

Washington Native Plant Society

The Acorn

Serving the South Sound Chapter

Winter/Spring 2005

Chair Report

Anna Thurston

New Year's Greetings....The weather has been interesting both this previous fall, and into winter. Someone suggested it was unusual, but I couldn't help but think of it as ordinary, at least from a longer lens of perspective. Although we have seen early and generous fall rains, higher elevation snow packs are relatively low, frustrating efforts to adventure into winter on skis or snow shoes. That might offer more to see of the plant and fungal world around us, along with spawning salmon. I saw many returning in big numbers along the Swan Creek. That was heartening, if not exhilarating!

How does today's weather affect the plants and wildlife that we enjoy? Not just now, but over several years? In the year past, we've been fortunate to hear from experts studying these and related studies indirectly. We also plan to continue offering expert presentations from a variety of fields so that people of all interests can meet, to share their interests as well as their studies.

Will today's effort at removing ivy, broom, blackberries or whatever weed threatens next, hold on long enough for the natural habitat to find new balance? The effort to preserve and promote native plants seems endless. While it might sometime seem like a daunting battle, we will persevere in support of the various causes (and there are many) that thrive on volunteer time and your membership dollars to be successful.

Thanks are due again to folks like Rod Gilbert, Mary Fries, Patricia Johnson, Kevin Head, as returning officers for the South Sound Chapter. Thanks are also due to newer Chapter volunteers: Sue Summers, Mara McGrath, Lee Fellenberg and Diane Doss, all of whom help make South Sound Chapter activities happen on a regular basis. Can't forget our At-Large supporters Helen 'Great Cookies' Hepp, along with Dan and Pat Montague, among all of our regular and periodic attendees – a family of sorts – fine people, I'd add. From a larger perspective, there are also the people who hold the state activities of the Washington Native Plant Society together, while bringing us even greater learning and involvement opportunities. Last, but not least

deserving of thanks, are the organizations with whom we do and hope to collaborate.

If there's a New Year's resolution I'd like to share it's that for thanks; for past successes, for enjoyment along the way, for the promise of assistance and participation into the future, and for the natural world around us. You are invited to join us as we discover more along the way. –A–



NATIVE PLANT APPRECIATION WEEK

May 1st - 8th

What is Native Plant Appreciation Week? In 2005, we'll celebrate again the amazing diversity of Washington's over 3,000 native plant species that range from desert plants to rain forest species and of the native plant ecosystems that are so important to sustaining the quality of Washington's environment.

Native Plant Appreciation Week is intended to encourage citizens to become involved in learning about native plant species and their habitats, and how they can help to protect both. It is an opportunity to encourage public involvement in everything from plant walks and visits to our natural areas to active involvement in habitat restoration projects. The event is also an opportunity for governmental agencies, non-profit groups and environmental organizations to highlight their work in protecting native plant species and restoring native plant habitats. There is a great deal of extraordinary work being done that is not fully appreciated by the general public. It is also an opportunity to increase public understanding of the critical role that our native plant ecosystems play in providing suitable habitat for birds, fish and other animals and in protecting water quality. Finally, it is an opportunity to articulate the tremendous threat invasive exotic pests – insects, plant diseases and invasive plant species - are to our native plants and ecosystems and the work being done in both the public and private sector to combat that threat. Although it is an opportunity to

educate, Native Plant Appreciation Week is primarily an opportunity to celebrate our native floral abundance, our amazing bio-diversity, and all the good work being done to protect and preserve it.

You and Your Organization Are Invited to Participate. Native Plant Appreciation Week is designed to allow individuals and organizations to participate to whatever degree their organization's resources allow and their organization's goals support—ranging from highlighting your work on the website to events such as tours, public presentations or restoration projects. Co-operative activities between participants are also encouraged.

The Washington Native Plant Society, at www.wnps.org has volunteered to provide a website where events scheduled for the week can be highlighted with links to other participating organizations' websites. If your agency policy allows, you may want to link to that website besides posting your own activities.

The week's activities are only limited by time and imagination. We will get you the details as they get finalized and invite you to join in Native Plant Appreciation Week 2005.

What are some examples of activities to consider?

- Educational programs and lectures
- Field tours of native plant sites
- Visits to natural areas
- Habitat restoration projects +/- or weed pulls
- Teacher or other training programs
- Share promotional information about your activities
- Distribution of educational brochures
- Joint activities with other participating groups

Which groups are participating with the WNPS?

