

2019 SCD Report of Accomplishments

Commercial Livestock and Small Farm Operations

- 198 commercial and small farm landowners assisted
- 22 farm plans completed
- 20 structural BMPs implemented
- 39 follow-up visits for BMP contract management
- 94 volunteers planted 1,466 native trees and shrubs at a March Point Pocket for Skagit Orca Recovery Day

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

- 1 new project planted
- 718 buffer acres installed to date
- 239,330 feet (45.33 miles) of riparian restoration implemented to date
- 334,020 native trees planted to date
- 145 foot average buffer width

Firewise and Fire Adapted Communities

- 10 Risk Assessments
- 6 Community presentations to 250 people
- Completed the rewrite of the Skagit County Community Wildfire Protection Plan

Clean Samish/Padilla Bay Education

- Manure Share Program continued
- Co-sponsored Samish Seed Plant and Everything Garden Swap and Hop – 250 attendees/20 vendors (150 native plants distributed)
- Co-sponsored Sustainable Samish Garden Tour – 125 attendees
- Co-sponsored Kids in Nature: Families Outdoors at Pomona Grange Park – 143 participants
- Networked and held monthly meetings with Samish neighborhood groups
- Hosted workshop and tour of Bay View Methodist Church GSI project – 28 attendees
- Ongoing technical support to the Friday Creek Habitat Stewards
- Organized 3 work parties for Naturescape Demonstration Garden on Silver Creek
- Continued Padilla Bay Storm Team monitoring stations
- Storm Team continued monitoring and reporting of Samish River at Thomas Road station
- Stream Team volunteers monitored 20 stations twice monthly in Samish and Padilla Watersheds
- 2 Friday Creek residents participated in CoCoRaHS Rain Gauge program (for Storm Team monitoring program)
- Hosted educational display and hands-on watershed-based activities at 4 Samish watershed events ~ 2468 attendees
- Participated in CSI Education Committee
- Hosted education display and activities at Alger Hall's "Fun' Raiser" ~250 attendees
- Maintained correspondence with Samish/Padilla livestock owners
- Hosted 3 livestock workshops in partnership with WSU Extension ~18 attendees

Environmental Education

- 800 students participated in the annual Youth Conservation Tour in May
- Participated in the Skagit Watershed Letterbox Trail
- Hosted educational displays and "hands-on" educational activities for the Festival of Family Farms at Taylor Shellfish Farms (1,700 attendees) and Ovenell's Ranch (900 attendees); Skagit River

Salmon Festival (1,800 attendees); Fidalgo Bay Day (350 attendees); Storming the Sound (150 attendees); Burlington Parks “Pop Up” events “Wildlife Habitat” (75 attendees) and “Water Wonders” (25 attendees); Illuminight (800 attendees); Earth Day event at Hexcel’s (100 attendees); Watershed Art and Discovery Day (90 attendees); Kids in Nature event (143 attendees)

- 1,000 tree seedlings distributed to students in honor of Arbor Day
- Hosted Arbor Day promotion at Alger Hall – distributed 100 native plants
- 2 community proclamations in recognition of Arbor Day and “Soil and Water Stewardship Week” at Skagit County Commissioners’ meetings in April
- Hosted the Soil and Water Stewardship poster contest for local youth grades K-12 – 122 entries

Marine Biotoxin Monitoring Program

- 33 community volunteers participated in the 2019 sampling season
- 9 local recreational shellfish harvesting beaches monitored twice monthly April-September

Backyard Conservation Stewardship Program

- *56 individuals completed the Spring 2019 Backyard Conservation Stewardship Short Course*
- 1,000+ Skagit County residents, farms, parks, and schools have applied sustainable landscaping practices and have certified their yards as backyard wildlife habitats/sanctuaries
- Provided support to Bay View Backyard Eco Garden Group
- Provided support to Friday Creek Habitat Stewards

Low Impact Development (LID) & Stormwater Education

- 525 storm markers installed by volunteers on storm drains
- 41 stormwater education presentations provided to 936 Skagit County students
- Provided LID/rain garden presentations at 4 events reaching 135 residents
- Hosted Detention Pond Maintenance Training – 47 attendees
- Hosted 4 sustainable landscaping garden tours, including tour of native plant demonstration garden, naturescape garden, and County rain garden/LID project – 443 participants
- Stormwater education media ad published in 3 editions of the Skagit Valley Herald
- Drainscaping ad published in 2 editions of the Skagit Valley Herald
- Published RainScape educational brochure ~1,000 distributed
- Hosted “Puget Sound Starts Here” educational display and watershed model/and or stormwater game at 12 community events (4,009 attendees overall)
- Participated in “Skagit EcoNet”
- Hosted a three-day ecoPRO Training Workshop for landscape professions – 31 participants
- Hosted LID and stormwater education at Hexcel’s Earth Day event – 100 attendees
- Hosted sustainable landscaping workshop, “Creating a Garden Sanctuary” – 56 attendees
- Provided sustainable landscaping presentation at the YMCA Brown Bag Lunch series – 20 attendees
- Provided presentations to the Mount Vernon and Sedro-Woolley city councils – 24 attendees
- Developed first draft of the Rain Garden “Incentive” Program
- Conducted initial pet waste inventory of local parks

Skagit Stream/Storm Team

- 68 volunteers participated in the 2018/19 Stream Team Program and monitored for fecal coliform, temperature, dissolved oxygen, and turbidity twice a month at stations located in the Padilla Bay, Samish Bay, Kulshan Creek, Trumpeter Basin, Gages Slough, Ace of Hearts Creek, and Nookachamps Creek basins
- Annual Stream Team training held September 11th, 12th, and 14th
- 8 volunteers participated in Storm Team program

- Storm Team volunteers continued storm event study in the Padilla Bay Watershed for the 2018/19 monitoring season
- 1,088 Stream Team volunteer hours reported for 2018/19 monitoring season
- Annual Stream Team report completed and distributed
- Hosted annual Stream Team celebration – 68 volunteers recognized

Watershed Masters Volunteer Training Program

- 35 individuals completed the fall 2019 Watershed Masters Training program – 607 participants to date
- 3,208 Watershed Master volunteer hours reported in 2019 – over 65,135 total hours clocked to date

District Media/Miscellaneous

- Skagit Conservation News – 2 newsletters each distributed to approximately 3,000 readers
- Skagit Conservation District website maintained – www.skagitcd.org
- Skagit Conservation District Facebook page maintained
- Over 20,000 native plants were sold at the annual SCD plant sale