

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Trees are dying in Skagit County – learn why and what to do**



Mount Vernon, Wash – Dead and dying trees have proliferated throughout Skagit County and the rest of western Washington. This year trees were particularly hard-hit, especially western redcedars, causing concern for many property owners. Washington State University (WSU) Extension Forestry will be giving a free public seminar to explain why so many trees are dying right now and what property owners can do.

Learn what makes forests healthy or unhealthy and how to recognize when there's a problem on your property. Topics include insects, diseases, and drought, including their environmental roles and the important interactions between them. Learn about what property owners should do (and not do) to increase tree resilience and mitigate impacts. The seminar will be taught by Kevin Zobrist, associate professor of forestry at WSU and author of the book *Native Trees of Western Washington*.

Admission is free, and no confirmation necessary.

The seminar will be held Wednesday, December 12th from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Mount Vernon City Library, 315 Snoqualmie St, Mount Vernon, WA 98273.

For more information contact Brendan Whyte, WSU Extension Forestry at (425) 357-6023 or [brendan.whyte@wsu.edu](mailto:brendan.whyte@wsu.edu).

Extension programs are available to all without discrimination. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication or program information or reasonable accommodation should contact WSU Extension Forestry at least two weeks before the event.