



Volume 26, Number 1

SOIL • WATER • WOODLAND

WINTER 2010

Plant Sale Edition



WINTER 2010



AWARDS BANQUET

SCD Annual Recognition Banquet

The Skagit Conservation District hosted its Annual Recognition Banquet on Tuesday, September 30th at the Hillcrest Park Lodge in Mount Vernon, 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 evening's events. 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:

Diane Freethy – Community Leadership Award

Diane Freethy was recognized for her powerful actions during her year of leadership with Skagit Citizen Alliance for Rural Preservation (SCARP). As President of SCARP, she worked hard to help preserve the rural aspects of Skagit County. She was instrumental in stopping urban sprawl in certain areas, keeping projects that could threaten our water supply and the health of the environment in check, supporting local government recommendations to deny conversion of rural recreational areas to residential development, and also worked hard to educate the public about wetland protection and other rural preservation issues.

Donna Schram – Inspirational Award

The inspirational award recognizes an inspirational volunteer who has made an outstanding contribution to our community throughout the year. This year, Donna Schram received the award. Over the last 2½ years, Donna has led local efforts to achieve national designation as a wildlife habitat community. As part of this effort, Donna spearheaded the formation of the Skagit Valley Backyard Wildlife Habitat Team, coordinated and participated in numerous educational events and activities with children and adults. She has given numerous presentations around the county on backyard conservation stewardship and continues to inspire and organize people in their efforts to improve wildlife habitat, one backyard at a time.

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

CONSERVATION IMPLEMENTATION:

BACKYARD WILDLIFE HABITAT:

Howard & Thais Armstrong, Bette & Jeff Browne, Clear Lake Historical Association, Brenda Cunningham & Tim Manns, Suzanna Dentel, Fidalgo Backyard Wildlife Habitat Group, Viola & Virgil Garvin, Chris Johnson, Debbie & Duane Kanske, Darrell & Kitty Mintz, Mount Vernon Parks & Recreation, Myrt Nickel, Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, Robert & Wendy Pare, Skagit Valley Backyard Wildlife Habitat Team, Lea Ann Vaughn.

NON-FORESTRY PLANTING PROJECTS:

Skagit County Parks & Recreation, Drainage District 17.

FIREWISE PROGRAM

Jenkins Lane Firewise: Patti Cromarty & Mark Danielson, Denise Hollister, Chuck Jenkins, Auburn & John Parent.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTATION:

Jeff Boon - Western Valley Farms, Cathy Butler, Scott DeGraw – Sand L Farms, Fred DeVries – DeVries Dairy, Dick Vander Kooy – Harmony Dairy, Leslie Lemley & Jim Flack, Roger Wechsler – Rootabaga Country Farm.

FOREST STEWARDSHIP:

Boy Scouts of America- Mount Baker Council, Tom Clement, Darrell Drummond - Drummond Timber, Morris R.B. Robinson.

VOLUNTEER AWARDS:

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

Diane Freethy, SCARP

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

Richard Bergner, Tony Breckenridge, Kurt Buchanan, Madison Campbell, April Glaefke, Pete Haase, Casey Haveman, Cody Haveman, Melissa Howlett, Keegan McAdams, Anne Middleton, Jack Middleton, Dan Rasar, Corrine Sande, Loren Sande, Donna Schram, Sarah Tisinger.

SHELLFISH MONITORS:

Chet Bradley, Nihla Bradley, Kurt Buchanan, Jim Crone, Kathy Crone, Chuck Davis, Steven Farmer, Kathy Fournier, Bud Freeman, Cherie Freeman, Patrick Hurley, Dick Lease, Elaine Lease, Jack Mercer, Jack Middleton, Jessie Sauer, Pat Steffani.

STREAM TEAM SUPER STARS

SHINING STARS (5 Years of Monitoring)

Dick Lease, Elaine Lease, Mark Morrow, Jeanette Redmond.

SAMISH STORM MONITORING TEAM

Kurt Buchanan, Pete Haase, Jack Middleton, Patrick O'Hearn, Tom Schmidt, Jack Sekora.

THE SALMON SISTERS

Gina Di Labio, Terri Dix, Maria Magana.

WATERSHED MASTERS

Alyssa Bangs, Gretchen Cohan, Suzanna Dentel, Stephen Farmer, Pete Haase, Patrick Hurley, Hal Lee, Roger Mani, Susan Mani, Jack Sekora, Randy Stevens, Barb Tosland.



LEFT: Donna Schram: Inspirational Award
CENTER: Community Volunteers (Left to Right): Jack Middleton, April Glaefke, Anne Middleton, Pete Haase, Donna Schram, Kurt Buchanan, and Loren Sande
RIGHT: Diane Freethy: Community Leadership Award



FIELD NOTES



SAMISH WATERSHED UPDATE

Summary

Over the past 5 months, many activities have taken place in the Samish Watershed to help improve water quality; however, there is still more work needed.

Water quality monitoring indicates that there are still high levels of fecal coliform bacteria entering the Samish River and its tributaries. Fecal coliform bacteria are found in waste from warm-blooded mammals, including humans, livestock, domestic pets, waterfowl and wildlife. It ends up in surface waterways, such as streams and drainage ditches and eventually finds its way into Samish Bay, home to a large shellfish industry.

Water Quality Data

Water quality monitoring shows that when rainfall amounts exceed 0.3" in a 24-hour period, the Samish River carries excessive amounts of fecal bacterial pollution downstream making shellfish consumption temporarily unsafe to eat. Under these rain events, shellfish harvesting is suspended for a five-day period to allow the shellfish to cleanse themselves before harvesting is reopened.

Established in 2003, the Skagit County Monitoring Project tests water from 40 different sites throughout the County, 11 of them in the Samish Watershed. Water samples are taken from each site once every month and analyzed for dissolved oxygen, temperature, fecal coliform, pH, turbidity and nutrients.

The Monitoring Project has sampled for fecal coliform in the Samish Watershed 14 times between July 1st and December 15th. Of the 14 samples at the furthest downstream river sampling station (Thomas Road Bridge), seven were in excess of the 100 colony-forming units (CFU) per 100 ml state standard. One sample reached 1600 cfu, or 16 times the state standard. Other Samish Bay tributaries, such as the pump stations, also had episodes of high fecal coliform levels. These results demonstrate that fecal coliform pollution continues in the Samish Basin. However, river samples in October and November were below the standard.

Storm Team volunteers, working out of the Skagit Conservation District and Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, continued to sample rain events during this period. Their results also indicated continuing high fecal coliform counts during rain storms. Storm Team data did reveal a pattern of reduced coliform counts in Parsons Creek. This reduction occurred directly after a local landowner took some voluntary corrective actions to reduce cattle access to the stream.

What has been accomplished over the past 6 months?

The Clean Samish Initiative

The Samish Basin fecal coliform pollution issues have attracted regional attention and are now the focus of the Clean Samish Initiative (CSI). The CSI is a multi-agency effort involving the State Departments of Ecology and Health, Skagit County, the Skagit Conservation District, the Skagit Conservation Education Alliance, the Samish Tribe, the Western Washington Agricultural Association, the Washington State Dairy Federation, EPA, Taylor Shellfish and other organizations. The CSI's aim is achievement of rapid short-term pollution reductions in the Samish Basin, as well as charting a way forward for long-term solutions in the basin.

