



Stream Team

EDUCATE • PROTECT • RESTORE
Olympia • Lacey • Tumwater • Thurston County

Summer 2010

2009 Macro Monitoring Results are In!

Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped collect benthic macroinvertebrate samples last summer! The “stream bug” samples were sent to a laboratory to be evaluated. Each sample was scored according to the Benthic Index of Biological Integrity (BIBI), which tells us the biological health of the stream sample as compared to other Pacific Northwest streams. Many variables can affect the overall BIBI score for a stream. Scientific assessment of stream health is based on multiple years of data and other testing and sampling. The chart below shows the BIBI sampling results for the past six years for streams that Stream Team monitored in Thurston County.



Interpreting BIBI Scores	
SCORE	BIOLOGICAL INTEGRITY
0–24	Low biological integrity
25–39	Moderate biological integrity
> 40	High biological integrity

STREAM	2004 BIBI	2005 BIBI	2006 BIBI	2007 BIBI	2008 BIBI	2009 BIBI
Black Lake Ditch @ RW Johnson SW	22	26	20	24	24	26
Deschutes River @ Pioneer Park			42	32	36	30
Eaton Creek @ Yelm Hwy						32
Ellis Creek @ Priest Point Park	48	44	48	46	40	46
Fox Creek @ Pleasant Glade NE	20	18	22	20	12	26
Green Cove Creek @ 36th Avenue NW	48	38	30	40	42	38
Indian Creek @ Wheeler Avenue SE	30	34	34	34	22	34
Little McAllister @ The Meadows		30	30	34	34	34
Tributary to McAllister Ck @ Steilacoom Rd.						36
McLane Creek @ DNR Nature Trail	48	48	44	44	46	44
Mission Creek @ Bethell Street NE	44	32	46	40	42	42
Moxlie Creek @ Watershed Park	14	28	26	28	28	40
Palm Creek @ Pleasant Glade NE	44	48	42	46	no data	42
Percival Creek @ SPSCC Artist Bridge	36	26	34	34	30	30
Schneider Creek @ West Bay Drive	26	24	26	32	34	40
Thompson Creek @ Centralia Power Canal					48	44
Yelm Creek @ Peterson's						48
Yelm Creek @ Sheasley's						32
Woodland Creek @ Draham Road	34	36	30	38	40	28
Woodland Creek @ Pleasant Glade NE	34	26	32	34	36	34

Learn About Salmon, Teach About Salmon

Basic Training for new Salmon Stewards
Part 1 and Part 2: August 16 and 24 • 6–9 p.m.

Want to learn more about our local salmon runs? Interested in the past, present and future of salmon in our region? Want to share your knowledge with curious people who view the salmon at Budd Inlet, Tumwater Falls Park and McLane Creek? Salmon Stewards is a program to teach volunteers about our local salmon and how to talk to the

▷ continued on page 2



Learn About Salmon ▷ continued from page 1



public at popular salmon viewing sites. To become a Salmon Steward, you will need to attend a total of 12 hours of free training – two, 3-hour classroom trainings and three, 2-hour site visits: 5th Avenue Dam/Fish Ladder, Tumwater Falls and McLane Creek Nature Trail in Capitol Forest.

To see Salmon Stewards in action, you will find them in August and September at the 5th Avenue Bridge, in September and October at Tumwater Falls Park and November at McLane Creek.

To register for the trainings, or for more information about Salmon Stewards, contact Debbie Smith at 360-754-4148 or dmsmith@ci.tumwater.wa.us or Patricia Pyle at 360-570-5841 or ppyle@ci.olympia.wa.us



Tending the Tidelands: Yesterday and Today

Saturday, August 21 • 9 a.m.–2:30 p.m.

Were clams, oysters and other shellfish as important as salmon to the diet and economy of the South Puget Sound before Peter Puget sailed into these waters? How did oysters put Olympia on the map during the Great California Gold Rush of 1849? Are shellfish resources more or less important to us today?

Join Stream Team for our *Tending the Tidelands* workshop to explore answers to these questions...and more. Begin with an illustrated program on the history of shellfish harvesting and farming in South Puget Sound, then board vans for a site visit to a working commercial tideland harvest site on Totten Inlet for a fascinating look during a minus tide event. Finish the day with some tasty samples of local shellfish, courtesy of co-presenter Taylor United Shellfish.