- Governor's Sustainability Coordinator
- Washington Audubon Society

- The Nature Conservancy
- North Cascades Institute
- Washington State Department of Agriculture
- Washington Department of Natural Resources—Natural Heritage Program
- Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board
- County Noxious Weed Control Boards
- Washington Department of General Administration
- Washington Parks and Recreation Commission
- The Evergreen State College

Who do I contact for information or to participate?

William Brookreson, Deputy Director
Washington State Department of Agriculture
P.O. Box 42560
Olympia, WA 98504-2560
360-902-1810
Fax 360-902-2092
bbrookreson@agr.wa.gov

or

Fred Weinmann, President
Catherine Hovanic, Administrator
Washington Native Plant Society
6310 NE 74th St., Ste. 215E
Seattle, WA 98115-6302
206-527-3210
wnps@wnps.org

How do I submit information?

You can submit information by email, phone, fax, or hard copy to the Washington Native Plant Society using the form at the end of the newsletter. We realize that events will be developed right up to the kick off date. Please submit information as early as possible, but no later than April 15, 2005.

Chapter News

SOUTH SOUND SALVAGE UPDATE

In Centralia, long time member Janet Strong has been sharing the element of habitat restoration with middle school students by the bus-load! So far there are 5,700 plants in the ground, another few thousand to go this spring and fall. Dates for planting from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm are: Fridays, February 25th and March 4th for students. Help is needed to teach the young students how to plant properly. Community planting dates, which run from 10:00 am until 1:00 pm, are Saturdays February 26th and March 5th. Volunteers are needed to make this successful. Refreshments are served. For more information about the Centralia effort, please

contact the Chehalis Land Trust at 360-807-0764 or Janet Strong at 360-495-3950 or strongjan@centurytel.net.

WATERSHED PARK WALK

APRIL 23RD ♦ 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Rod Gilbert will lead a walk around one of Olympia's richest natural areas and best kept secrets: Watershed Park. Located only minutes from downtown, Watershed Park has a very diverse flora and contains several uncommon species locally. It is also a very active bird habitat. Contact Rod to sign up at 360-456-4013 or roderickgilbert@comcast.net.

WNPS CHAPTER VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT FOR TACOMA GARDEN SHOW IN JUNE

South Sound Chapter WNPS volunteers are sought to support a "centennial" celebration of Native Plants at the Point Defiance Garden Show happening June 3rd, 4th, and 5th. In particular, we will need help from tour guides, display staff and speakers. There's also room for people who want to participate in the development of the display itself, which promises to be fun!

Ideas that have already been floated for a display include art among our plants, and/or in the Native Plant Garden where we'll be giving tours; folks dressed in period clothing and offering plant-related history, stories and/or cultural insights; sale of native plant starts that match what's in our display and fit a variety of microclimates; displays of birds and wildlife (art or real live) that are drawn to or who benefit from native plantings; and more. Even if you can't support the display in any of these ways, but you still have ideas, we hope you'll share them.

Conservation Report

Mary Fries, Conservation Committee Chair

An October meeting offered alternative ways to fund restoration projects on National Forests, by allowing a contractor to harvest a saleable product and use part of the proceeds for maintenance needs. The focus was on a thinning project in the Skokomish River watershed, and the restoration proposed was for improvements to salmon and wildlife habitat. Many questions remain unresolved.

In response to the State Noxious Weed Control Board's proposal to list butterfly bush, we urged more educational outreach to homeowners to prevent seed production with press releases at appropriate times recommending that spent blossoms be clipped. Since the previous listing of English ivy has not accomplished much, we also suggested a fall news release to urge that blooms be clipped before the berries are formed.

A letter to Tacoma's *News Tribune* was written in response to an article by a mountain biker complaining of rumors of bicycle destruction. Especially when using urban forests, but also on mountain trails, the letter confirmed the damages observed to native plants and surrounding habitat. The letter was edited, leaving out the point that breaking down roots on the side of tree close to the trail would leave it vulnerable to windthrow.

Ongoing conservation issues include the Cross Base Highway (which was OK'd after all), Chambers Creek Properties development on the Tacoma Narrows,

Please contact Claudia Riedner 253-274-0655 or ixia@harboret.com if you would like to participate in this exciting event as a representative of the Washington Native Plant Society's South Sound Chapter.