On December 3rd, the CSI presented a public open house at the Allen Elementary School. Approximately 30 residents attended the open house where they heard presentations about water quality data, livestock and septic inspection activities and participated in round table discussions.

Livestock Workshops

The Skagit Conservation District hosted a 3-part livestock workshop series at the Samish Grange Hall. The workshops took place on October 28th, October 29th and November 18th. Twenty-one residents heard presentations about water quality data, Department of Ecology's livestock inspection process and how to implement best management practices on their property to improve pasture management, mud management and manure management.

DOE Inspections

To date, the Department of Ecology has contacted 20 Samish Watershed residents to conduct water quality inspections.

DOH Inspections

The Skagit County Health Department mailed letters to 139 parcels in the Lower Samish Watershed and letters to 187 parcels in the Upper Samish Watershed that have either no record of a septic system or no record of septic system maintenance. The purpose of the letters are to get those unknown septic systems inspected to ensure they are functioning properly and not contributing to poor water quality. To date, the Health Department has received notice that 76 of the 139 letters that were mailed to parcels in the Lower Samish Watershed have been inspected. The deadline for the Upper Samish Watershed parcels was December 25th.

Conservation District

During the past 6 months, the District has provided technical assistance to 9 livestock owners in the Samish Watershed. Assistance included the installation of two solar powered water pump systems, one dairy nutrient management plan update, a grassed waterway design and various other technical assistance needs.

Upcoming Activities

The Clean Samish Initiative and its subcommittees will continue to hold meetings to find ways to ensure clean water in the Samish Watershed.

The Department of Ecology will continue to conduct inspections into the foreseeable future.

The Skagit County Health Department will continue to remind landowners about septic system maintenance and will continue to mail letters to landowners that have not responded to earlier letters concerning septic system maintenance.

The Skagit Conservation District will continue to provide planning, BMP design and cost share assistance to landowners in the Watershed.

SCOOP THE POOP, BAG IT, AND PUT IT IN THE TRASH!

Roundworms, *E. coli*, and *Giardia* are just a few of the many harmful microorganisms that can be transmitted from pet waste to humans. Some can last in your yard for as long as four years if not cleaned up. Children who play outside and adults who garden are at greatest risk of infection.

Pet waste is also one of the leading causes of bacterial contamination of streams in urban areas. When it rains, the bacteria is carried from our backyards, neighborhoods, parks, and trails, into our storm drains, creeks, lakes, and marine waters. Pet waste also causes the same nitrogen related problems as fertilizer and livestock manure.

What are the solutions?

The best solution is safe and easy. **1) Scoop the poop, 2) put it in a plastic bag, 3) place it in the trash, and 4) wash your hands.** This is the preferred disposal method. From a surface water perspective it removes the pollution source from human and surface water contact and contains it in a landfill situation where discharges are monitored and containment levels are known. Landfills are designed to safely handle substances such as dog waste, cat litter, and dirty diapers.

Many people already place their dog waste in the trash because it is convenient. If you are already placing it in the trash, keep up the good work!

Can I flush pet waste down the toilet?

Maybe.

For residents using onsite septic systems for sewage disposal (the majority of rural Skagit County), flushing pet waste can potentially exceed the design capacity of the septic system. High volumes of hair and ash, not normally found in human waste, can interfere with septic system functions and clog drain fields.

If you are on a municipal sewer system and you can stand the yuck-factor, flushing is a highly desirable method of disposal. Most people, especially those with large or multiple dogs, are not comfortable with the notion of bringing outdoor pet waste indoors to flush it.

Can I bury or compost pet waste?

Composting and burial are not good ideas. They may seem practical, but they do not kill hazardous pathogens that may be in the waste and can pollute water. Landfills are designed to safely handle these substances. The pathogens and parasites within the domestic pet waste are not properly treated or removed under most compost conditions. Experts strongly advise that pet waste should never be placed in your home compost bin or directly on your landscape.

How many dogs are there?

There is no doggie census, and many people do not license their dogs, so there are no hard numbers indicating Skagit County's overall dog population. Instead, we can estimate dog populations based on the best available research.

Research conducted by the American Veterinary Medical Association shows that 37.4 percent of Washington State households own dogs, with an average of 1.5 dogs per dog-owning household.

In 2008, the population of Skagit County was estimated at 117,500 – thus, averaging 4 people per household, would mean that there are approximately 29,375 households in Skagit County. Assuming that 37.4 of those households own dogs, that means just over 10,986 Skagit County households own dogs. At 1.5 dogs per household, we can estimate the Skagit County dog population at approximately 16,479.

How much waste do they produce?

At an estimated rate of 0.33 pounds of solid waste produced daily per dog, the estimated daily production of dog waste in Skagit County is over 5,438 POUNDS PER DAY.



COTTONWOOD ISLAND SLOUGH RESTORATION DESIGN

In December, SCD's engineering program received a grant from the Washington Salmon Recovery Funding Board to complete an engineering design for restoring river flow from the Skagit River into Cottonwood Island Slough. Cottonwood Island, which is located just upstream of the Skagit Forks, is part of WDFW's Skagit Wildlife Area. A century ago, a large side channel meandered around the island and reportedly provided high quality rearing habitat for out-migrating juvenile Chinook and other salmon. Today, the channel only fills with water during floods.

SCD's engineering study will build upon a previous hydrologic modeling study by the Battelle Northwest Laboratory to design modifications to the existing channel that will optimize rearing conditions for Chinook smolts. Our design parameters will focus on ensuring a specific range of water velocity and depth conditions in the channel during the crucial March



Ponded water at the mouth of Cottonwood Island Slough

through June period when juveniles are migrating into the delta, while preserving other existing land uses, such as public fishing access and flood protection. SCD is excited about the prospects of this project for making a significant contribution to achieving the Skagit River Watershed's numeric production goal for wild Chinook smolts, which is mandated under the U.S. Endangered Species Act for recovering threatened Puget Sound Chinook Salmon.



FIRE & FORESTRY

FORESTRY & CLEAN WATER



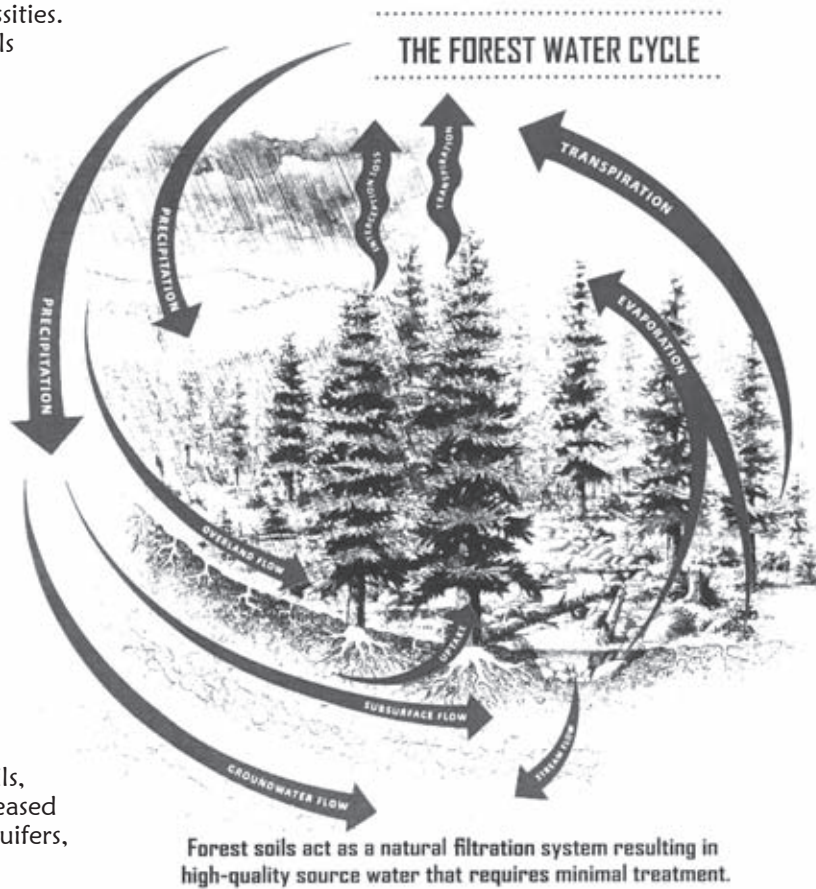
Clean water is among life's basic necessities. Healthy forests promote and build soils that provide natural filtration to keep streams clean and water quality high. Most water flowing into our river systems originates from forestlands, including those managed for wood production. The quality of this source water is among the best in the county.