So, pack a lunch to enjoy on the beach and take in these informative presentations. Please register by contacting Chris Maun at 754-3355 ext. 6377 or maunc@co.thurston.wa.us

STREAM TEAM MISSION

To protect and enhance the water resources, associated habitats and wildlife of Thurston County through citizen education and action.

Stream Team is funded by Storm and Surface Water Utility revenues.

STREAM TEAM INQUIRIES

IN LACEY:

City of Lacey Water Resources Program
P.O. Box 3400, Lacey, WA 98509-3400

Attn: Erin Keith

Tel: 360-438-2687

TDD: 1-800-833-6388

IN OLYMPIA:

City of Olympia Water Resources Program
P.O. Box 1967, Olympia, WA 98507

Attn: Patricia Pyle

Tel: 360-570-5841

TTY: 360-753-8270

IN TUMWATER:

City of Tumwater Water Resources Program
555 Israel Road SW, Tumwater, WA 98501

Attn: Debbie Smith

Tel: 360-754-4148

TDD: 1-800-833-6388

IN THURSTON COUNTY:

Thurston County Water Resources Program
929 Lakeridge Dr. SW, Olympia, WA 98502

Attn: Chris Maun

Tel: 360-754-3355 EXT 6377

TDD: 360-754-2933

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS:

Erin Keith, Lacey Stream Team;
Patricia Pyle & Michelle Stevie,
Olympia Stream Team; Debbie Smith,
Tumwater Stream Team; Chris Maun
& Ann Marie Finan, Thurston County
Stream Team

DESIGN & LAYOUT:

Azure Summers Graphic Design

PLEASE NOTE:

Citizens requiring special accommodations should call one of the coordinators listed at least one week prior to an event.



Dump No Waste: Drains to Waterways

With summer almost upon us, it's that time of the year again – time to remind folks to keep pollutants out of our storm drains by marking them with the message of, “No Dumping - Flows to Waterways”. This message is a reminder that paint, oil, soap and cleaning products should never be dumped down storm drains. Most of our storm drains flow directly into a stream, lake or other body of water. Pollution that is carried by stormwater can harm fish, wildlife, shellfish and our drinking water supplies.

If you want to get involved in protecting local streams and groundwater, installing storm drain markers is a fun community project for individual Stream Team members, families or community groups. Remember, only rain should go down our storm drains!

In Lacey, call Erin Keith:

360-438-2687

In Olympia, call Patricia Pyle:

360-570-5841

In Tumwater, call Debbie Smith:

360-754-4148

In Thurston County, call Chris Maun:

360-754-3355 ext. 6377



Get Your Feet Wet This Summer

Register Now to Help Collect “Stream Bug” Samples

Looking for something fun and worthwhile to do this summer? Here's a chance to get your feet wet while collecting valuable information about your local streams.

Now is the time to register with Stream Team to help collect “stream bug” (benthic macroinvertebrate) samples from local streams this summer. Information from the samples is used by local governments to help assess the biological health of our streams.

Never helped with stream bug monitoring? No problem! We teach you the correct methods before we take you out with your fellow volunteers to gather samples from local streams. We'll teach you the sampling methods during an evening training (see dates below), which will be held at a local stream. In addition, experienced fly fisherman and biologists will be on hand to discuss streams, salmon and “stream bugs”.

At the end of the training, you can sign-up to help us gather stream bug samples from the stream (or streams) of your choice. The actual sampling for each site will be scheduled for weekdays or weekends in July or August, and generally take 3-5 hours, depending on the site.



The training will be offered on two weekday evenings:

You only need to attend one of the trainings before you can sign up to help

Thursday, June 10 • 6:30 p.m.–9 p.m. OR Tuesday, June 22 • 6:30 p.m.–9 p.m.

Not available on these dates, but interested in sampling this summer? Contact Ann Marie (see below).

For more information or to register, contact Ann Marie Finan at 360-754-3355 ext. 6857 or finanam@co.thurston.wa.us

Marine Creature Mondays

July 12 & 26 and August 9

Location: Boston Harbor Marina

Time: 11:30 a.m. & 1 p.m.

