

2017 SCD Report of Accomplishments

Commercial Livestock and Small Farm Operations

- 204 commercial and small farm landowners assisted
- 9 farm plans completed
- 10 structural BMPs implemented
- 9 follow-up visits for BMP contract management

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

- 1 new contracts signed for 2017 spring planting
- 1 new projects planted
- 702 buffer acres installed to date
- **237,154 feet (44 miles) of riparian restoration implemented to date**
- 324,560 native trees planted to date
- 6 landowners signed re-enrollment contracts

Firewise and Fire Adapted Communities

- 1 community Firewise plan written
- 4 Firewise/FAC presentations and outreach events conducted
- 11 active Firewise Communities/USA in Skagit County to date
- 7 hazardous fuels reduction projects implemented
- 3 risk assessments completed
- Skagit County CWPP and wildfire hazard map updated for D.E.M.
- 1 research project to reduce extreme fire danger, improve wildlife habitat and control invasive non-native species implemented
- 4 fire weather stations to monitor fire conditions in Skagit County installed
- **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

- 6 forest conservation plans written
- 60 landowners received technical assistance
- 15 forestry conservation practices implemented
- 2 Forestry workshops/field days – 90 participants
- 1 forest restoration project in cooperation with Skagit County Parks and Recreation

Clean Samish/Padilla Bay Education

- Manure Share Program continued
- Co-sponsored 6th Annual Alger Seed Sale/Swap & Arbor Day Celebration – 175 attendees/20 vendors (distributed 125 native plants)
- Co-sponsored Sustainable Samish Garden Tour – 300+ attendees
- Co-sponsored Kids in Nature: Families Outdoors at Pomona Grange Park – 65 participants
- Networked and held monthly meetings with Samish neighborhood groups
- Green infrastructure project at Bay View Methodist Church – installed rain garden and compost sock terrace
- Ongoing technical support to the Friday Creek Habitat Stewards
- Organized 2 work parties for Naturescape Demonstration Garden on Silver Creek
- Led 6 tours of Naturescape Demonstration Garden & Alger NRSP projects – 781 participants

- *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 7 Samish watershed events ~ 2,358 attendees**
- *Participated in CSI Education Committee*
- *Hosted volunteer planting event for Bay View GSI*
- *Maintained correspondence with Samish/Padilla livestock owners*

Environmental Education

- *734 students (27 classes) 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 (1,800 attendees) and Ovenells Ranch (600 attendees); Skagit River Salmon Festival (4,500 attendees); Fidalgo Bay Day (400 attendees); DASSH (118 attendees); Dine and Discover (120 attendees); Burlington Harvest Festival (4,500 attendees); Storming the Sound (175 attendees)*
- **500 tree seedlings distributed to students in honor of Arbor Day**
- *Hosted Arbor Day promotion at Alger Hall – distributed 125 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*

Marine Biotoxin Monitoring Program

- *22 community volunteers participated in the 2017 sampling season*
- *10 local recreational shellfish harvesting beaches monitored twice monthly April-September*

Backyard Conservation Stewardship Program

- *65 individuals completed the Spring 2017 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**

Low Impact Development (LID) & Stormwater Education

- *Over 200 storm markers installed by volunteers on storm drains*
- *48 stormwater education presentations provided to 1150 Skagit County students*
- *Hosted Rainwater Harvesting Workshop – 40 attendees*
- *Provided LID/rain garden presentations at 4 events reaching 184 residents*
- *Hosted Detention Pond Maintenance Training – 35 attendees*
- *Hosted 4 sustainable landscaping garden tours, including tour of native plant demonstration garden, naturescape garden, and County rain garden/LID project – 454 participants*
- *Stormwater education media ad published in 7 editions of the Skagit Valley Herald*
- **Hosted “Puget Sound Starts Here” educational display and watershed model/and or stormwater game at 13 community events (12,594 attendees overall)**
- *Provided stormwater training for 21 Girl Scouts earning environmental badges.*
- *Co-hosted Earth Day volunteer hedgerow planting event at Sedro-Woolley Food Forest – 40 Attendees*
- *Participated in “Skagit EcoNet”*

Skagit Stream/Storm Team

- *68 volunteers participated in the 2016/17 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, Fisher Creek, Kulshan Creek, Trumpeter Basin, Gages Slough, Ace of Hearts Creek, and Nookachamps Creek basins*
- *Annual Stream Team training held September 6th, 7th and 9th*
- *11 volunteers participated in Storm Team program*
- *Storm Team volunteers continued storm event study in the Padilla Bay Watershed for the 2016/17 monitoring season*
- **Over 1,200 Stream Team volunteer hours reported for 2016/17 monitoring season**
- *Annual Stream Team report completed and distributed*
- *Hosted “How Clean is Your Neighborhood Stream?” event – 26 attendees*
- *Hosted annual Stream Team celebration – 68 volunteers recognized*

Watershed Masters Volunteer Training Program

- *24 individuals completed the fall 2017 Watershed Masters Training program – 557 participants to date*
- **5,050 Watershed Master volunteer hours reported in 2017 – over 55,550 total hours to date**

District Media/Miscellaneous

- *Skagit Conservation News – 2 newsletters each distributed to approximately 4,000 readers*
- *Skagit Conservation District website maintained – www.skagitcd.org*
- *Skagit Conservation District Facebook page maintained*
- *~1750 native plants were sold at the annual SCD plant sale*