WHAT IS A WATERSHED?

A watershed is an area of land that absorbs rain and snow and drains it through a network of streams into a river or other major water body. All land in Skagit County is within one watershed or another. Watershed boundaries can be identified by mountains and ridges that divide drainage areas into different water bodies.

HOW DOES THE WATER CYCLE WORK?

As the water reaches healthy forest soils, most is absorbed, and over time is released to nearby streams or ground water aquifers, filtering it in the process.



Other land uses may impact water quality to a greater extent, especially if the components of soil filtration capacity have been altered, such as plant roots, soil structure, soil organisms, microbes, and organic matter.

HOW DO SOIL ORGANISMS AFFECT US?

The critical roles soil organisms, such as fungi, play in ecosystem dynamics are often overlooked. Hidden from human view in the forest floor, a vast and unique kingdom flourishes – an amazingly rich and diverse community of fungi that perform essential functions to sustain plants, animals and humans. As part of this intricate web of existence, fungi are an indispensable link in a long chain of ecosystem processes that ensures the health of our forests.

Fungi do not photosynthesize. Instead, many form symbiotic relationships with root systems of shrubs and trees to access essential nutrients. Like trees and animals, fungi are affected by natural and human caused landscape disturbances. Studies show that soil disturbance can reduce fungi populations. High intensity fire that consumes the litter layer (microhabitat for the fungi) can also be quite harmful to their populations. The PNW forestry Research Station recently published this information in a report called, "Diversity, Ecology, and Conservation of Truffle Fungi in Forests of the Pacific Northwest."

More evidence of how good forest management contributes to our quality of life in Skagit County.



Put some life in your future: plant a tree!

Forest Health and Wildfire Mitigation Meet Again!

Last month, Skagit Conservation District staff and work crews from DNR's Northwest Region came together to develop a forest health and wildfire mitigation project plan for some residents in Anacortes near Gibraltar Road. The project was implemented in early December and included the following practices:

- Pruning dead and low-hanging branches for both the health of the tree, and to reduce the spread of ground fire into the tree canopy
- Thinning to remove unhealthy and diseased trees that are prone to ignition
- Removal of brush overgrowing structures to increase defensible space

- Removal of underbrush in some denser areas where fire has the potential to carry rapidly
- Removal of invasive species
- Chipping slash and broadcasting chips

After the project was completed, this community decided to pursue recognition through the Firewise Communities/USA program. They are currently awaiting their official recognition materials.

Congratulations to another successful partnership between the community, and state and local agencies for the benefit of healthy forests and healthy, safe communities.



TOP ROW, L-R:

- 1) Tom Smith and Steve Biggs of DNR take a break from their chainsaw work to pose for a photo.
- 2) DNR falling crew staff thinning an unhealthy tree.
- 3) Rich Dodd of DNR drags pruned limbs to the slash pile.

BOTTOM ROW, L-R:

- 4) Al Craney, District Forester for the Skagit CD shows a tree rotted out in the center.
- 5) Before fuels reduction
- 6) After fuels reduction

Interesting Forestry Facts

- On average, each American will use about 3 lbs of wood products per day.
- Almost 100% of a tree can be used to make wood and other forest products with today's technology.
- More than 5000 consumer products are made with trees grown in Washington.

Check out these items containing products that are made from trees!

Food: ICE CREAM and syrup makers use cellulose gum to give products a smooth and creamy texture.

Pharmaceuticals & Personal Care Products: Pain relieving caplets are coated with cellulose ethers that make them easier to swallow. Other products like shampoo and toothpaste, contain methylcellulose for thickening.

Clothing: dresses, shirts, and ties made from rayon include fibers from viscose pulp made from trees.

Sports Equipment: baseball bats are made from wood and safety helmets are made from wood cellulose derivatives.

Other items: crayons, sponges, photographic film, eyeglass frames, combs, and tires all contain forest products.

Source: Washington Forest Protection Association, "Forests Facts and Figures".





AFTER THE STORM

State's Puget Sound Partnership Launches Education Campaign to

CLEAN UP PUGET SOUND

Puget Sound Starts Here

is the title for an educational campaign launched in September by the Puget Sound Partnership in concert with the STORM Coalition (Stormwater Outreach for Regional Municipalities) and more than 300 organizations, including cities and counties, environmental and stewardship groups, businesses and universities. "Here" is where each of us live. It is our backyard. It is our driveway. It's our house and our neighborhood. What we do "here" is having a serious impact on our local waterways and ultimately on Puget Sound.

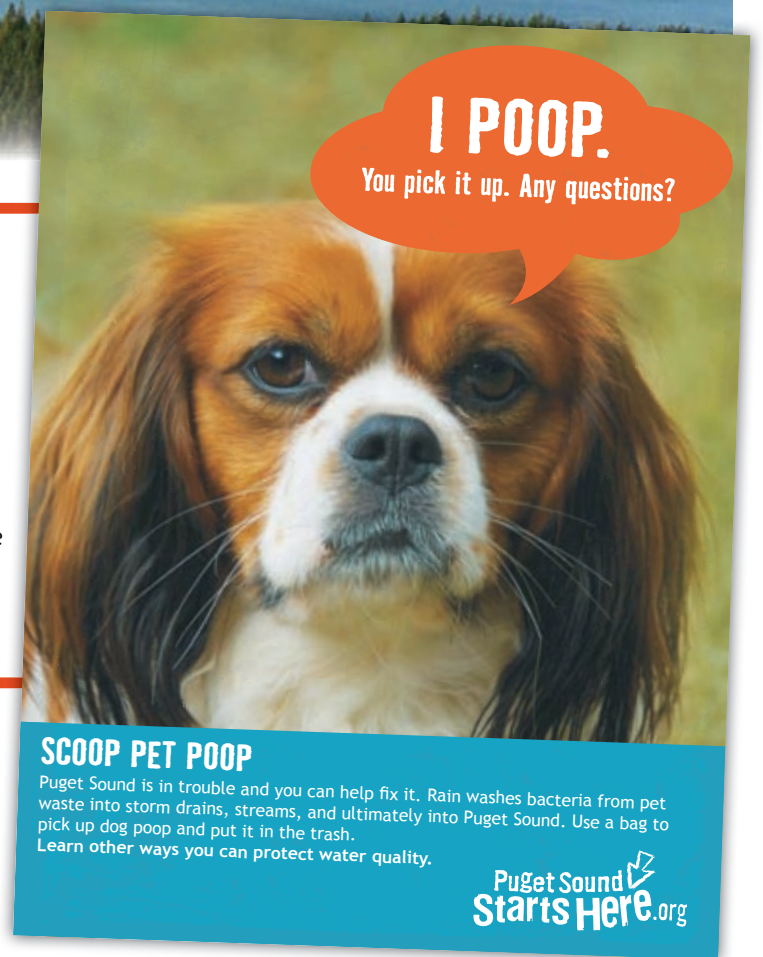
According to David Dicks, director of the Puget Sound Partnership, Puget Sound is dying, and many of us don't realize that our own actions are contributing to its decline. "The 'Puget Sound Starts Here' campaign illustrates the severity of the problem and explains how each of us can be part of the solution by changing a few everyday activities," Dicks said in a written statement.

