2018 NATIVE PLANT SALE—Details inside!!!

Al Craney Retires! 😎

Inside this Issue:
• Samish/Padilla Bay Update
• Bay View Rain Garden
• Plant Sale Pre-order
• Rates and Charges
• SCD Annual Report Highlights
• Supervisor Elections
Al Craney, Forester for the Conservation District is retiring. Al is a graduate of Centralia Community College, ATA forest technology and Washington State University with a BS in Forest Management, MS in Forest Genetics. He has 40+ years of experience in natural resource management, forest genetics, nursery operations, and forest ecology. Al has enjoyed the silvicultural “plant growing” aspect of forestry. WSU was a good choice; the forestry department within the College of Agriculture focused on plant science. “There is always something new to learn.” “I have greatly enjoyed my tenure with the Conservation District, especially working with private landowners to achieve their objectives and helping them see the unique qualities of their forest and how it may differ from other forests. Forestry was a natural choice, as Al began working in the family business at the age of 11 learning to operate equipment and scale logs. “I applied at the Social Security office and they actually have records that go back that far.” “My colleagues tell me that I’m older than dirt. Not really. I feel like I am just getting started”. In summers during college, Al worked for the U.S. Forest Service and was on the first helitack crew in region 6 training in Redmond, Oregon, and Twisp, Washington. The fire experience became very helpful later.

In 1974, Al joined the Oregon State Division of Forestry in LaGrande, Oregon, and gained some valuable eastside experience. This was followed by a move to western Washington as Area Forester for Scott Paper Company. Al helped establish a seed orchard south of Coupeville and forest genetic testing program for Whatcom, Skagit and Snohomish forest lands and a forest nursery in Skagit County. Following the sale of Scott Paper Company, Al worked for Daniels & Associates, a forest genetics consulting firm, where he continued research in tree improvement, plant breeding, and seed orchard management. In 1993, Al joined the Washington Association of Conservation Districts as the nursery manager of the Washington Association of Conservation Districts Plant Materials Center.

In 1995, Al moved to his current position with the Skagit Conservation District assisting forest landowners integrate the management, protection, and enhancement of their forest resources. Al served on the NRCS Soils Science Team, correlating native overstory vegetation and understory vegetation to develop ecological site descriptions. Forestry has been an integral part of District programs, such as the Community Wildfire Protection Program, Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, Clean Water Program, Native Plant Sale and Education Programs.

Al coordinated the Forestry Track for the Washington Association of District Employee’s annual training from 2002 to 2013. He also co-authored Skagit County’s Fire Section of the County’s Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan and Skagit County’s Community Wildfire Protection Plan. Al is certified as a Forester by the Society of American Foresters and as a forest planner by the USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service. He also serves on the Skagit County Forest Advisory Board and the U.S. Forest Service Resource Advisory Committee, Mt. Baker – Snoqualmie National Forest.

Al plans to stay engaged in conservation issues, the great outdoors and to travel. Three thoughts Al would like to leave you with: “When you cut a tree, plant two.” “Not all soils can bare all things.” “Healthy forests are the best thing we have going for us.”

Thank you for 23 years of service! You will be missed!!
Samish Bay Watershed Update—What an unusual year we’ve had! From near record-breaking streaks of daily rain all the way through February and March, to a remarkably dry late spring and summer. Though we did not qualify for an upgrade this year, there are clear signs of progress! In November, the Washington Department of Health (DOH) took the opportunity to review the last three years of Samish River water quality results. We are very pleased to report that water quality in the Samish River has improved enough that DOH has updated the conditional closure criteria for Samish Bay. The new closure criteria took effect November 1, 2017.

In recent years, we have seen far fewer pollution closures, and the closures we do have last for fewer days. Previously, it only took a minor increase in the Samish River flow rate to trigger a conditional closure. Because of better septic system and manure management by residents and farmers in the Samish basin, the updated criteria allows for greater increases in flow rate before triggering a closure.

