

FIDALGO BE WILD

-an email newsletter-

Fidalgo Backyard Wildlife Habitat project: *fostering a community living in harmony with nature.*

--Feel free to forward, copy, use this material in any way that will help to spread the word about the backyard wildlife habitat project--

January 13, 2010

c o n t e n t s

----COMING HABITAT EVENTS
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COMING HABITAT EVENTS

June 26, 2010 -- Fidalgo Wildlife Habitat Tour

CERTIFICATION PROGRESS

Total number of certified wildlife habitats on Fidalgo Island is now 591.

Fidalgo Backyard Wildlife Habitat is continuing to encourage people to certify their yards, businesses, church grounds as wildlife habitats. You can do your part by letting your friends and neighbors know how they can certify their yards. Backyard wildlife habitat information (brochures, applications) is available at the Anacortes library in the downstairs 800 section of the stacks. On the web, google in *nwf/backyard* and/or *wdfw/backyard*.

NWF

December 2009

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1 - Julie Jones126668 Home

NEWS FROM SKAGIT BEAT THE HEAT

COOL COMMUNITY CAMPAIGN EMPOWERS PEOPLE TO ACT TO ATTACK CLIMATE CHANGE

Fidalgo Backyard Wildlife Habitat is one of the many partners of Skagit Beat the Heat to bring the Cool Community Campaign to this area.

Other teams/groups will be forming in the coming months. Look for announcements in the paper or invitations from your friends and neighbors. Now is the time to act. And as the cover of the Low Carbon Diet booklet says, ³....save money....save energy...save the planet.²

EAT YOUR YARD SERIES BEGINS

It's time to plan to plant! Our Eat Your Yard project starts off the year with a 5-part gardening series evenings at the Anacortes Library. We did this last year for the first time, and the response was overwhelming, so mark your calendars now (schedule below).

Why buy food that's getting ever more expensive, bred for long-distance transport rather than nutrition, exposed to pesticides, and dependent on the fossil fuels that drive global warming?

Resolve to eat healthier, better-tasting, sustainably produced food this year by growing your own!

EAT YOUR YARD Garden Class Series: *Why Mow When You Can Grow?*

Dates: Tuesdays, January 19 -- February 16

Time: 6:45 pm to 8:15 pm (to allow our Guemes friends time to catch the ferry home)

Place: Anacortes Public Library

FREE, no registration required.

January 19: How to Set Up Your Vegetable Garden: How to Choose the Site, Create Beds, and Ready Them for Planting. Ruth Sutton, WSU Skagit County Extension Master Gardener and coordinator of the vegetable garden at the MG Discovery Garden on Memorial Highway

January 26: Best Veggie Choices for Skagit County: What's Easy, Tasty, and Useful in Our Climate. Julieanne Ash of Farm to Market Organics, a CSA on half an acre in the Skagit Valley supplying 10 families.

February 2: When to Start Seeds & When to Plant Out: How to Start Seeds and Keep Them Healthy, What to Buy as Transplants, and Best Seeding and Planting Out Dates for Our Area. Blair McHenry of Dominion Organics, Ferndale, consultant to the organic industry with a specialization in organic greenhouse vegetable production.

February 9: How to Care for Your Vegetable Garden: Ongoing Maintenance, Including When and How Best to Fertilize, Irrigate, and Harvest. Bradley Smith, WSU Skagit County Extension Master Gardener and owner/grower at Samish Heirloom Farms, Sedro-Woolley

February 16: Problem Solving in the Vegetable Garden: What Common Problems Look Like and How to Avoid Them. Dr. Carol Miles, Vegetable Extension Specialist, WSU, specializing in organic vegetable production.

Remember-----6:45 --8:15 on Tuesdays

BEACH WATCHERS SERIES BEGINS

For the past four years the local Washington State University Beach Watcher group has put on a series of lectures on various topics related to Puget Sound and our local marine ecosystem. 2010 will mark our fifth year of this exciting lecture series. Lectures will be held once a month at the Anacortes Library.

FREE and open to all ages.

2010 Beach Watcher lecture Series
Anacortes Library, 1220 10th Street

February 12, 7:00 pm

Impacts and consequences of accumulating carbon dioxide in our oceans
Mark Carson, University of Washington School of Oceanography

March 12, 7:00 pm

What can Puget Sound Aggregating Anemones teach us about the bleaching of tropical coral reefs?

Brian Bingham, Western Washington University
Shannon Point Marine Center

April 9, 7:00 pm

Tidal power testing in the Puget Sound

Craig Collar, Senior Manager Snohomish PUD Energy Resource Development
Sheila Murray, Environmental Public Affairs Officer U.S. Navy Region Northwest

All lectures are free to the public and open to all ages.

This series is co-sponsored by Friends of Skagit Beaches.

For more information or questions contact:

WSU Beach Watcher Program Coordinator

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DRAFT OF CLIMATE ACTION PLAN FOR SKAGIT COUNTY RELEASED

On December 4, 2009, the public draft of the Climate Action Plan was released. The plan was prepared by the Skagit County Climate Action and Sustainability Taskforce, Skagit County staff, and the Board of County Commissioners and partially funded by a grant from the Northwest Clean Air Agency. Twelve citizens worked with facilitators and county staff during the year to develop the 87 page draft.

There will be a public process and comment opportunities before a final draft will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners.

Some topics of special interest to native plant lovers, wildlife habitat advocates:

page 15.....Impact of climate change on plants and animals

page 23.....General Policy Goals -- #6 conservation

page 41.....Integrated pest Management practices and #2 - native plants

pages 56 and 57...composting

page 65.....open space, green space, wildlife habitat

page 66.....rural character

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1--introduction

2--climate science background

3--greenhouse gas inventory

4--policies for daily operations

5--taskforce-recommended policies

6--taskforce-recommended land use planning policies

Appendices

An electronic version of the document is available
at www.skagitcounty.net/sustainability

FOREST LANDS WORK PARTIES

by Dave Oicles

Hello everyone,

Below is a list of upcoming ACFL Work Parties. I decided to let you all know about them earlier so if you are available and want to attend, you will have the information. We had a great Work Party season in 2009, and hopefully 2010 will be even better.

LITTLE CRANBERRY LAKE

February 6, 9:00 am - 11:00 am

Romance is in the air today and what better way to spend time with your sweetheart than at an ACFL Work Party. We will be tackling a large patch of non-native and very invasive Goat's Ear

along trail 119. Dress for the occasion with gloves and boots. We will supply the tools but if you have a pitch fork or garden fork, it would help. Let's meet at trailhead 119 at the intersection of C Avenue and 19th St.

HEART LAKE

March 6, 9:00 am - 11:00 am

Celebrate spring with a lovely stroll down Heart Lake Road cleaning up trash along the way. Let's meet at trailhead 215 on Ray Auld Drive off Heart Lake Road. We will supply the orange vests, grabbers, and trash bags. Please dress warm and bring gloves and boots. Hope to see you there!

Call Ranger Dave with any questions at 661-3554.

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=====Dave Oicles

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=====Rich Bergner, editor of this email newsletter

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