Approximately 75% of all pollution in Puget Sound comes from stormwater runoff that starts in our neighborhoods. It comes from the water that flows over roads, sidewalks, driveways and yards – picking up oil, grease, metals, soaps and yard chemicals along the way. This untreated stormwater ends up in our storm drain system or drainage ditches, which empty directly into our streams, rivers, bays, and ultimately Puget Sound.

The campaign, which has included a series of educational blitzes on cable television, encourages people to:

- Use commercial carwashes to keep dirty, soapy water from going into a storm drain;
- Fix car leaks or use cardboard to catch oil drips;
- Put compost on lawns to reduce the use of fertilizers and pesticides;
- And pick up pet waste in a plastic bag and throw it in the trash.

While the message may be overly simplified for some viewers, those who would like to delve more deeply into the problems and potential solutions can visit the Puget Sound Partnerships website: www.pugetsoundstartshere.com



"Puget Sound Starts Here" campaign signs can be downloaded from the pugetsoundstartshere.org website.

Car Washing Tips to Keep Our Streams Clean

When a car is washed on a paved surface, like in a driveway or in a parking lot, the soap, detergent, automotive fluids, oil, and roadway dirt that gets rinsed from the vehicle goes straight into nearby storm drains. These storm drains lead directly to lakes, streams, rivers, and eventually to our marine waters. This contaminated runoff can cause significant harm to aquatic plant life, fish, and other animals. In short, something as seemingly harmless as a car wash can cause serious damage to local water quality.



We might not be able to see the creek or river from our window, but it's there. It might be a small stream, ditch, or the storm drain in the street. All of these lead to our rivers and marine waters. So, what we do at home affects the health of our precious waterways.



Use a commercial car wash that recycles its water or sends its wash water to a sanitary sewer.

How can you wash your car and help keep our waterways clean?

- Use a commercial car wash that recycles its water or sends its wash water to a municipal sanitary sewer.
- Drive your car onto your lawn and allow the grass and soil to act as a natural filter, capturing the soapy water and other substances from your car.
- Use hoses with nozzles that automatically turn off when left unattended.
- Pour your bucket of soapy water down the sink when you are done, not in the street.
- If you plan to hold a fundraising car wash, contact one of the local jurisdictions listed below to borrow (free of charge) a Clean and Green Car Wash Kit that diverts wash water from our storm drain systems:

City of Anacortes: 293-1920

City of Mount Vernon: 336-6204

Skagit Conservation District: 428-4313

City of Burlington: 755-9715

City of Sedro-Woolley: 855-0771

Skagit County Public Works: 336-9400 Ext.3174



2009 SKAGIT CONSERVATION DISTRICT SUMMARY



Report of Accomplishments



Making of the video

2009 Feature Accomplishment

Promoting the "Operation Clean & Green" Car Wash Kit Outreach Program

Skagit Conservation District (SCD) is addressing this water quality concern by:

- Developing a countywide outreach campaign addressing the benefits of using a car wash kit
- Developing partnerships with local cities for kit distribution
- Promoting the project through outreach materials available to fundraising groups that include sandwich boards, brochures, litterbags, and a demonstration video
- Tracking how many times the kits are used, how many cars are washed, and how many gallons of soapy water are prevented from entering the storm basins (at 65 gallons per car washed)
- Featuring the car wash kits on websites and at appropriate workshops



Waste storage pond

Commercial Livestock and Small Farm Operations

- 5 small farm plans written
- 19 small farm landowners assisted
- 18 dairy operations assisted
- 7 nutrient management plan updates completed
- 14 commercial livestock operations assisted
- 5 commercial livestock operation plans written
- 6 best management practices designed and implemented utilizing \$34,888 in cost-share funds
- 514 feet of stream bank protection on the Samish River
- A series of 3 livestock workshops held in the upper Samish with 16 participants



CREP planting

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

- 75 CREP projects implemented to date providing 507.2 acres of buffer totaling 146,210 stream feet/27.7 miles, and 202,745 trees maintained
- 6 new CREP plans written for a total of 24.6 acres of buffer to be planted in 2010
- 2 new plans pending contracts



Fuels reduction project

Firewise and Community Wildfire Protection Planning

- 17 CDs were provided Firewise program assistance
- 2 new Firewise Communities/USA implemented
- Skagit County Community Wildfire Protection Plan completed
- 17 acres of fuels reduction completed
- 8 home wildfire risk assessments completed
- 2 community level wildfire risk assessments completed
- 6 Firewise presentations conducted – attendance: 150

Forest Stewardship Program and EQIP

- 11 forest stewardship plans covering 577.6 acres written
- 3 forest certifications covering 230 acres completed
- 8 EQIP practices implemented on 303 acres
- 2 Forest Landowner Field Days held – attendance: 270

Monitoring

- 90 contracts in the Farmland Legacy Program with approximately 6,700 acres monitored
- 7 active and 2 in planning Critical Area Ordinance (CAO) projects monitored for the City of Mount Vernon



Tide gates

Professional Engineering

- 20 cooperators received engineering technical assistance
- 4 projects designed and implemented

Road Projects/Feasibility Studies

- \$395,000 contract for work to be performed on Diobsud Creek Road
- Feasibility study to be completed for Illabot Creek – Washington's newest "Wild and Scenic River"



Sixth Grade Conservation Tour

Environmental Education

- Over 800 students participated in the annual Sixth Grade Conservation Tour in May
- 350 seedlings distributed to students in honor of Arbor Day
- Skagit Conservation District hosted the State Envirothon Competition in May at Camp Lutherwood on Lake Samish - over 70 students from across the state participated
- Information packets promoting the SCD's school presentations and youth education programs redesigned and distributed to county schools
- A community proclamation in recognition of "Soil and Water Stewardship Week" televised, presented, and signed at a Skagit County Commissioners meeting in April
- 60 posters entered for the Soil and Water Stewardship poster contest for local youth (grades K-12), and 4 winning Skagit County posters also won at the state level and have been entered in the national contest
- Hosted an educational booth at the Upper Skagit Bald Eagle Festival – attendance: 8,000
- 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 150 volunteers and 18 resource agencies/organizations to host displays for the 7th 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