We are pleased with the progress, but our work is not done. The analysis of water quality showed that we still have significant fecal coliform problems in the fall and springtime. Our team will be working hard during these seasons to identify potential problems and contacting landowners about them.

Padilla Bay Watershed Update—Pollution source identification work continues in the Padilla Bay Watershed, and we are pleased at the progress we’ve made. Over the last year, the volunteer Storm Team has been helping out by sampling at various sites in the watershed to help us understand where pollution might be coming from. With this data, we have identified several areas that we want to focus on over the next year. These areas include Big and Little Indian Slough Watersheds, specifically the industrial areas in the region of Ovenell Road and the area of Joe Leary Slough that is east of I-5 and north of the city of Burlington.

We spent a lot of time last year in the No Name Creek Watershed, and are working closely with several property owners in the area on projects that we hope will go a long way toward improving water quality. We are also hoping to see an improvement in water quality in the town of Bay View itself, since the last known septic system failure in the area has now been fixed.

We, of course, will continue to explore the rest of the watershed as well. We appreciate the work the residents of the watershed are doing to improve water quality, and hope you will join us in continuing to reach our goal of safe water for everyone. We are also always happy to take reports of possible problems at our Clean Water Hotline 360-416-1400, or online at www.skagitcounty.net/cleanwater.

What you can do
- Get your septic system inspected regularly to check for problems
- Keep livestock and pet waste away from streams and drainage ditches
- Implement good pasture and manure management practices
- Consider a rain garden to capture rainwater runoff
- Take advantage of opportunities to educate yourself and your family about your local stream and watershed
Work began this fall on the installation of a rain garden and compost sock terrace project at the Bay View United Methodist Church (Bay View UMC). The Skagit Conservation District (SCD) received grant funding through the WA Dept. of Ecology's Terry Husseman Fund to install the project, which has brought together numerous partners, including the Bay View UMC, Skagit and Snohomish Conservation Districts, the Backyard Eco Garden Group, and numerous community neighbors and SCD volunteers.

This project will collect and infiltrate stormwater runoff, support local and state efforts to improve the water quality health of the Padilla Bay Watershed, and provide an educational demonstration site to inspire community awareness of local water quality issues and to promote green landscaping techniques and construction. Polluted runoff is one of the greatest threats to clean water throughout the U.S. As we develop our cities and towns, we replace forests and meadows with buildings and pavement. And now when it rains, the water (often called runoff or stormwater runoff) runs off roofs and driveways into the street. Runoff picks up fertilizer, oil, pesticides, dirt, bacteria and other pollutants as it makes its way through storm drains and ditches - untreated - to our streams, rivers, lakes and the ocean.

When we take action to soak up the rain, we keep rain closer to where it falls and reduce the runoff from our roofs, driveways, and parking lots. Reducing runoff can help prevent water pollution, reduce flooding, and protect our water resources. When we put in plants to filter the rain water, we also help beautify our neighborhoods, recharge groundwater and bring many other benefits to our communities.

The Skagit and Snohomish Conservation Districts would like to give special thanks to the Bay View United Methodist Church, Ian Horton (who volunteered his time and expertise for the landscape design), Everett Chu, owner/manager of Azusa Farm and Gardens, for providing a significant discount on plants, and all the wonderful volunteers who have provided support to this project. Work will continue on this project in early spring with opportunities for rain garden workshops and tours also coming soon. For information, contact Kristi Carpenter (360) 428-4313 or email: kristi@skagitcd.org.

What is a Rain Garden?

Rain gardens are versatile features that can be installed in almost any unpaved space. Also known as bioretention, or bioinfiltration cells, they are shallow, vegetated basins that collect and absorb runoff from rooftops, sidewalks, and streets. This practice mimics natural hydrology by infiltrating, and evaporating and transpiring—or “evapotranspiring”—stormwater runoff.

Planting begins!

Alicia Kellogg, with the Snohomish CD Demonstrates proper planting techniques.

