WICD Annual Native Bareroot Plant Pre-Sale Begins!
This year our storefront has 28 species of natives and a collection of 8 plant packages! Our plant packages offer a group of plants pre-selected to address a specific landscape goal or condition. We have packages for bluff stabilization, pollination, wet and dry sites, attracting birds, and more. The Plant Sale Storefront has expanded descriptions and pictures of all the plants offered. We’re also offering plant protector tubes. It’s time to shop!

Native plants improve water quality, reduce soil and wind erosion, clean the air, reduce energy costs, help protect homes from wildfire, attract and support local wildlife, and beautify property.

In addition, plant sale revenues contribute to our programs — including free farm and forest planning and best practice assistance, engineering services, storm water management, cost share and tax incentive program guidance, and educational workshops on a variety of local resource conservation topics.

How do I order my bareroot plants?
Ordering your plants and purchasing by credit card is easy at our website: www.whidbeycd.org.
Phone orders can be taken by calling 360-678-4708, or by walk-in at our office at 1 NE 4th St., Coupeville.
Order now for pick up Saturday, February 25 at Camp Casey conference Center (Auditorium A) in Coupeville. Perfect for early spring planting.
Order early and receive a discount!
Now through December 4th, all plant orders over $75 are eligible for a 10% discount. Use code EARLY10 at checkout and save!

Help guide WICD’s future work: Take our 3-question survey until December 7 to share your ideas!
WICD began its six month long-range planning process earlier this month, which will span until April 2017. Led by two experienced Washington State Conservation Commission staff with input from the public, partners, staff, and board supervisors, long-range planning helps conservation districts identify broad goals and outcomes, and focuses on a vision for future work. On November 9 and 10, three community meetings were held at the Coupeville, Oak Harbor, and Freeland Libraries.

Interested in sharing your ideas? Help guide WICD’s future work by taking this 3-question, 3-minute survey at www.surveymonkey.com/r/WICDlongrangeplan. You can also call us at (888) 678-4922, submit your comments via WICD’s contact form, or email us at wicd@whidbeycd.org. We look forward to hearing from you.
On Whidbey Island, we are entering the wettest part of the year. Perhaps it seems an unlikely time to talk about wildfire, often reserved for the summer dry season or its effects in eastern Washington. But, as WICD District Manager Karen Bishop found out last fall when working with landowners affected by the 2015 fires in areas serviced by Okanogan Conservation District, there is no better time than the present to increase homeowner awareness and preparedness to wildfire risk, even on Whidbey Island. This year, WICD received a Washington State Conservation Commission grant to promote the Firewise Communities/USA Program, in partnership with Central Whidbey Island Fire and Rescue District (CWIFR) and Washington Department of Natural Resources (WA DNR). Outreach to communities on the westerly side of central Whidbey will mark the start of this pilot program beginning this fall. Stay tuned!

WICD works with partners to promote Whidbey as an authentic culinary destination in 2017

WSU Extension’s AgWeatherNet is a service to farmers and gardeners alike. You can download the free Mobile phone app or visit http://www.weather.wsu.edu/. WSU AgWeatherNet provides access to current and historical weather data from Washington State University’s automated weather station network, along with a range of models, decision aids, alerts, and advisories. With just the click of a button, you have access to two weather stations in Langley and Coupeville. Raw data for air temperature, wind speed, solar radiation, dew point, precipitation accumulation, leaf wetness, 8” soil temperature, and relative humidity is accessible every 15 minutes. Dr. Gary Grove, WSU AgWeatherNet’s Director, welcomes questions or comments about the AgWeatherNet’s use on Whidbey Island, and how to make it more readily accessible to residents. He can be reached at grove@wsu.edu.

In an effort to provide information to landowners about controlling noxious, non-native plants that are highly destructive, competitive, and difficult to control, WICD partners with the Island County Noxious Weed Control Board to feature a monthly Weed Bulletin. The Weed Bulletin is returning this winter with a feature focused on “Weeds of Winter.” Interested in past issues of the Weed Bulletin, or would like to sign up for future issues? Visit the Weed Bulletin page at WICD’s website for more information.