Backyard Wildlife Habitat tour

Backyard Conservation Stewardship Program

- 47 individuals completed the 2009 Backyard Conservation Stewardship Short Course
- 28 backyard conservation practices installed on 7 acres of land
- Hosted a display at the City of Mount Vernon Arbor Day event at the new Kiwanis Park – attendance: 125
- 200+ individuals participated in Backyard Wildlife Habitat field trips and other related activities

Low Impact Development (LID)

- 1 rain garden demonstration project completed in partnership with Skagit County
- 4 rain gardens proposed for 2010

District Media

- Skagit Conservation News – 2 newsletters distributed to over 4,600 readers
- Launched the new Skagit CD website



Skagit Stream Team

Skagit Stream Team

- 64 volunteers are participating in the 2009/10 Stream Team Program
- 8 Stream Team volunteers are participating on the Samish Storm Team
- 50 sites, 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
- 1,089 Stream Team volunteer hours reported for 2009



Storm drain marking

Stormwater Education

- 700 storm markers installed on storm drain inlets by volunteers and 1,000 educational door hangers distributed in the City of Burlington, the City of Sedro-Woolley and Drainage District 19
- 80 posters entered in the Cities of Burlington and Sedro-Woolley's "Stormwater Awareness" poster contests
- 1000 informational bookmarks, featuring poster award winners, provided to the city libraries of Burlington and Sedro-Woolley for community distribution
- 13 stormwater education presentations provided to 350 county students
- 75 individuals learned about stormwater by visiting the SCD's letterbox (in partnership with Skagit Conservation Education Alliance's Skagit Watershed Letterbox Quest)

Marine Biotoxin Monitoring Program

- 17 community volunteers participated in the 2009 sampling season
- 65 sampling events conducted



Watershed Masters

Watershed Masters Volunteer Training Program

- 25 individuals completed the fall 2009 Watershed Masters Training Program, bringing the total participants to date to 389
- 2,510 Watershed Master volunteer hours reported
- Over 16,500 cumulative program hours recorded

Special thanks to all of our partnering organizations who made the Skagit Conservation District's efforts toward conservation, water quality, and best land-management practices a huge success yet another year!!



COMMUNITY



Kerrie and Jerry Salaz of Mount Vernon making bird houses with the Skagit Valley Backyard Wildlife Habitat Team.



Under the leadership of Donna Schram of Mount Vernon (pictured above), the greater Mount Vernon area will meet all the requirements to be nationally certified as a "Community Wildlife Habitat" by summer of 2010.



Watershed Master volunteers, Bill and Barb Tosland, greet and entertain visitors to Taylor Shellfish Farms during the Family Festival of Farms.



Always smiling, Anne Middleton, was always there to provide volunteer support at numerous SCD and SCEA programs this year.



Kurt Buchanan, pictured above during a Watershed Masters "Return of the Salmon" field tour, has been sharing his expertise with Watershed Masters since the program initiated in 1995.

FALL 2009 VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



HATS OFF TO...

- Jack Middleton and Patrick Hurley for spending Thanksgiving morning conducting rain event monitoring in the Samish watershed.
- Fall 2009 Watershed Master graduate, Cindy Montanez for completing her 40-hour volunteer requirement in record time and providing monitoring support to Skagit County's Water Quality Monitoring Program (AND Skagit Stream Team too!)
- Anne and Jack Middleton for helping with the Samish Watershed Small Livestock Workshop Series.
- Anne Middleton, Jack Middleton, Jack Sekora, Pat Hurley, Suzanna Dentel, Teresa Hansen, Kathleen Grimbly, Kascha Newberry, and George Newberry for all their time and contributions in making the Dec. 3rd Samish Public Meeting successful.
- Steve Goodrich for taking on the Stream Team data entry this year.
- Our 2009/10 Storm Team volunteers: Kurt Buchanan, Jack Middleton, Pat Hurley, Stephen Farmer, Jack Sekora, Pete Haase, Pat O'Hearn, Tom Schmidt, and Sarah Huntington
- Fisher Creek Stream Team volunteers, Dean and Carol Schwartz, for sharing their monitoring expertise with Conway Elementary School students.
- John Patton for all the great photos he took during the Watershed Masters field trips!

- Donna Schram for her creativity in teaching children (of all ages) about the needs of wildlife by building "fairy houses" with them on the beach at Taylor Shellfish Farms during the Family Festival of Farms.
- Barb and Bill Tosland for entertaining and greeting guests to Taylor Shellfish Farms (in the oyster and lobster suits!) during the Family Festival of Farms.
- Loren Sande and Heidi Nichols for helping host an educational display for the Skagit Valley Backyard Wildlife Habitat Team and Skagit Conservation District at the Burlington Mall's "Living Green Expo" in September.
- Suzanna Dentel and Bev Dresen for spending several days helping the North Cascades National Park Service with a variety of maintenance work at the historic Buckner Orchard site in Stehekin.
- Becky Stinson for inspiring a demonstration rain garden project at the Anacortes Community Garden.
- Donna Helgeson and Teresa Hansen for cleaning leaves and debris from the storm drains in their neighborhoods.
- Pat Hurley, Stephen Farmer, John Patton, Donna Helgeson, George Bullock, Pauline Bonner, and James Fukuyama for all the hundreds of trees you planted along stream banks over the fall!
- George Bullock, and David and Anne Cohen for training and volunteering as tour guides for the Marblemount Fish Hatchery.
- Glenda Alm for her work with the Cool Climate Campaign.
- Pauline Bonner for providing volunteer support to LaConner Flats.
- Lisa Mirante for certifying her backyard as a wildlife habitat sanctuary.

Patrick Hurley of Sedro-Woolley contributed over 165 volunteer hours over the past year. Pat participates in the Watershed Masters, Skagit Stream Team, Skagit Storm Team, and the Marine Biotoxin program and volunteered at numerous community events.



Corrinne Sande of Clear Lake planting trees in the rain garden at the County Administration Building.

The work an unknown good man has done is like a vein of water flowing hidden underground, secretly making the ground green. ~Thomas Carlyle



Patrick O'Hearn and Pete Haase have been active in the Stream Team program for numerous years and over the last year have both volunteered their time to help with storm event monitoring and lab work in the Samish.



Special kudos to Jack Middleton of Bayview who has played a key role in initiating local efforts to help clean up the Samish River this year and also continues to volunteer with the Stream Team, Storm Team, and the Marine Biotoxin programs.



After completing the Fall 2008 Watershed Masters program, Stephen Farmer of Sedro-Woolley, has contributed numerous volunteer hours to the Stream Team, Storm Team, and Marine Biotoxin programs and planted hundreds of trees with the SFEG to enhance salmon habitat.



In addition to being a dedicated Samish Storm Team volunteer, Jack Sekora of Sedro-Woolley, is also involved with the Stream Team program and volunteered his time at numerous community events over the last year.

STEWARDSHIP



2009 FACES OF CONSERVATION

Skagit Conservation District volunteers...planting the seeds of conservation today that will sustain our resources tomorrow!