Pictured from L to R: Mary Wahlgren, Susan Olson, Alicia Kellogg (Snohomish CD), Ian Horton, Virginia Naef, Jean Stephens, Janet Nevitt, and Jack Middleton. Missing from photo: Judi Rogers, Bill Rogers, Amy Fenlon, and Kristi Carpenter (SCD).
Our mission:
Providing voluntary incentive-based programs to support the land base while protecting and enhancing natural resources in Skagit County.

Pre-order Information

Pre-order minimum:
$50 before taxes with 50% deposit (check, cash or credit card)

Pre-order deadline:
4 p.m. Friday, March 30, 2018
Pre-order forms available from the office or www.skagitcd.org

Limited quantities
First come, first served

Pick up date:
Friday, April 13, 2018 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Pick up location:
WACD Lynn Brown Plant Materials Center, 16564 Bradley Road, Bow

Open Sale Information

OPEN SALE
Saturday, April 14 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

SALE LOCATION
WACD Lynn Brown Plant Materials Center
16564 Bradley Road, Bow

More About Our Native Plant Sale

Discount Available!
15% discount for plant purchases more than $500 (before sales tax)

Plant Sale Proceeds:
The proceeds of the plant sale are used to support our K-12 education programs.

Availability of Plants:
The number of plants for sale are limited to the number we order six months before the sale. Availability may also be affected for various unpredictable reasons, such as plant failure, damage or disease.