SUPPORTING OUR CHAPTER BUDGET

Members of the South Sound Chapter can help support our mission and objectives while you shop for food at **Storman's Inc.** outlets in Olympia. Storman's gives back to the community through its **1% Community Rebate Program**, and invites members of participating organizations to use "Community Rebate Cards" at **Ralph's Thriftway** or **Bayview Thriftway**. Members who use rebate cards designating the South Sound Chapter of WNPS are later rewarded one percent of the proceeds. To obtain your own Community Rebate Card please contact Rod Gilbert at 360-456-4013 or at roderickgilbert@comcast.net. Thanks for helping to support the Chapter!

invasive plant management on National Forests, management of the Scatter Creek Wildlife Recreation Area, and numerous others.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Funding continues to be a problem for all government agencies from local to federal, and consequently, volunteer works have become very important. Check the chapter website at www.southsoundchapterwnps.org for updated information on the volunteer activities listed below and elsewhere in the newsletter.

SWAN CREEK PARK IN TACOMA

Members have been working for several years to reduce invasive plants in the upland portion of Swan Creek Park where the native Torrey peavine (*Lathyrus torreyi*), a State threatened plant, grows in one of the few remaining places in Washington. We may have a little more help, at least more visibility, because a "Friends" organization is being formed. They are meeting on **Monday, February 28th at 6:30 pm** to present a program on the history of the area, and again on **Monday, March 28th also at 6:30 pm** to examine the ecosystems of Swan Creek and Swan Creek Park. The South Sound Chapter of WNPS has been invited to contribute to the March meeting. Meetings will be at Holy Family Episcopal Church, 1427 East 40th Street in Tacoma, (use the lower entrance).

Volunteers are need for weed-pulling at Swan Creek Park during Metro Parks Earthweek, **Saturday, April 30th, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm**. Meet at the end of East 56th Street, where the park's forest begins. Then we will schedule monthly dates on various days of the week for the next several months to keep up with resprouting Herb Robert and other invasives. If you are willing to help, call Mary Fries at 253-272-9192 or send a note to 620 North C Street, Tacoma, WA 98403.

MOUNT RAINIER PLANT RESTORATION

WNPS members continue to play a significant role in the restoration program for Mt. Rainier. This involves seed gathering and preparation of cuttings in September, cleaning seeds and sticking cuttings in October, and transplanting seedlings from seed flats into individual pots in the spring. Thanks is offered to WNPS volunteers, mostly South Puget Sound members, who contributed 530 hours this past year. Nearly 69,000 plants went out for restoration planting. Although rainy weather in September made seed picking difficult and

resulted in fewer volunteer hours this year, after cleaning there were over 48 cups of seed for continuing plant restoration.

2005 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The South Sound Chapter Conservation Committee needs help with tracking issues in the state legislative session to determine positions to take on regulatory or budget items that have the potential to affect native plants in our area. Among ways to do this are attending hearings, reading newspaper reports and publications by environmental organizations, and contacting your legislators, especially if they serve on a relevant committee. Contact Conservation Chair Mary Fries during our chapter meetings or at 253-272-9192 for more information.



For news on other volunteer activities, please see the Volunteer Opportunities that follow.

Volunteer Opportunities

VOLUNTEER IN PARKS

Monday, January 17th ♦ 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Decatur Woods, Olympia

Join us on the Martin Luther King Holiday for invasive plant removal. Help continue beautifying Decatur Woods Park (corner of 10th & Decatur Streets) as we attack the blackberry, ivy, and holly.

Saturday, January 22nd ♦ 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Priest Point Park, Olympia

Come and spend this holiday with Volunteer in Parks at Priest Point Park! We'll be spreading mulch over ivy areas to keep the ivy back!

Saturday, January 29th ♦ 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Watershed Park, Olympia

Meet at the City's Maintenance Center parking lot on Eastside Street where we'll gather the troops and march to the Eastside entrance of Watershed Park for an Ivy Attack! Our mission is to remove as much ivy as possible from the trail and surrounding area! Bring your tool of choice for ivy removal.

For each Volunteer in Parks project, please dress for the weather and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes or boots. Refreshments are served at most activities, but please bring a full water bottle. While gloves and tools are provided, volunteers may prefer their own work gloves. Remember, the rain is our trademark...come and have some fun with the Volunteers in Parks!