At the break of dawn on a rainy cold Thanksgiving morning, Skagit Conservation District volunteers, Jack Middleton and Patrick Hurley, pulled on their boots and raingear and headed out to the Samish River where they spent the entire morning collecting water samples at numerous locations on the river and its tributaries as part of their involvement in the Samish Storm Team program. On another day, 17 Marine Biotoxin volunteers are out on a local beach during low tide digging and gathering shellfish samples, which they regularly monitor so our beaches can be closed in a timely manner if PSP toxins are present and shellfish are unsafe to eat. Another group of new Watershed Master volunteers head up to Howard Miller Steelhead Park in Rockport to spend the morning planting native trees along the riverbank while another volunteer clears the leaves and debris from all the storm drains in her neighborhood. These are just a few examples of the many contributions our dedicated volunteers have made to our community. While specific tasks performed vary with their interests, a common bond is that they all share a commitment to their fellow citizens, to our community, and to future generations. They believe that people can make a difference – and have been willing to prove it!

As we enter a new year, the Skagit Conservation District would like to extend a special thank you to ALL of our many volunteers and community residents who selflessly gave of their time in 2009 to make a difference in our community. We would also like to extend thanks to all who participated in our 2009 conservation programs, including the Backyard Conservation Stewardship Short Course, the Skagit Stream Team/Storm Team volunteers, the 2009 Marine Biotoxin Shellfish Monitoring volunteers, and the Fall 2009 Watershed Master graduates. Special recognition and kudos goes out to the Skagit Valley Backyard Wildlife Habitat Team and the Fidalgo Backyard Wildlife Habitat Group for their ongoing efforts promoting backyard conservation practices and making a difference "one yard at a time." And, to those of you who have selflessly continued to give of your time over the years, you are very special to us and to our community. Once again, our sincere thanks and gratitude go out to all of you!

Introducing ...

FALL 2009 WATERSHED MASTER GRADUATES!

Tracy Alker, Mount Vernon
Glenda Alm, Mount Vernon
Pauline Bonner, Anacortes
Cody Boutwell, Burlington
George Bullock, Mount Vernon
Vic Cline, Burlington
Anne Cohen, Rockport
David Cohen, Rockport
James Fukuyama, Mount Vernon
Teresa Hansen, Burlington
Donna Helgeson, Sedro-Woolley
Patrick Hurley, Sedro-Woolley
Rhonda Jennings, Mount Vernon
Sharon Kruppa, Sedro-Woolley
Lisa Mirante, Sedro-Woolley
Cindy Montanez, Sedro-Woolley
Boshie Morris, Anacortes
Kascha Newberry, Mount Vernon
George Newberry, Mount Vernon
Paul O'Donnell, Mount Vernon
John Patton, Mount Vernon
Marina Rogowski, Concrete
Mikaela Rogowski, Concrete (Honorary)
James Stavig, Burlington
David VanWinkle, Sedro-Woolley

Welcome 2009/10 Skagit Stream Team Volunteers!

Stream Team Volunteers:

Bayview Drainage

Patti Bolyard
 Walter Boy
 Marina Rogowski
 Sally Saxton
 James Stavig

Brickyard Creek

Bill Bowen
 Jerry Corrion
 Jim Johnson
 Jack Middleton
 Richard Oickle
 Jack Sekora

Fisher Creek

Chris Bouey
 Scott Doman
 Shirley Doman
 Peter Dowden
 Louanne Goodrich
 Larry Labo
 Henry Nyland
 Carol Schwartz
 Dean Schwartz

Gages Slough

Emilia Blake
 Robyn Blankenship
 Stephen Farmer
 Patrick Hurley

Joe Leary Slough

Scott Adams
 Donald Brassington
 Doug Edwards
 Louanne Goodrich
 Cindy Montanez
 Laura Paise
 Nate Schuh

Kulshan Creek

Gena Di Labio
 Terri Dix
 Maria Magana
 Alec McDougall
 Sandy McDougall

Nookachamps Creek

Kara Block
 Eric Chabot
 Monte Richardson

No Name Slough

Kathy Fournier
 Michelle McPhee
 George Miller
 Patrick O'Hearn
 Corey Peterson
 George Viverette

Samish Watershed

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

Samish Bay Storm Team

Kurt Buchanan
 Stephen Farmer
 Pete Haase
 Sarah Huntington
 Patrick Hurley
 Jack Middleton
 Patrick O'Hearn
 Jack Sekora
 Tom Schmidt

Trumpeter Basin

Sheila Berry
 Rhonda Jennings
 Janis Kautz
 Michele Morse
 Frank Repplier
 Jack Sekora



ABOVE: 64 Skagit Stream Team volunteers are monitoring for fecal coliform, turbidity, dissolved oxygen, temperature, and depth in 10 drainage basins this year. Pictured above, Michele Morse, Rhonda Jennings, and Sheila Berry (all of Mount Vernon) monitor water quality at 5 stations in the Trumpeter Basin.



RIGHT: Special thanks to Rick Haley, Skagit County Public Works, (pictured at right) for helping out with the annual Stream Team training this year!

BELOW: Fisher Creek Stream Team volunteers, Carol and Dean Schwartz, demonstrate water quality sampling techniques for a group of Conway Elementary School students.



Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart.

~Elizabeth Andrew

The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams. ~Eleanor Roosevelt

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.



SCD Annual Plant Sale

About the Plant Materials Center

The 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 Plant Materials Center (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 operated 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.

Non-plant Items

Non-plant items, including budcaps and tree protectors will be available for purchase at the plant sale. A separate order form will be available for these items. If you want to order a large quantity, we would appreciate you calling the office at (360) 428-4313.

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.

PRE-ORDER OPTION!

Presale orders will be accepted until 4:30 p.m. on Friday, February 26, 2010

Required Minimum Pre-Order:

\$200 before tax 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 18, 2010 from 1 to 5 p.m.** at the Plant Materials Center.

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



OPEN SALE DATES (First Come, First Served)

Friday, March 19, 2010
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
and Saturdays, March 20
and April 10
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING AT OUR PLANT SALE?

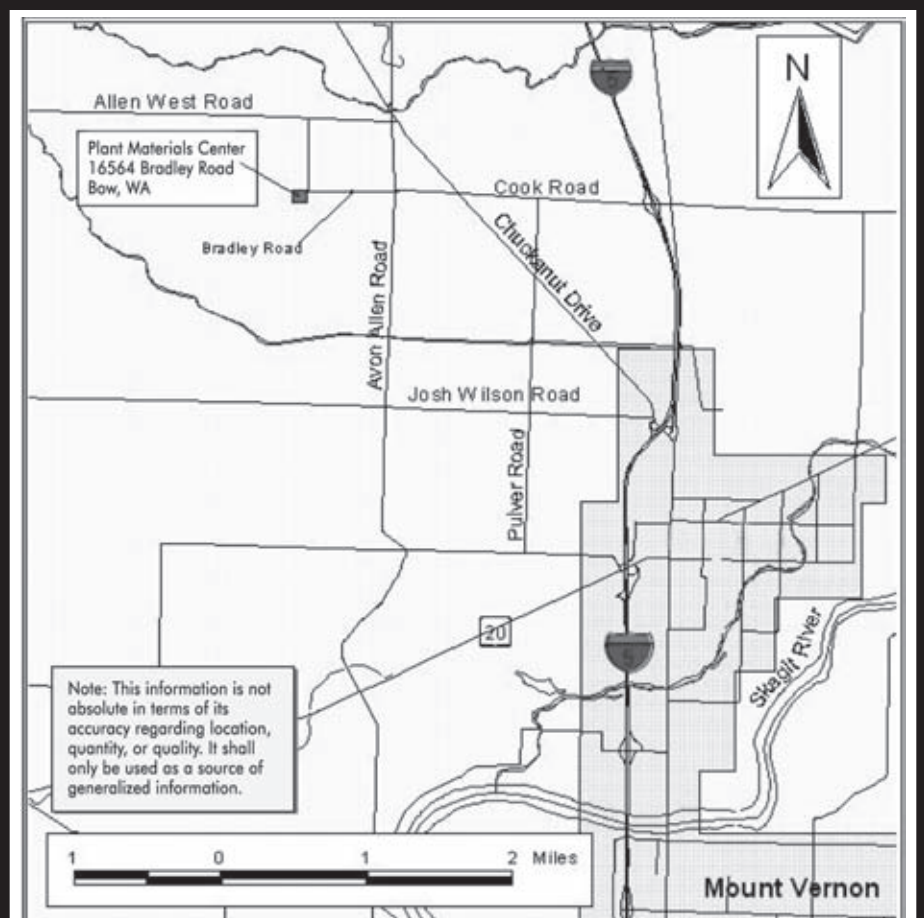
We need your help!