Plant Grade & Size:
Our plants are conservation-grade, graded mostly on survivability as they are intended for conservation purposes, such as shelterbelts, erosion control, fire resistance, and wildlife habitat. Most plants are bareroot seedlings, so are generally small (approximate sizes are listed). A high hauling capacity is NOT necessary.
### SKAGIT CD 2018 NATIVE PLANT SALE: PLANT DESCRIPTIONS AND PRICING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Common Name/Genus Species</th>
<th>Max. Ht.</th>
<th>Classification &amp; Characteristics</th>
<th>Habitat Characteristics &amp; Conservation Uses</th>
<th>Est. size</th>
<th>Bundle Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>EVERGREEN/CONIFER TREE SEEDLINGS (SOLD IN BUNDLES OF 25- EXCEPT AS NOTED)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Fir, Grand Abies grandis</td>
<td>2-0</td>
<td>150'</td>
<td>Prefers acidic, well-drained soils; Christmas tree, lumber, wildlife food &amp; shelter</td>
<td>12&quot;+</td>
<td>$26.00 for 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Fir, Noble Abies procera</td>
<td>P-1</td>
<td>100'</td>
<td>Prefers well-drained soil; Christmas trees, wildlife food &amp; shelter, floral greens</td>
<td>12&quot;+</td>
<td>$36.00 for 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Cedar, AK Yellow Chamaecyparis nootkatensis</td>
<td>P-1</td>
<td>100'</td>
<td>Prefers full sun &amp; cool humid climate. Uses; building, carving, weaving</td>
<td>18&quot;</td>
<td>$41.00 for 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Spruce, Sitka Picea stichensis</td>
<td>P-1</td>
<td>200'</td>
<td>Prefers moist, well-drained soils; wildlife food &amp; shelter, lumber, deer resistant</td>
<td>18&quot;</td>
<td>$36.00 for 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Pine, Shore Pinus contorta</td>
<td>2-0</td>
<td>100'</td>
<td>Tolerates wet soils; Christmas trees, wildlife food &amp; shelter</td>
<td>12&quot;+</td>
<td>$26.00 for 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Pine, Scots Pinus sylvestris</td>
<td>2-0</td>
<td>60'</td>
<td>Adapts to most climates; windbreak, Christmas trees, wildlife food &amp; shelter</td>
<td>12&quot;</td>
<td>$31.00 for 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Fir, Douglas Pseudotsuga menziesii</td>
<td>2-0</td>
<td>200'</td>
<td>Prefers acidic, well-drained soils; Christmas tree, lumber, wildlife food &amp; shelter</td>
<td>12&quot;+</td>
<td>$23.50 for 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Cedar, Western Red Thuja plicata</td>
<td>P-1</td>
<td>200'</td>
<td>Tolerates wet soils; wildlife food &amp; shelter, windbreak, carving, weaving</td>
<td>18&quot;</td>
<td>$36.00 for 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DECIDUOUS TREE SEEDLINGS (SOLD IN BUNDLES OF 10)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Maple, Vine Acer circinatum</td>
<td>1-0</td>
<td>25'</td>
<td>Grows in dry to wet areas; wildlife shelter, variety of landscapes</td>
<td>18&quot;</td>
<td>$21.00 for 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Maple, Big Leaf Acer macrophyllum</td>
<td>1-0</td>
<td>80'</td>
<td>Grows in dry to moist soil; wildlife food &amp; shelter, syrup, early bloom for bees &amp; other pollinators.</td>
<td>24&quot;+</td>
<td>$21.00 for 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Birch Betula papyrifera</td>
<td>2-0</td>
<td>80'</td>
<td>Prefers moist, well-drained soils; wildlife food &amp; shelter, fuel, lumber, windbreak</td>
<td>18&quot;+</td>
<td>$21.00 for 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Crabapple, Pacific Malus fusca</td>
<td>1-0</td>
<td>30'</td>
<td>Prefers low, damp places; wildlife food &amp; pollen</td>
<td>12&quot;+</td>
<td>$21.00 for 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Dogwood, Pacific Cornus nuttallii</td>
<td>1-0</td>
<td>60'</td>
<td>Prefers moist, deep, well-drained soil high in organic matter; wildlife food</td>
<td>12&quot;+</td>
<td>$21.00 for 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Hawthorne Crataegus douglasii</td>
<td>1-0</td>
<td>25'</td>
<td>Grows in dry to moist sites; wildlife habitat &amp; food source</td>
<td>12&quot;+</td>
<td>$21.00 for 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SHRUB SEEDLINGS (SOLD IN BUNDLES OF 10- EXCEPT AS NOTED)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Serviceberry Amelanchier alnifolia</td>
<td>1-0</td>
<td>15'</td>
<td>Grows in well-drained dry to moist soils; wildlife food, edible berry</td>
<td>12&quot;+</td>
<td>$20.00 for 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Kinnikinnick Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</td>
<td>4&quot; pot</td>
<td>8-10&quot;</td>
<td>Ground cover that prefers well-drained, exposed sites; wildlife food &amp; pollen</td>
<td>4&quot; pot</td>
<td>$3.85 EACH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Dogwood, Red Osier Cornus stolonifera</td>
<td>1-0</td>
<td>20'</td>
<td>Grows in moist to wet sites; red twigs; wildlife food &amp; shelter, erosion control</td>
<td>18&quot;</td>
<td>$20.00 for 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Salal Gaultheria shallon</td>
<td>4&quot; pot</td>
<td>6'</td>
<td>Grows in dry to moist sites; wildlife food, edible, floral greens, erosion control</td>
<td>4&quot; pot</td>
<td>$3.85 EACH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Oregon Grape, Tall Mahonia aquifolium</td>
<td>2-0</td>
<td>5-10'</td>
<td>Dry to moist sites; wildlife food, attracts long-tongued bee species, erosion control, edible</td>
<td>18&quot;</td>
<td>$20.00 for 10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**KEY:**
- 1 Evergreen, full sun
- 2 deciduous, full sun
- 3 partial shade
- 4 full shade
- 5 nuts/seeds
- 6 flowers/pollen
- 7 fruit/berries

