for 10
18. Oak, Oregon White <i>Quercus garyana</i>	2-0	75'		Grows in dry to moist sites, prefers well-drained soils; Uses: wildlife food & habitat, fuel, wood working	12" \$18.00 for 10
SHRUB SEEDLINGS (SOLD IN BUNDLES OF 10 EXCEPT AS NOTED**)					
19. Cranberry, American <i>Viburnum edule</i>	1-0	12'		Grows in shade to sun in brushy thickets along streams; Uses: wildlife food & cover	12" \$15.00 for 10
20. Dogwood, Red Osier <i>Cornus stolonifera</i>	1-0	20'		Grows in moist to wet sites; Uses: wildlife food & habitat, erosion control	12"+ \$14.00 for 10
21. Elderberry, Blue <i>Sambucus Glauca</i>	root	15'		Grows in dry to moist sites in open areas to partial shade; Uses: wildlife food & habitat, food	10" root \$18.00 for 10
22. Huckleberry, Evergreen <i>Vaccinium ovatum</i>		13'		Grows in dry to moist well-drained soils; Uses: wildlife food, food	6" plug \$33.00 for 10
23. Kinnikinnick <i>Arctostaphylos uva-vrsi</i>	plug	6"		Ground cover that prefers sandy, well-drained, exposed sites on dry slopes; Uses: wildlife habitat	6" plug \$25.00 for 10
24. Mock Orange <i>Philadelphus lewisii</i>	2-0	6'		Favors well-drained moist sites; Uses: wildlife food, colorful flowers	12" \$18.00 for 10
25. Oregon Grape, Short <i>Mahonia nervosa</i>	2-0	2'		Grows in dry to fairly moist sites; Uses: wildlife food, food	6" \$18.00 for 10
26. Oregon Grape, Tall <i>Mahonia aquifolium</i>	2-0	5'		Grows in dry to moist sites; Uses: wildlife food, food, medicine, erosion control	18" \$17.00 for 10
27. Plum, Indian <i>Oemleria cerasiformis</i>	2-0	10'		Grows in dry to moist sites & loamy soil; Uses: wildlife food	18" \$18.00 for 10
28. **Rhododendron, Pacific <i>Rhododendron macrophyllum</i>	P-1	10'		Grows in gravelly soil in drier forests in Western WA; Uses: landscaping	8" \$5.00 each**
29. Rose, Nootka <i>Rosa nutkana</i>	1-0	10'		Grows in dry to moist sites; Uses: wildlife food & shelter, hedgerows, erosion control	12"+ \$14.00 for 10
30. Salal <i>Gaultheria shallon</i>	plug	6"		Grows in dry to moist sites; Uses: wildlife food, food, floral greens, erosion control	6" plug \$20.00 for 10
31. Serviceberry <i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i>	1-0	15'		Grows in dry to moist sites with well-drained soils; Uses: wildlife food, fuel	12" \$14.00 for 10
32. Willow, Hooker <i>Salix hookeriana</i>	whip	20'		Grows in moist to wet sites; Uses: erosion control, wetland restoration	36" whip \$14.00 for 10
33. Willow, Pacific <i>Salix lasiandra</i>	whip	15-45'		Grows in wet to moist sites; Uses: erosion control, windbreaks, wetland restoration, wildlife food & habitat	36" whip \$14.00 for 10
34. Willow, Sitka <i>Salix sitchensis</i>	whip	22'		Grows in moist to dry sites; Uses: erosion control	36" whip \$14.00 for 10
FERNS (SOLD BY EACH)					
35. Fern, Deer <i>Blechnum spicant</i>	plug	3.5'		Grows in wet, acidic, coniferous woods and swamps; Uses: wildlife food, landscaping	6" plug \$4.00 each
36. Fern, Maidenhair <i>Adiantum pedatum</i>	plug	18" fronds		Grows in moist places from sea level to mid-mountain wooded area; Uses: landscaping	6" plug \$2.50 each
WETLAND & RIPARIAN PLANTS (SOLD IN BUNDLES OF 10)					
37. Cattail <i>Typha latifolia</i>	bulb	6'		Grows in wet sites; Uses: wildlife food & habitat, removes pollutants	bulb \$19.00 for 10
38. Spirea, Douglas <i>Spiraea douglasii</i>	2-0	6'		Grows in margins of ponds and meadows, open space, low elevation; Uses: erosion control & wildlife habitat	18" \$18.00 for 10
39. Twinberry <i>Lonicera involucrata</i>	1-0	6'		Grows in wetlands, especially in coastal areas; sea level to mountain forests; Uses: wildlife food	12" \$18.00 for 10