For more information contact:

LeAnna Waite, Senior Program Specialist
Olympia Parks, Arts and Recreation
360-753-8365
lwaite@ci.olympia.wa.us
www.ci.olympia.wa.us/par

CITIZENS FOR A HEALTHY BAY

Citizens for a Healthy Bay, in Tacoma, is offering "Citizen Keeper" trainings to prepare volunteers to identify and report pollution of our public waters. Participants learn about the Clean Water Act, industries and pollutants of concern in Commencement Bay and practical pollution prevention measures. "Citizen Keepers" are environmental advocates specializing in pollution detection, reporting and prevention. They patrol Commencement Bay and the surrounding watershed by bike, kayak, on foot or even from their home or office window. They also work to further Citizens for a Healthy Bay's mission to clean up, restore and protect Commencement Bay.

CITIZEN KEEPER TRAININGS

Citizen Keeper trainings will be held at **6:30 pm on the third Wednesday of each month** in the Tacoma Security Building conference room (5th floor, room 503). Weekend trainings are held at **2:00 pm on the third Saturday of each month** in the Citizens for a Healthy Bay office (1st floor, suite 100). The Tacoma Security

Building Address is 917 Pacific Avenue, Tacoma, WA 98402. Citizen Keeper training prepares volunteers to identify and report pollution in public waters. Participants will learn about the Clean Water Act, industries and pollutants of concern in Commencement Bay and practical pollution prevention measures. Please contact the BayKeeper, Amy Bates, at 253-383-2429 or baykeeper@healthybay.org for details. The Citizens for a Healthy Bay website at www.healthybay.org also provides useful information.

Adopt-a-Wildlife Area (AAWA)

Citizens for a Healthy Bay is also looking for dedicated people who are committed to protecting and restoring habitat areas along Commencement Bay. Their "Adopt-A-Wildlife-Area" (AAWA) program is volunteer-based and invites participants to become stewards of a habitat site along Commencement Bay and to conduct monthly monitoring of that site. Come and help CHB protect and restore habitat vital to the health of Commencement Bay. Three training sessions are listed below. **They ask that new stewards attend all three sessions in order to get the complete training and be better prepared to monitor!** For more information or to get involved, please contact Lisa Campbell, Volunteer Coordinator, at 253-383-2429 or lcampbell@healthybay.org. The CHB website calendar at www.healthybay.org also has information on volunteer activities.

AAWA Training Sessions:

- **Session #1:** Thursday, February 10th @ 6:30 pm or Saturday, February 12th @ 10:00 am
- **Session #2:** Tuesday, February 15th @ 6:30 pm
- **Session #3:** Saturday, February 26th @ 10:00 am

RARE PLANT MONITORING

UW's Rare Plant Care and Conservation Center for Urban Horticulture Rare Care program needs volunteers to monitor rare and endangered plant populations throughout Washington State. Plant monitoring provides information to assess the status of plant populations and communities for the purpose of directing management actions.

Volunteers choose the species and locations in which they will work. This is a critical first step in the conservation of our states natural heritage. Rare Care will hold their annual **Rare Plant Monitor training on Saturday, March 12, 2005 at the Center for Urban Horticulture.** The training is mandatory for all plant monitoring volunteers.

Collection of Rare and Native Seed

We are also looking for volunteers to collect both rare and native seeds across the state. Collectors need skills in plant identification, a willingness to travel and have

the opportunity to learn about collecting native seeds by attending a mandatory **Seed Collection training session in early June (date TBA).**

Processing Seeds in the Miller Seed Vault

The Miller Seed Vault provides short and long term storage for the rare and native plant species collected by our volunteers. These seeds are protected and stored for use in future restoration and reintroduction efforts. Processors need ability and willingness to follow exact protocols for cleaning and storage of the seed. The above trainings aren't mandatory to work in the seed vault. Individual training is provided by our staff. Hours are flexible.

To apply to become a Rare Plant Monitor and Seed Collector contact Kimberly Frappier, Acting Program Manager, at 206-616-0780 or rarecare@u.washington.edu. More information is available regarding UW courses at: <http://courses.washington.edu/rarecare/>.

MOUNT RAINIER PLANT RESTORATION

Help will be needed to transplant seedlings at the greenhouse near Ashford beginning in mid-April. If you can volunteer, call Libby Roberts at 360-569-2211 x6170 or Libby_Roberts@nps.gov, or Pat and Dan Montague in Olympia at 360-709-0866 or montague30@comcast.net.

3rd ANNUAL WEED AWARE WORKSHOP NISQUALLY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE ♦ APRIL 2005

BECOME A REFUGE WEED WARRIOR!