Thursday, March 18, 12 to 5 p.m.
Friday, March 19, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturdays, March 20 and April 10
8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Please contact Cindy Pierce at
(360) 428-4313 to sign up.

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 Chuckanut 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.



**To plant trees is to give
body and life to one's
dreams of a better world.**

~Russell Page

SKAGIT CD 2010 NATIVE PLANT SALE: PLANT DESCRIPTIONS AND PRICING

EVERGREEN/CONIFER TREE SEEDLINGS (SOLD IN BUNDLES OF 25 EXCEPT AS NOTED)

Common/Latin Name Genus Species	Max. Ht.	Classification & Species Char- acteristics (see key)	Habitat Characteristics & Conservation Uses	Est. size	Bundle Price
1. Cedar, Alaska Yellow <i>Chamaecyparis notkatensis</i>	40"		Grows in cool humid climate in Alaska, B.C., OR & WA Cascades; tolerates wet sites Uses: woodworking, boat building	12"+	\$35/ 25 trees
2. **Cedar, Incense <i>Libocedrus decurrens</i>	70"		Favors dry sites. Uses: high screen, windbreak, & wildlife shelter	16"	\$12.50/ 25 trees
3. Cedar, Western Red <i>Thuja plicata</i>	200'		Favors moist sites. Uses: riparian plantings & wildlife shelter & food	18"	\$27.50/ 25 trees
4. Fir, Douglas <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	300'		Favors acidic, well-drained soils. Uses: windbreaks, fuel, & wildlife food & cover	18"	\$12.50/ 25 trees
5. Fir, Grand <i>Abies grandis</i>	200'		Grows in moist to dry sites. Uses: wildlife food & shelter	12"	\$12.50/ 25 trees
6. Fir, Noble <i>Abies procera</i>	100'		Favors dry sites & well-drained acidic soils. Uses: wildlife food & cover	10"	\$27.50/ 25 trees
7. Pine, Shore <i>Pinus contorta</i>	100'		Grows in dry to moist sites. Uses: windbreak, & wildlife food & shelter	12"	\$12.50/ 25 trees
8. Pine, Western White <i>Pinus monticola</i>	150'		Grows on dry, well-drained sites; disease resistant; silver gray bark Uses: reforestation on sites with laminated root rot disease		\$30/ 25 trees
9. Spruce, Sitka <i>Picea sitchensis</i>	200'		Favors moist acidic soils. Uses: wildlife food & shelter	18"	\$27.50/ 25 trees
10. Yew, Pacific <i>Taxus brevifolia</i>	30'		Prefers river banks, damp canyons, shade of other trees Uses: wildlife food, medicine		\$40/ 10 trees*

DECIDUOUS TREE SEEDLINGS (SOLD IN BUNDLES OF 10)

Common/Latin Name Genus Species	Max. Ht.	Classification & Species Char- acteristics (see key)	Habitat Characteristics & Conservation Uses	Est. size	Bundle Price
11. Birch, Paper <i>Betula papyrifera</i>	80"		Favors moderate to wet sites with loamy soils. Uses: wildlife food & shelter	36"	\$17/ 10 trees
12. Cherry, Bitter <i>Prunus emarginata</i>	60"		Grows in partial to full sun; tolerant of many soil conditions; pink flowers; Uses: wildlife habitat & food	18"	\$18/ 10 trees
13. Crabapple, Pacific <i>Malus fusca</i>	30"		Favors wet to moist sites. Uses: wildlife food	18"	\$17/ 10 trees
14. Maple, Big Leaf <i>Acer macrophyllum</i>	80"		Grows in dry to moist sites in full sun; large leaf; Uses: furniture, wildlife	36"	\$20/ 10 trees
15. **Maple, Sugar <i>Acer saccharum</i>	34'		Grows in moist soil conditions in uplands & valleys Uses: furniture, maple syrup	12'	\$18/ 10 trees
16. Maple, Vine <i>Acer circinatum</i>	25'		Grows in moist to wet sites. Uses: wildlife habitat	12"	\$15/ 10 trees

SHRUB SEEDLINGS (SOLD IN BUNDLES OF 10, EXCEPT AS NOTED*)

Common/Latin Name Genus Species	Max. Ht.	Classification and Species Characteristics (see key)	Habitat Characteristics & Conservation Uses	Est. size	Bundle Price
17. Bunchberry <i>Cornus canadensis</i>	25 cm		Grows in moist forest, meadows; valley bottoms to subalpine elevations	2.25" pot	\$3.60* each
18. Cranberry, American <i>Viburnum edule</i>	12'		Grows in shady brushy thickets along streams	12"	\$14/ 10 shrubs
19. Currant, Red Flowering <i>Ribes sanguineum</i>	10'		Grows in dry to moist sites. Uses: wildlife food	12"	\$14/ 10 shrubs
20. Dogwood, Red Osier <i>Cornus stolonifera</i>	20'		Grows in moist to wet sites. Uses: wildlife food & habitat	12"	\$13/ 10 shrubs
21. Huckleberry, Blue <i>Vaccinium ciliocosum</i>	3'		Bushy shrub; grows in subalpine and alpine areas; Uses: wildlife food	plug	\$4 each
22. Kinnikinnick <i>Arctostaphylos uva-vrsi</i>	6'		Prefers sandy, well-drained, exposed sites on dry rocky slopes Uses: wildlife habitat	plug	\$31/ 10 shrubs
23. Mock Orange <i>Philadelphus lewisii</i>	6'		Favors well-drained moist sites. Uses: wildlife food	12"	\$17/ 10 shrubs
24. Oregon Grape, Short <i>Mahonia nervosa</i>	2'		Grows in dry to fairly moist sites. Uses: food	2.25" pot	\$3.60 each
25. Oregon Grape, Tall <i>Mahonia aquifolium</i>	5'		Grows in dry to moist sites. Uses: food	12"+	\$17/ 10 shrubs
26. Plum, Indian <i>Oemleria cerasiformis</i>	2-0		Grows in dry to moist sites & loamy soil. Uses: wildlife food	12"+	\$17/ 10 shrubs
27. Rose, Nootka <i>Rosa nutkana</i>	1-0		Grows in dry to moist sites. Uses: wildlife food & shelter	12"+	\$14/ 10 shrubs
28. Salal <i>Gaultheria shallon</i>	plug		Grows in dry to moist sites. Uses: wildlife food	plug	\$20/ 10 shrubs
29. Serviceberry <i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i>	1-0		Grows dry to moist sites with well-drained soils. Uses: food	12"	\$14/ 10 shrubs
30. Snowberry <i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	1-0		Grows in dry to moist sites with well-drained soils. Uses: wildlife food & shelter	12"+	\$12/ 10 shrubs
31. Willow, Hooker <i>Salix hookeriana</i>	whip		Grows in moist to wet sites. Uses: erosion control	36" whip	\$14/ 10 whips
32. Willow, Pacific <i>Salix lasiandra</i>	whip		Grows in wet to moist sites. Uses: erosion control & windbreaks	36: whip	\$14/ 10 whips
33. Willow, Sitka <i>Salix sitchensis</i>	whip		Grows in moist to wet sites. Uses: erosion control	36" whip	\$14/ 10 whips