**Price:**
- EACH
- Bundle

**Notes:**
- Evergreen: 25
- Deciduous: 10
- Full sun: 25
- Partial shade: 10
- Full shade: 10
- Nuts/seeds: 25
- Flowers/pollen: 10
- Fruit/berries: 25
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<tr>
<td><strong>SHRUB SEEDLINGS (SOLD IN BUNDLES OF 10 - EXCEPT AS NOTED)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Oregon Grape, Short Mahonia nervosa</td>
<td>2'-0</td>
<td>2'</td>
<td>Drought tolerant once established; wildlife food; durable &amp; adaptable; edible fruit</td>
<td>6&quot;</td>
<td>$20.00 for 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Indian Plum Oemleria cerasiformis</td>
<td>1'-0</td>
<td>15'</td>
<td>Grows in dry to moist soils; wildlife food; attracts bees, butterflies, &amp; hummingbirds</td>
<td>18&quot;</td>
<td>$20.00 for 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. Mock Orange Philadelphus lewisii</td>
<td>2'-0</td>
<td>10'</td>
<td>Prefers well-drained moist sites; has fragrant flowers; wildlife food &amp; nectar</td>
<td>12&quot;+</td>
<td>$20.00 for 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. Ninebark Physocarpus capitatus</td>
<td>1'-0</td>
<td>13'</td>
<td>Grows in damp soil; benefits small bees; host plant for Spring Azure butterflies</td>
<td>12&quot;+</td>
<td>$20.00 for 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24. Currant, Red Flowering Ribes sanguineum</td>
<td>1'-0</td>
<td>10'</td>
<td>Grows in dry to moist soil at low &amp; mid elevation; wildlife food; pollen</td>
<td>18&quot;</td>
<td>$20.00 for 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25. Rhododendron, Pacific plug Rhododendron macrophyllum</td>
<td>10'</td>
<td></td>
<td>Prefers moist to dry well-drained soil; source of shelter &amp; pollen</td>
<td>plug</td>
<td>6.95 EACH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26. Rose, Nootka Rosa nutkana</td>
<td>1'-0</td>
<td>10'</td>
<td>Grows in dry to moist sites; wildlife food &amp; Shelter; host plant for numerous butterflies</td>
<td>12&quot;+</td>
<td>$20.00 for 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27. Elderberry, Blue Sambucus glauca</td>
<td>root+10&quot;</td>
<td>15'</td>
<td>Grows in dry to moist sites in open space; wildlife food &amp; shelter; edible</td>
<td>10&quot;+</td>
<td>$20.00 for 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28. Willow, Hooker Salix hookeriana</td>
<td>whip</td>
<td>20'</td>
<td>Grows in moist to wet sites; erosion control; benefits birds &amp; butterflies; shrub</td>
<td>36&quot; whip</td>
<td>$15.50 for 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29. Willow, Sitka Salix sitchensis</td>
<td>whip</td>
<td>15'</td>
<td>Grows in moist to dry sites; erosion control; benefits birds &amp; butterflies; shrub</td>
<td>36&quot; whip</td>
<td>$15.50 for 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30. Willow, Pacific Salix lasiandra</td>
<td>whip</td>
<td>45'</td>
<td>Grows in wet to dry sites; erosion control; benefits birds &amp; butterflies; tree</td>
<td>36&quot; whip</td>
<td>$15.50 for 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31. Douglas Spirea Spiraea douglasii</td>
<td>2'-0</td>
<td>6'</td>
<td>Margins of ponds &amp; meadows; wet sites; open space at low elevation; benefits bumble bees</td>
<td>18&quot;</td>
<td>$20.00 for 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32. Snowberry Symphoricarpos albus</td>
<td>1'-0</td>
<td>6'</td>
<td>Prefers dry well-drained soils; wildlife food; erosion control</td>
<td>12&quot;+</td>
<td>$20.00 for 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33. Huckleberry, Evergreen Vaccinium ovatum</td>
<td>plug</td>
<td>4'</td>
<td>Grows in sun or shade with well-drained soil; Floral greens &amp; edible fruit</td>
<td>plug</td>
<td>6.95 EACH</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**KEY:** Evergreen deciduous full sun partial sun full shade nuts/seeds flowers/pollen fruit/berries

