



Conservation CONNECTION

WHIDBEY ISLAND CONSERVATION DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

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Make Every Day Orca Days

Healthy waters and shorelines create healthy habitat for our endangered Orcas. If you can't make one of the work parties listed to the right, there are still many ways you can help our orcas every day. Click on the image below to view a list of ten important local actions you can do, and visit www.whidbeycd.org/orcaseveryday to find more information about how you can "Make Every Day Orca Day."



The Southern Resident Orcas are an icon of the West Coast, integral to the marine ecosystem, and among the most at-risk marine mammals in the world.



Weeds of Fall 2019 - Thistle Issue!

These seasonally-themed bulletins are a partnership between WICD and Island County's Department of Natural Resources. To view the current bulletin or view an archive of local weed resources, visit whidbeycd.org/weed-bulletin. View the complete list of Island County's Noxious Weeds for 2019 at bit.ly/2CgbedB.

Orca Recovery Day - Saturday, October 19th!

Saturday, October 19, 2019 is the second annual Orca Recovery Day, a region-wide day of action to improve salmon habitat and water quality for our critically endangered Southern Resident Orca community. Over 60 events are planned in Washington, Oregon, BC, and northern California.

Volunteer! You can join us for one of three work parties we're holding on the island.

- 1. Sunlight Shores Shoreline Restoration Planting**
9 am-12 pm • Meet at the Clubhouse: 2705 Evening Glory Ct, Clinton
- 2. Greenbank Farm Rain Garden Renovation**
1-3 pm • 765 Wonn Rd, Greenbank
- 3. Cornet Bay Noxious Weed Removal**
9am-12pm • Meet at the shelter in the main parking area (near the public bathrooms)



Get all the details about these events and more by visiting www.whidbeycd.org/orca or click on the image above.



Whidbey Island Grown Week is Happening NOW!

Whidbey Island Grown is an island-wide collaboration of local people and businesses dedicated to providing locally produced food, products, services, and experiences. The third annual Whidbey Island Grown Week runs

September 27- October 6. Throughout the week, island farmers, specialty food purveyors, chefs, and artisan producers will join forces to create a 10-day celebration of local products and unique experiences such as farm-to-table dinners, festivals, and tours. Learn more at: www.whidbeyislandgrown.com/whidbey-island-grown-week-2019/

Whidbey Island Grown Week includes the first Whidbey Island Harvest Festival, a new 4-day fall festival at the Whidbey Island Fairgrounds & Events Center in Langley, featuring two days of classes and presentations (Oct 3 & 4), followed by a weekend full of live music, food and wine tasting, sales of locally made arts, crafts, and harvest-themed activities.

WICD will host a booth at the festival, and WICD Natural Resource Planner Kelsi Mottet will present a workshop "Native Plants to Enhance Land and Sea." See details about Kelsi's workshop [here](#), and the complete list at www.visitlangley.com/lp/whidbey-island-harvest-festival/

Transitioning Farmer Resources

For the past two years, WICD has provided resources and support services to both beginning and transitioning farmers through a USDA Beginning Farmers Grant. Even though the grant is done, we are still offering support to both beginning and transitioning farmers. For more info, go to:

Farmers to Farmland



A composting workshop is presented at a recent WIGA potluck.

Are you a farmer on Whidbey? Join our monthly Whidbey Island Growers Association (WIGA) potluck to eat good food, network with other farmers, and hear talks relevant to farmers. Learn more at:

Grower's Association

Need Conservation Informational Material?

Do you need resources for your Homeowners Association meeting or educational event? Would you like to provide your customers/partners with conservation resource material? Put in a resource request and we can provide you free print and/or digital material to hand out at your event or storefront. Contact us at:

Resource Request



I ♥ PENN COVE

In July 2018, WICD received grant funding through the Washington State Department of Ecology (ECY), from the National Estuary Program Stormwater Strategic Initiative, to improve water quality through outreach, technical assistance, and Best Management Practices (BMPs) in Penn Cove, Whidbey Island. For more information about the project, go to:

Penn Cove NTA

Stormwater from the Penn Cove watershed drains directly into Penn Cove, and keeping pollutants, chemicals, and bacteria out of the stormwater will keep Penn Cove waters clean for today and for generations to come. WICD launched an outreach initiative called "I Heart Penn Cove" to bring awareness to stormwater management and how we can all help to improve water quality in Penn Cove. Click [here](#), or on the image at left, to learn more about stormwater and the benefits of planting a buffer.



WICD Natural Resource Planner Gwendolyn Hannam (left) connects with one of the youngest Penn Cove residents, Ellis Anderson, and his mom Kayleen at the recent "I Heart Penn Cove" kick-off event.



Events to Improve Water Quality in the Penn Cove Watershed

On August 17, WICD held a kick-off event for "I Heart Penn Cove" that included games, educational activities, and a raffle for a free rain barrel donated by Skagit Farmer's Supply.

This fall, WICD staff will hold two workshops addressing stormwater and its effect on rural landowners. Penn Cove residents are especially encouraged to attend, but all are welcome.

Join us for these FREE workshops:

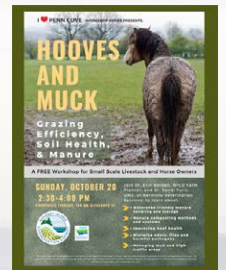
• **Winter Prep for Your Rural Property** - Tips & Tools for Soil Improvement & Chore Efficiency
Sat. Oct 5th • 10 AM - 12 PM
Ekholm Farm, 1025 Zylstra Rd., Coupeville
RSVP required: Limited to 20 attendees. Info/register at:

Winter Prep Wkshp



• **Hooves & Muck** - Grazing Efficiency, Soil Health, and Manure
Sun. Oct 20th • 2:30 - 4 PM
Coupeville Library, 788 NW Alexander St., Coupeville
No RSVP required. More information available at:

Hooves & Muck Wkshp



2020 WICD Annual Native Bareroot Plant Pre-Sale Opens Nov 1st!

Let us know NOW if you have a large quantity request

This year we'll have over 30 species of natives, including many of your tried-and-true favorites. If you know you'll need a large quantity of a particular species (more than 75), call us ASAP so we can plan for it - 888.678.4922. The finalized list will be available on opening day, November 1st. Orders will be taken at our online storefront November

1st, 2019 through January 31st, 2020. All confirmed orders will be available for pickup, Saturday, February 29th at Greenbank Farm.

Want to be the first to hear about the Native Plant Sale opening, specials, and deals?

Sign up for the Native Plant Sale email list [here](#).