WETLAND & RIPARIAN PLANTS (SOLD IN BUNDLES OF 10)

Common/Latin Name Genus Species	Max. Ht.	Classification and Species Characteristics (see key)	Habitat Characteristics & Conservation Uses	Est. size	Bundle Price
34. Cattail <i>Typha latifolia</i>	bulb		Grows in wet sites. Uses: food	bulb	\$19/ 10 bulbs

OTHER PLANTS & NON-PLANT ITEMS

35. Camas, Common <i>Camassia quamash</i>	bulb	3'		Grows in moist to wet sites. Uses: wildlife food	2.25" pot	\$4 Per pot
--	------	----	--	--	--------------	----------------

The following are available for purchase using a separate non-plant order form: Budcaps to protect buds, tree mats with staples to control weeds, seedling protectors to keep away animals that would otherwise damage the seedling by browsing, and bamboo stakes to stake the seedling protectors.

KEY:

									** non-native recommended for its conservation value
Evergreen	deciduous	full sun	partial sun	partial shade	full shade	seed	flower	fruit	

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.



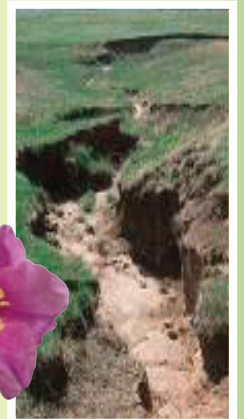
WETLAND RESTORATION

Cattail
Hooker Willow
Red Osier Dogwood



EROSION CONTROL

Blue Huckleberry
Oregon Grape
Red Osier Dogwood
Rose species
Salal
Serviceberry
Snowberry
Vine Maple
Willow species



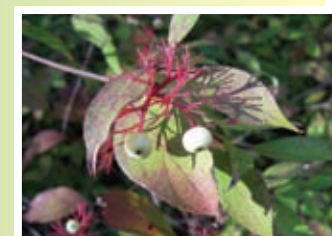
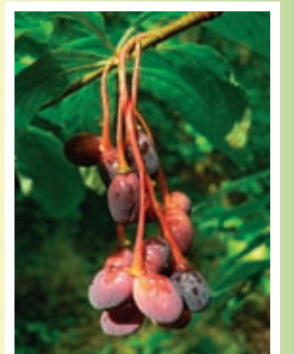
ATTRACTING WILDLIFE

Blue Huckleberry
Indian Plum
Mock Orange
Nootka Rose
Oregon Grape
Pacific Crabapple
Red Flowering Currant
Red Osier Dogwood
Salal
Serviceberry
Snowberry
Vine Maple



FIRE RESISTANT

Mock Orange
Nootka Rose
Oregon Grape
Pacific Crabapple
Paper Birch
Red Flowering Currant
Red Osier Dogwood
Salal
Serviceberry
Shore Pine
Snowberry



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.

Concrete Nor'West
Double O Ranch
Ecotone Solutions
NW Farm Credit Services
Ovenell's Heritage Inn
Puget Sound Energy
Schuh Farms
Skagit Farmers Supply
Wallace and Associates
William F. Black Soil Testing

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



WASHINGTON STATE
 CONSERVATION COMMISSION
www.scc.wa.gov

WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF
 CONSERVATION DISTRICTS
www.wadistricts.org



Double O Ranch
 Norm Ovenell and family
 Cindy Kleinhuizen, Manager
 46276 Concrete Sauk Valley Rd.
 Concrete, WA 98237
 360-853-8494
 All Natural Grain Fed Beef
 email: breakfast@ovenells-inn.com

"Award-winning
 Maine-Anjou
 since 1974"

WHO WE ARE:

District Staff

Carolyn Kelly, District Manager
 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
 Tom Slocum, Professional Engineer

Board of Supervisors

Janet McRae, Chair
 Paul Blau, Vice Chair
 Thijs Jacobson, Auditor
 Tony Hansen, Member
 Ryan Sakuma, Member




Ecotone Solutions
 Native Plant Landscaping and Restoration
 Rob Biggar, Owner
 22437 Glenn Road
 Mount Vernon, WA 98273
 Phone: 360-420-9311 / 360-202-2247
 Email: ecotonesolutions@wavecable.com
 Licensed • Private/Commercial • Call for Estimates



Northwest
 FARM CREDIT SERVICES

Audrey Gravley
 Regional Vice President
 Community Lending Group
 265 East George Hopper Road
 PO Box 966
 Burlington, WA 98233
 audrey.gravley@farm-credit.com
 www.farm-credit.com
 360.707.2362
 360.707.2355 (Fax)



PSE PUGET SOUND ENERGY
 The Energy To Do Great Things

Ray R. Trzynka
 Manager
 Local Government & Community Relations
 360.766.5497 tel
 360.766.5504 fax
 360.941.2100 cell
 ray.trzynka@pse.com
 1660 Park Lane SKA-SVC
 Burlington, WA 98233
 PSE.com

NON-PROFIT
 ORG.
 U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
 Permit No. 91
 Mount Vernon, WA



What's Inside ...

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



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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

SKAGIT CONSERVATION DISTRICT 2010 SUPERVISOR ELECTION

Candidates and Voters Wanted!

Expiring Positions: Two Skagit Conservation District (SCD) Board position terms will be expiring in 2010. One is an elected position, and one is an appointed position. Both positions are three-year terms, 2010-2013.

The SCD Board: The Board is a governing body of five volunteers who oversee the work of the SCD, which provides voluntary, incentive based options that support working landscapes while protecting and enhancing our natural resource land base. Two of the supervisors are appointed by the Washington State Conservation Commission (WSCC), and three are elected by the voters of Skagit County.

Candidates: Candidates must be registered voters, and elected candidates must also live within Skagit County. Potential candidates are encouraged to call us at 428-4313 for more information.

To be on the ballot, candidates must file WSCC Forms 2 and 3 by Tuesday, February 16 with the SCD. To be a declared write-in candidate, candidates must file WSCC Form 2 by Tuesday, February 16. To apply for the appointed position, a WSCC appointed supervisor application must be submitted to the WSCC and received by March 31, 2010. Forms may be obtained by calling us at 428-4313.

Voters: The election will be held on Tuesday, March 16 at 2021 E. College Way, Mount Vernon, WA from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and is open to all registered Skagit County voters.



Don't forget to vote!
 Tuesday, March 16, 2010
 8 a.m.-4 p.m.



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.