**DIRECTIONS TO THE SCD NATIVE PLANT SALE**

WACD Lynn Brown Plant Materials Center (PMC)
16564 Bradley Road, Bow, WA

From I-5 take the Cook Road Exit (#232). Go west on Cook Road. Cross Chuckanut Dr. 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. (Do not rely on GPS devices!)
Skagit Conservation District Rates and Charges Analysis

The District was hit hard in 2017 by the State Capital Budget not being passed. In order to better provide assistance to landowners who are interested in Agriculture, Rural and Urban Forestry, Water Quality, Fish and Wildlife and conservation of our shared resources, the District is investigating the adoption of Rates and Charges. A rates and charges system is allowed by the State Legislature for special purposed Districts like the Skagit CD.

The District has a long history of helping landowners be successful stewards of the Skagit landscape. The District’s employees value the opportunity to keep the Skagit a healthy place for families through events like the Skagit CD Native Plant Sale, Backyard Wildlife Habitat classes, Sustainable Gardening workshops, youth education programs, and the Clean Samish Initiative. The District will be providing more information in late winter or early spring after the preliminary analysis is complete. In the meantime, please feel free to contact the District to share how we can improve our services in assisting Skagitonians in preserving our cherished resources.

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The Skagit Conservation District Presents:

Backyard Conservation Stewardship Short Course

Featuring Valuable Tips for:
- Native Plant Landscaping
- Environmentally Friendly Garden Practices
- Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
- Attracting Birds to Your Backyard
- Bees as Pollinators
- Building Healthy Soils
- Managing Invasive Plants
- Gardening for Wildlife
- Introduction to Low Impact Development/Rain Gardens
- Permaculture Gardens
- MORE!

Training provided by local experts!

Classes are free and will be held on Wednesday evenings, from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm, beginning Wednesday, March 21st and continuing through Wednesday, April 25th at the Padilla Bay Research Reserve facility. Two Saturday field days are scheduled for April 7th and April 21st.

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Please pre-register by March 19th

This program is being held in partnership with Skagit County and the Cities of Anacortes, Burlington, Mount Vernon, and Sedro-Woolley

For more information or to register, contact Kristi Carpenter:
(360) 428-4313 or email kristi@skagitcd.org

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D.A.S.S.H: Doing a Sprint For Samish Health

5k Family Run/Walk for Clean Waterish Awareness

Saturday, March 3rd, 2018 @ 10am

To register visit: www.databarevents.com/dassh

The State Health Department has indicated that they will upgrade Samish Bay to approved status if we don’t have more than one closure due to fecal coliform bacteria between March 1st and June 30th. The event is being held on March 3rd to draw awareness of the upcoming “critical period” and to provide a fun opportunity to bring the community together to run/walk for a clean and healthy Samish!

Race location:
Allen Elementary School, Bow, WA
17145 Cook Rd, Bow, WA 98232
Race begins at 10 am.

Registration Pricing:
13 to 18 - $10 • 19 to 69 - $15
12 and under, veterans, and 70+ free!
Registration includes a t-shirt!
Shirt sizes and availability guaranteed only if registered by February 15.

Online registration closes 3/2 @ midnight. Day of Race registration begins at 8:30

Day of Race Registration Pricing:
13 to 18 - $12
19 to 69 - $17
12 and under, veterans, and 70+ free!
Limited quantities of t-shirts on hand on race day.

www.skagitcleanwater.org
2017 SCD Accomplishment Highlights

Commercial Livestock and Small Farm Operations
- 204 commercial and small farm landowners assisted
- 9 farm plans completed and 10 structural BMPs implemented

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)
- 702 buffer acres installed to date with 324,560 native trees planted to date
- 237,154 feet (44 miles) of riparian restoration implemented to date

Firewise and Fire Adapted Communities
- 7 hazardous fuels reduction projects implemented
- Skagit County CWPP and wildfire hazard map updated for D.E.M.
- Implemented a research project to reduce extreme fire danger, improve wildlife habitat and control invasive non-native species
- WA State ranks 3rd in the nation for number of Firewise Communities/USA (139) and had the most new communities in 2016