This workshop (exact dates and times to be determined) is a training session for new or past volunteers interested in being a "Refuge Weed Warrior" at Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge, the Black River Unit, and Grays Harbor National Wildlife Refuge. Led by Refuge staff and local weed experts, the training workshop will focus on prevention, control, and eradication of non-native invasive plants. Topics will include definitions, plant ID, reasons for concern, methods of transport, control methods, and reporting procedures (including how to use a GPS unit).

Refuge Weed Warriors have become involved in many aspects of non-native invasive plant management at Nisqually NWRC, including: weed control, surveys, and monitoring; documentation of weed infestations using a GPS unit; data entry and analysis; and report writing. Volunteers should be willing to contribute at least 8 hours per month, April thru September. If you'd like to be part of this highly dedicated and hard-working volunteer effort, please contact Danielle D'Auria at

Other Items of Interest

LEGISLATIVE SESSION BEGINS

January 10th

For up-to-date information on bills or to find out who represents you, visit the official legislative website: www.leg.wa.gov.

ENVIRONMENTAL LOBBY DAY

February 17th

Hosted by People for Puget Sound, this all day event begins at 9:00 am, at the United Churches of Olympia (110 E. 11th, Olympia, WA). Join other Washingtonians who care about our environment in Olympia for Citizens Lobby Day 2005. Spend the day learning about environmental legislation, then go lobby your legislators! For more information, contact Jeff Compton at jcompton@tnc.org, or Jim Dawson with PPS at 360-754-9177 or jdawson@pugetsound.org.

WWRC LOBBY DAY

February 22nd

This gathering is hosted by the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition. Spend a day in Olympia learning more about the WWRP, and lobbying on its behalf. The fun begins at 10:00 am. For more information or to register contact the Coalition at info@WildlifeRecreation.org or call Carrie Powell at 206-748-0082.

NW ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES COURSE

February 2nd - April 6th

Become a fully informed environmental advocate for the Northwest by taking the Mountaineers Northwest Environmental Issues Course. This course provides lectures and optional field trips designed to provide participants with the tools and awareness that they can use to protect the natural resources of the Northwest. Students examine the often conflicting interests of forests, agriculture, wildlife, green economics, global warming, transportation, activism and more—through lectures by local environmental experts, group discussions, and other activities.

The course runs from **February 2 to April 6, 2005**. Lectures will be held Wednesday evenings from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm at The Mountaineers (located at 300 Third Avenue West in Seattle, 98119). Course cost is \$45 for members of The Mountaineers and \$50 for non-members. A \$10 discount is available for students and seniors. Participants who sign-up in pairs each receive \$5 off. (combinations of discounts not accepted). Registration for single lectures is also available for \$7 for Mountaineers members and \$8 for non-members.

Register online at www.mountaineers.org or call 206-284-8484 to register by phone. For more information please contact Chrissy Post at 206-284-6310x3028 or intern@mountaineers.org.

WINTER TWIG ID FIELD COURSE

Sunday, February 6th (2 Sessions)

This \$5 field course will help you identify 25 local deciduous shrubs and trees. For information, contact Erica Guttman at 360-754-3588x110.

SR-704 CROSS BASE HIGHWAY UPDATES

The Washington Dept of Transportation is the lead agency for design of the Cross Bass Corridor, and will be offering monthly open houses on the following dates:

- **Tuesday, February 15th** - Woodbrook Middle School in Lakewood, WA
- **Tuesday, March 15th** - Camas Prairie Elementary School Gym in Spanaway, WA
- **Tuesday, April 19th** - Woodbrook Middle School in Lakewood, WA

SERNW REGIONAL CONFERENCE

April 4th - 8th

Registration is now open for the 2005 Society for Ecological Restoration NW Regional Conference, which will occur at the Washington State Convention and Trade Center in Seattle, Washington. Workshops and field trips fill fast, so register early to reserve your space and to receive the discounted rates. Early registration closes on March 5th. Register online www.engr.washington.edu/epp/ser/registration.html

You can also check the website for complete session information and speaker topics that will be covered during presentations and panel discussions at www.engr.washington.edu/epp/ser/schedule.html.

SERNW Exhibits are one of the highlights of the conference and fill quickly each year. Don't miss your opportunity to meet the 400-600 participants at the premier restoration meeting in the Northwest. Contact Christy Pack at croop@u.washington.edu for an exhibitor application or download it from the website at www.engr.washington.edu/epp/ser/exhibitors.html.