KEY: Evergreen deciduous full sun partial sun partial shade full shade seed flower fruit * Non-native grown as a windbreak

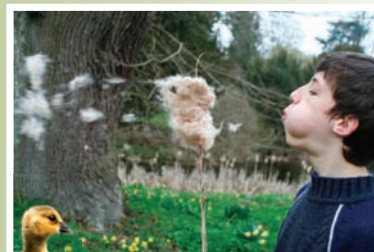


Choosing the Right Plants: A Buyer's Guide

Many of our customers purchase plants in order to remedy a specific problem or for a particular landscape goal. Below are some examples of landscape problems and goals with suggested plant species to help meet these goals. The plant species listed include only those plants that will be available at our plant sale. Additional informational materials will be available at the plant sale.

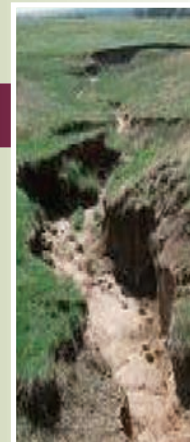
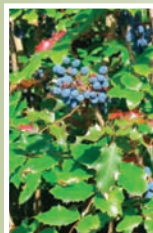
WETLAND RESTORATION

Cattail
Hooker Willow
Pacific Willow
Red Osier Dogwood



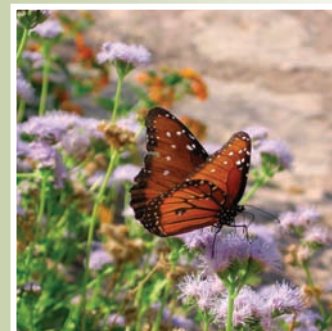
EROSION CONTROL

Red Alder
Quaking Aspen
Red Osier Dogwood
Oregon Grape
Rose Species
Salal
Willow Species



ATTRACTING WILDLIFE

Evergreen Huckleberry
Indian Plum
Mock Orange
Nootka Rose
Oregon Grape
Red Osier Dogwood
Salal
Serviceberry



FIRE RESISTANT

Mock Orange
Nootka Rose
Oregon Grape
Pacific Rhododendron
Paper Birch
Red Osier Dogwood
Salal
Serviceberry
Shore Pine



Thank you to our conservation newsletter sponsors!

Skagit Conservation News sponsorships cost \$50 a year for business names or \$100 for business cards and are seen by over 4,000 readers twice a year.

To become a conservation newsletter sponsor, please contact Cora at 360-428-4313.

The Skagit Conservation District salutes the following businesses as Skagit Conservation News sponsors.

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We wish to thank the businesses and individuals who help to sponsor this publication of the Skagit Conservation District News.



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 CONSERVATION COMMISSION**
www.scc.wa.gov

**WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF
 CONSERVATION DISTRICTS**
www.wadistricts.org

VISIT OUR NEW &
www.skagitcd.org
 IMPROVED WEBSITE

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 Cora Amburn-Lijek, Staff Assistant
 Susan Bridgman, Administrative Assistant
 Kristi Carpenter, Public Information & Education Coordinator
 Al Craney, Forester
 Jennifer Hinderman, Firewise Program Coordinator & Resource Technician
 Joe Holtcamp, CREP/GIS Coordinator
 Lori Kyle, Resource Monitoring Specialist
 Cindy Pierce, Youth Education & Data Information Coordinator
 John Schuh, Livestock, Small Farm Planning & Technical Program Coordinator
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 Dean Wesen, Member
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ATTENTION CONTRACTORS!