Join Stream Team for a peek at creatures that live on the bottom of Puget Sound without getting yourself wet! Diver Phil Sconce will carefully collect different marine creatures, and marine biologist David Jamison will tell us a bit about them. This fun activity teaches a little bit about Puget Sound creatures, the habitat needed to keep them alive and well, and what you can do to help keep Puget Sound healthy!





Calendar of Events ▷

JUNE

"Stream Bug"

Monitoring Training

Thurs., June 10 • 6:30–9 p.m.

OR Tues., June 22 • 6:30–9 p.m.

McLane Creek Nature Trail

To register, contact Ann Marie

@ 360-754-3355 ext. 6857

or finanam@co.thurston.wa.us

Meet the Trees of WA Field Class

Sat., June 12 • 10 a.m.–3 p.m.

Olympia. Registration required.

Contact Native Plant Salvage Project

@ 360-867-2166

or nativeplantsalvage@gmail.com

Fruiting Native Plants for Beginners: Workshop

Thurs., June 17 • 6–8 p.m.

Thurston County Fairgrounds, Expo Center

To register, contact Jennifer @ 360-867-2577

or jjohnso@co.thurston.wa.us

Fruiting Native Plants for Beginners: Field Class

Sat., June 19 • 10 a.m.–Noon

Olympia

To register, contact Jennifer @ 360-867-2577

or jjohnso@co.thurston.wa.us

McLane Creek Nature Trail: Work Party

Wed., June 23 • 4:30 p.m.–Dusk

McLane Creek Nature Trail

* Pizza dinner break will be provided.

To register, contact Native Plant Salvage

Project @ 360-867-2166

or nativeplantsalvage@gmail.com

JULY

Marine Creature Monday

Mon., July 12 • 11:30 a.m. & 1 p.m.

Boston Harbor Marina

To register, contact Patricia Pyle

@ 360-570-5841 or ppyle@ci.olympia.wa.us

McLane Creek Nature Trail: Work Party

Wed., July 14 • 4:30 p.m.–Dusk

McLane Creek Nature Trail

* Pizza dinner break will be provided.

To register, contact Native Plant

Salvage Project @ 360-867-2166

or nativeplantsalvage@gmail.com

Bike the Deschutes Watershed

Sun., July 25 • Start Time: 8–10 a.m.

Tumwater Historical Park

777 Simmons Road SW

For more info or to register

for the Stream Team booth,

contact Debbie Smith @ 360-754-4148

or dmsmith@ci.tumwater.wa.us

Marine Creature Monday

Mon., July 26 • 11:30 a.m. & 1 p.m.

Boston Harbor Marina

To register, contact Patricia Pyle

@ 360-570-5841 or ppyle@ci.olympia.wa.us



SEPTEMBER

Salmon Stewards Field Day: Tumwater Falls

Sat., September 11 • 10 a.m.–Noon

To register, contact Debbie @ 360-754-4148

or dmsmith@ci.tumwater.wa.us

AUGUST

Fruiting Native Plants for Beginners: Workshop

Date TBA

To register, contact Jennifer @ 360-867-2577

or johnsoj@co.thurston.wa.us

Fruiting Native Plants for Beginners: Field Class

Date TBA

To register, contact Jennifer @ 360-867-2577

or johnsoj@co.thurston.wa.us

Marine Creature Monday

Mon., August 9 • 11:30 a.m. & 1 p.m.

Boston Harbor Marina

To register, contact Patricia Pyle

@ 360-570-5841 or ppyle@ci.olympia.wa.us

Salmon Stewards Classroom Training: Part I

Mon., August 16 • 6 p.m.–9 p.m.

Olympia, TBA

To register, contact Patricia @ 360-570-5841

or ppyle@ci.olympia.wa.us

Tending the Tidelands Field Class

Sat., Aug. 21 • 9 a.m.–3 p.m.

Olympia. Registration required.

Contact Chris @ 360-754-3355 ext. 6377 or

maunc@co.thurston.wa.us

Salmon Stewards Field Day: 5th Avenue Bridge

Sat., August 21 • 10 a.m.–Noon

To register, contact Patricia @ 360-570-5841

or ppyle@ci.olympia.wa.us

Salmon Stewards Classroom Training: Part II

Tues., August 24 • 6 p.m.–9 p.m.

To register, contact Patricia @ 360-570-5841

or ppyle@ci.olympia.wa.us