Forest Stewardship Program
- 60 landowners received technical assistance
- Completed a forest restoration project in cooperation with Skagit County Parks and Recreation

Clean Samish/Padilla Bay Education
- Bay View Methodist Church rain garden, compost sock terrace and volunteer planting underway
- 6 tours of Naturescape Demonstration Garden & Alger NRSP projects – 781 participants

17,500 native plants were sold at the annual SCD plant sale
2017 SCD Accomplishment Highlights

Environmental Education
- 734 students (27 classes) participated in the annual Youth Conservation Tour in May
- Hosted educational displays and “hands-on” educational activities to over 12,213 attendees
- 65 individuals completed the Spring 2017 Backyard Conservation Stewardship Short Course

Skagit Stream/Storm Team
- 79 volunteers participated in the 2016/17 Stream Team Program
- Over 1,200 Stream Team volunteer hours reported for 2016/17 monitoring season

Marine Biotoxin Monitoring Program
- 22 community volunteers participated in the 2017 sampling of 10 local shellfish harvesting beaches

Low Impact Development (LID) & Stormwater Education
- 48 stormwater education presentations provided to 1150 Skagit County students
- LID presentations/trainings conducted with over 750 participants
- Hosted “Puget Sound Starts Here” educational display and watershed model/and or stormwater game at 13 community events (12,594 attendees overall)

Watershed Masters Volunteer Training Program
- 24 individuals completed the fall 2017 Watershed Masters Training – 557 participants to date
- 5,050 Watershed Master volunteer hours reported in 2017

For the complete 2017 Annual Report of Accomplishments, please visit our website at www.skagitcd.org

Over 55,550 total volunteer hours to date!
One elected position on the Skagit Conservation District (SCD) Board will expire in May 2018. The position is currently held by David "Dave" Malsed. There are no term limits, so the candidate may choose to continue on the Board if elected by the public or appointed by the Washington State Conservation Commission (WSCC). There are no appointed positions that expire in 2018.

**To vote:** request an absentee ballot by 4 p.m. Tuesday, March 6, 2018, by calling the SCD at 360-428-4313 or cast your vote at our public walk-in poll election, which will be held from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesday, March 20, at 2021 E. College Way, Mount Vernon, WA 98273

**Voters must be Washington State registered voters and live within Skagit County.**

There are no vacancies of appointed supervisors for 2018. For more information on Elected or Appointed Board Supervisors go to: [http://scc.wa.gov/elections/](http://scc.wa.gov/elections/)

**To be an elected candidate:** you must be a Washington State registered voter and live within Skagit County and file an information form with the SCD by 4 p.m. Tuesday, February 20, 2018. For your name to appear on the ballot, a valid nomination form signed by 25 registered Skagit County voters must also be filed by February 20, 2018. Information forms and nomination petitions are available by contacting the SCD at 360-428-4313.

**Candidates** must be registered voters residing in Skagit County and may be required to own land or operate a farm. The candidate filing deadline is 4 p.m. Tuesday, February 20, 2018. No further candidate filings will be accepted after this date.

**More about the Board of Supervisors:**
The SCD Board is a governing body of five supervisors who are unpaid public officials. The Board oversees the work of the SCD, which provides voluntary, incentive based options that support working landscapes while protecting and enhancing our natural resource land base. Three of the Board Supervisors are elected by the voters of Skagit County and two are appointed by the WSCC.

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**Important 2018 Election Dates**

**Public Poll Election**
7 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Tuesday, March 20
2021 E. College Way,
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

**Candidate Filing Deadline**
4 p.m. Tuesday,
February 20, 2018

**Absentee Ballots**
Request Deadline
4 p.m. Tuesday
March 6, 2018

**Absentee Ballot Receipt Deadline**
1 p.m. March 20, 2018

**For more information or to request a form or ballot:**
contact Sheri at 360-428-4313 or email sheri@skagitcd.org

**Don’t forget to vote!**

**Tuesday, March 20, 2018**

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

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