The Skagit Conservation District (SCD) maintains a Small Works Roster (SWR) as required by RCW 39.04.155. The roster is used to secure bid proposals from contractors for conservation public works projects estimated to cost less than \$100,000. WA licensed contractors will be added to the SCD SWR after submitting a registration form which can be requested by calling 360-428-4313, emailing skagitcd@skagitcd.org, or downloading it from www.skagitcd.org.



Photo by Cindy Pierce

What's Inside ...

- AWARDS BANQUET 2
- FIELD NOTES 3-4
- FIRE & FORESTRY 5
- REPORT OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS 6-7
- COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP .. 8-9
- ANNUAL PLANT SALE 10-11

SKAGIT CONSERVATION DISTRICT 2011 EXPIRING SUPERVISOR POSITIONS Candidates and Voters Wanted!



Don't forget to vote!

Tuesday, March 15, 2011 – 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Two board supervisor positions will expire in 2011. The elected supervisor is chosen in a public election held by the Skagit Conservation District (SCD), and the appointed supervisor is appointed by the Washington State Conservation Commission (Commission).

The SCD Board of Supervisors is a board of volunteers, who are public officials that serve without compensation. The SCD Board oversees the SCD in its mission to provide voluntary incentive-based programs to local landowners and farm operators and educational workshops to the public to support the land base while protecting and enhancing natural resources in Skagit County. The Board has five members; two are appointed by the Commission, and three are elected by the voters of Skagit County. Two of the elected and one of the appointed supervisors must be landowners or farm operators. For more information about Washington State conservation district elections, refer to the Commission website (www.scc.wa.gov).

ELECTION INFORMATION FOR VOTERS:

If you are a Skagit County registered voter living in Skagit County, you are eligible to vote in the SCD Board of Supervisors Election. The election will be held on Tuesday, March 15, 2011 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 2021 E. College Way, Mount Vernon, WA. Absentee ballots will be available. To receive an absentee ballot request form, please call us, email skagitcd@skagitcd.org, or download the form from our website at www.skagitcd.org. Your completed absentee request form must be faxed to 360-424-6712, emailed to skagitcd@skagitcd.org, brought to our office at 2021 E. College Way, Suite 203, Mount Vernon by 4:30 p.m. on March 1, or mailed and postmarked no later than March 1.

APPOINTED AND ELECTED CANDIDATE INFORMATION:

If you are interested in serving on the SCD Board of Supervisors, are a Skagit County registered voter, and live within Skagit County, you can be a candidate for either the appointed or elected position. Both volunteer positions are three-year terms (2011-2014).

To file as a candidate for the elected position, you must submit a candidate information form with the SCD by February 14, 2011. To have your name on the ballot, you must also get the signatures of at least 25 registered Skagit County voters on the nomination form and submit the form to the SCD by February 14. If you submit an information form, but do not submit a nomination form, you will be a declared write-in candidate, so your name will not appear on the ballot.

To apply for the appointed position, you must submit an application to the Commission between January 1 and March 31, 2011.

Candidate forms and applications are available by calling the SCD at 360-428-4313 or the Commission at 360-407-6200, or by visiting the SCD website (www.skagitcd.org) or the Commission website (www.scc.wa.gov).



SKAGIT CONSERVATION DISTRICT
 2021 E. COLLEGE WAY, SUITE 203
 MOUNT VERNON, WA 98273-2373
 PHONE: (360) 428-4313
 Website: skagitcd.org

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



SCD Board meetings are held at 2021 E. College Way on the third Tuesday of every month at 6:00 a.m. and are open to the public. Please call (360) 428-4313 to verify meeting dates and times.