“BOTWA” 2005

Louisa Nishitani, Eugene Kozloff, and the Washington Native Plant Society are planning for the Botany Washington 2005 conference to be held on San Juan Island. Mark your calendars early for **April 17th - 19th, 2005**. For more details, check your next WNPS

Douglasia quarterly— arriving early March – or visit the WNPS website at www.wnps.org for more information.

MASTER GARDENER PLANT SALE

April 30th - May 1st

The Master Gardener Foundation of Pierce County Spring Plant Sale and Education Fair will be open on Saturday and Sunday from 9:30 am to 4:00 pm. The sale will be located at their Demonstration Garden, 7711 Pioneer Way, Puyallup, and will include a variety of shrubs, perennials, annuals, native plants, trees plus garden vendors. Experienced Master Gardeners will also be available to answer questions and provide advice. Contact the Pierce County Master Gardener office at 253-798-7170 for more information.

10th ANNUAL PRAIRIE APPRECIATION DAY

May 7th

Mark your calendar with this event at the Glacial Heritage Preserve, in Thurston County. It's an annual celebration of the unusual and beautiful prairies of the south Puget Sound. The date coincides with the camas bloom, one of Nature's most impressive shows. New and old features include a self-guided trail, information booths, a hay ride, plant identification guides, a butterfly exhibit and birding lessons—fun and exploration for kids and adults alike.

The event is sponsored by: Friends of Puget Prairies, The Nature Conservancy of Washington, Thurston County Parks and Recreation, and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. Information updates will be available at Thurston Co Parks and Recreation at 360-786-5595 or www.co.thurston.wa.us/parks.

BOTANICAL LISTS AVAILABLE ONLINE

WNPS volunteer Kathleen Sayce just completed a wonderful website with many Columbia Coast plant lists and information about the coastal environment. The website can be accessed at: www.reachone.com/columbiacoastplants/index.htm.



NEWS FROM FRIENDS OF THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

The Washington Legislature begins its 2005 session on January 10. It's the first year of a new biennium, which means that budgets for the next two years will be determined. While the state will once again face a tight fiscal reality, The Nature Conservancy will advocate strongly for proven programs that make a big difference for Washington's plants and animals. They will also be collaborating with the broader conservation community during this session.

The Conservancy will focus primarily on three state programs this year: the Trust Land Transfer program,

the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, and the Salmon Recovery Funding Board. They will be recommending a total of about \$160 million for these programs based upon the multiple benefits provided. Each of these programs, if funded, will benefit native species across the state.

You can help by contacting your state Senator and Representatives soon to let them know you value the Trust Land Transfer program, the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, and the Salmon Recovery Funding Board. Remind these elected officials of the multiple benefits of these visionary programs. Tell them about the special places you know that could (or did) benefit from these funds.

Your elected representatives can show they understand the value of these programs by making sure they are amply funded to meet demand in the capital budget! Feel free to contact us with any questions, or check out these additional websites:

- **Washington State Legislature:** www.leg.wa.gov
- **Governor:** www.governor.wa.gov
- **Washington Office of Finance Management:** www.ofm.wa.gov

Conservancy collaborations...The Nature Conservancy recognizes that it and its members are part of a broader community of organizations and individuals in Washington interested in conservation. In that spirit, the Conservancy and more than a dozen other organizations have been meeting regularly to discuss respective priorities and to seek common ground. These groups have been discussing ways they can collaborate during the upcoming legislative session for greater effectiveness, and have agreed on four "Priorities for a Healthy Washington." These priorities represent current issues facing Washington that have broad ramifications for conservation and public health. They will be endorsed and supported by the loose coalition of organizations, even as groups like the Conservancy continue to focus on their own missions and key issues. In addition, these organizations are coordinating several joint events this winter to help interested citizens get or stay involved (see the Conservation Calendar below).

Ebey's Landing & Turnbull NWR...While the state legislature is getting attention, The Nature Conservancy will also be following important opportunities at the federal level. The Conservancy is looking ahead to the federal FY2006 and will be focusing on funding opportunities for Ebey's Landing and Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge.

Ebey's Landing is a popular and scenic historic district near Coupeville on Whidbey Island. The Conservancy

is proud of its efforts to preserve vital coastal habitat and rare native flowers at this special place. The National Park Service is also seeking Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) money to purchase an easement on Nature Conservancy property, which will relieve the Conservancy of part of its fiscal burden and keep this area part of a unique public historic park. As many of you will recall, the LWCF is a great tool for protecting vital habitat. This fund helps federal agencies acquire land for conservation and recreation purposes. The Nature Conservancy has been very pleased to work with the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Park Service, and the Bureau of Land Management to promote the protection of habitat in Washington State through the LWCF.

Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge is located about 20 miles southwest of Spokane. It is an exceptionally diverse landscape with a dramatic geologic past. The refuge is renown for its nesting and migrating birds. It also provides essential habitat for many native animals and plants. The refuge will be seeking funds to acquire in-holdings from interested sellers to expand the protected habitat within its approved boundary. The Conservancy has worked with the refuge and private landowners in the past to acquire habitat and looks forward to further collaboration at this remarkable place.

Funding for federal land acquisition programs has been at a historic low recently, and that trend is expected to continue in the next year. For that reason, it is more important than ever that interested citizens like YOU speak up and let your representatives in Congress know

that you support funding for special places like Ebey's Landing and Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge.

Tieton River Canyon Update...The Conservancy continues to make progress at the Tieton River Canyon west of Yakima, where they are working to put approximately 10,000 acres of dry-site forestland, now owned by Plum Creek Timber Co., into protection. The Conservancy has just exercised its option with Plum Creek to purchase an additional 1,967 acres. Once completed, this latest transaction will mean that the Conservancy has purchased more than 5,000 acres, halfway to completing this ambitious project. The Conservancy continues to work closely with the state Department of Fish and Wildlife, which plans to buy much, if not all, of the project area over time from the Conservancy to add to its existing protected areas.

Adding additional momentum to the project, the Tieton is well-positioned to receive another round of funding by the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) during the upcoming legislative session. The Tieton is ranked first in its WWRP category, nearly ensuring additional funds for the project. Unfortunately, the Forest Service is unable to use federal LWCF money to acquire some of these lands for addition to the nearby national forest. That's why the state WWRP is all the more important to ensure the long-term success of this great conservation project.

For more information about the program visit our website at www.nature.org/washington/friends or contact Jeff Compton at The Nature Conservancy of Washington: 206-442-1871 or jcompton@tnc.org.

Book Review

***Walking in the Beauty of the World:
Reflections of a Northwest Botanist***
By Joe Arnett

The Washington Native Plant Society is excited to present a collection of botanical essays by Joe Arnett. Rich with illustrations by Washington artists, the book includes revisions of twenty-four articles that have appeared in the Society's publications.

Joe has been a professional botanist and teacher in the Northwest for over twenty years, and the essays describe wild - and not so wild - places, personal knowledge of the plants, and wider topics of a human relationship with nature. The writer invites the reader to step off the path of routine and catch a glimpse of the natural world in which we live.

Like any good book there are so many lines for reflection and essays to share. Buy a copy for yourself and plan to buy one for someone you surely will wish to share it with. Joe Arnett is generously donating all net proceeds from the sale of this book to the Washington Native Plant Society.

You may obtain this book from the Central Puget Sound Chapter before and after its program meetings or you may order it through WNPS by mailing a check for \$10.00 to the Washington Native Plant Society (\$8.00 for book plus \$2.00 for shipping/handling). Make checks payable to the WNPS:

Washington Native Plant Society
6310 NE 74th St., Ste. 215E
Seattle, WA 98115

Chapter & State Contacts

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Membership & PR Co-Coordinator - Sue Summers
253-460-5569
summerssue@hotmail.com

Field Trip Coordinator - Diane Doss
360-459-2040
abieslas@hotmail.com

Volunteer Coordinator - OPEN

**At Large Volunteers:
Pierce County - Stan & Helen Engle**
253-564-3112
Hengle@earthlink.net

Coastal Counties - Helen Hepp
360-249-4321
shhepp@techline.com

Thurston County - Dan & Pat Montague
360-709-0866
montague30@comcast.net

Native Plant Salvage in Thurston County - Erica Guttman
1835 Black Lake Blvd. SW, Ste. E
Olympia, WA 98512-5607
360-704-7785
ericag@coopext.cahe.wsu.edu

**Native Plant Salvage in Pierce County
Monty Mahan or Jayme Gordon**
253- 845-9787

**Native Plant Salvage in Lewis County
Janet Strong**
360-495-3950
mcstrong@techline.com

Statewide President - Fred Weinmann
360-379-0936
fredwcrx@aol.com

State Administrator - Catherine Hovanic
6310 NE 74th St, Ste 215E
Seattle, WA 98115-8171
206-527-3210 or 1-888-288-8022
wnps@wnps.org

Washington Native Plant Society South Sound Chapter - www.southsoundchapterwnps.org
Washington Native Plant Society State Chapter - www.wnps.org



Washington Native Plant Society

Serving the South Puget Sound Chapter

Winter/Spring 2005 Presentation Schedule



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH ♦ 7:00 - 9:00 PM
MT. RAINIER - A PLACE WE LOVE TO VISIT
Tacoma Nature Center – 1919 South Tyler

Mount Rainier National Park Superintendent Dave Uberuaga will talk about the extensive revegetation projects that occur in the Park each year and highlight some of the challenges that these efforts entail. Come learn how the park is maintained both by Park Service staff and by the numerous volunteers that help to make it all possible. Our speaker has devoted nearly twenty years at Mt. Rainier National Park and is a recent recipient of the National Parks Conservation Association's celebrated Stephen T. Mather Award for his dedication to the protection of the Park, commitment to staff and volunteers. Join us as we celebrate the glory of "The Mountain."

The February presentation has been coordinated by members of the Washington Native Plant Society - South Sound Chapter in collaboration with the Tahoma Audubon Society and the Tacoma Mountaineers.

MONDAY, MARCH 7TH ♦ 7:00 - 9:00 PM
COMMUNITY HERBALISM AND OUR CONNECTION TO PLACE
Tacoma Nature Center

Join herbalist Elise Krohn as she shares stories about the affinity between plants and people. Elise is an herbalist at Radiance in Olympia, collaborates with tribal elders in teaching botanical medicine, and maintains a private practice and teaches in the community. Currently, she is creating a botanical program at the Northwest Indian Drug and Alcohol Treatment Center and will share how cultivating relationships with plants can be healing for patients. We will also sample different northwest plant preparations as Elise demonstrates some of the ways local plants are used for medicine.

MONDAY, APRIL 4TH ♦ 7:00 - 9:00 PM
MT ADAMS - FROM EYES OF OUR OWN...
Lakewood Public Library – 6300 Wildaire Rd SW

Learn about the land and flora of Washington's least-known volcano, Mount Adams from South Sound Chapter members and authors, Susan McDougall and David Biek. Susan and David spent last year traveling around Mount Adams, surveying and photographing the plants and scenery. They are both now at work on two book projects, a field guide to the common wildflowers and a complete, technical flora. In this presentation, they will introduce the Mountain and its plants as well as talk about the process of creating a flora for a region that has had, until now, been paid very little attention by botanists. For a preview, visit the Mount Adams Flora website at www.mywebpages.comcast.net/mtadamsflora.

MONDAY, MAY 2ND ♦ 7:00 - 9:00 PM
MEDICINE OF PLACE: PACIFIC NORTHWEST WILDFLOWERS

Olympia Center - 222 North Columbia (downtown; street and dedicated parking opposite the building)

This presentation by Julia Brayshaw and Karen Lohmann will enrich your relationship to a selection of Washington's native flora. Our presenters will use discussion, art, and guided activity to foster a sense of deep connection with the natural world and to present nature in ways that touch the heart while promoting earth-honoring responses. Karen Lohmann is a certified flower essence practitioner, gardener, and landscape designer. Julia Brayshaw, MA, is a licensed psychotherapist and certified flower essence practitioner.

Members and the public are invited to attend all presentations. For more information about our programs, contact Anna Thurston at 253-566-3342 or a.thurston@worldnet.att.net or Rod Gilbert at 360-456-4013 or roderickgilbert@comcast.net.

Visit our website: www.southsoundchapterwnps.org for details on meeting locations.

Native Plant Appreciation Week May 1 - 8, 2005

Involvement Application Form

Send to:
Washington Native Plant Society
6310 NE 74th St., Ste. 215E
Seattle, WA 98115-6302
206-527-3210
wnps@wnps.org

YES! We would like to get involved with *Native Plant Appreciation Week!*

Organization name: _____

Contact person: _____

Contact phone: _____ e-mail: _____

Contact address: _____

Organization's website: _____

What activities do you plan for the week of May 1st?

What educational material do you have that is appropriate to use?

Can we help coordinate activities with another agency or group for you?



South Sound Chapter WNPS
227 Contra Costa
Fircrest, WA 98466

Winter/Spring 2005 Chapter Presentation Schedule Enclosed



The mission of the Washington Native Plant Society is to promote the appreciation and conservation of Washington's native plants and their habitats through study, education, and advocacy.