

Stream Team News

FREE

OLYMPIA • LACEY • TUMWATER • THURSTON COUNTY

EDUCATE • PROTECT • RESTORE



Inside...

Priest Point Park Beach Seine | 2

In-Person Programming Postponed:
Stream Bug Monitoring & Salmon Stewards | 3

Bats of the Pacific Northwest—What's Up with Bats
Blog | 3

New! American Bullfrog Call Survey Training | 3

Wildfires & Water Quality | 4

Local Lakes & Beaches: Small Actions Add Up to Big
Impacts! | 5

Explore Our Saltwater Beaches | 6

Protect Salmon by Using Less Water | 6

5 Ways to be Kind to the Environment on Your
Summer Hiking Adventure | 7

Featured Creature: A Boisterous, Naturalizing
Migrant—Barred Owl | 8

SUMMER EDITION
June–July–August 2021

What's Blooming in Budd? | 9

Marine Creature Monday! | 9

Kids' Corner | 10

Calendar of Events | 11

Nature Sleuth Scavenger Hunts! | 12

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook and Instagram to learn what you can do while staying home to keep our waters clean and habitat healthy for wildlife.



- **Thursday, July 15 • 6 p.m.**
- **Priest Point Park: 2600 East Bay Drive, Olympia**
- **Main beach trail past Shelter #2**

Priest Point Park Beach Seine

To register for this workshop, visit **streamteam.info** and click on “register”. For more information, contact Michelle at **mstevie@ci.olympia.wa.us**.



DID YOU KNOW?

STREAM TEAM MISSION

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




Stream Team is funded and jointly managed by the stormwater utilities of the Cities of Lacey, Olympia and Tumwater and Thurston County. Stream Team programs meet the requirements for the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for stormwater.



SPECIAL NEEDS?

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

FOLLOW US:

 Thurston Stream Team
 thurston_stream_team
 Thurston County Stream Team

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS:

Meridith Greer, Susan McCleary, Ann Marie Pearce,
Michelle Stevie, Sarah Tolle, Emily Watts, Heidi
Zarghami, and Michele Burton Photographer.

DESIGN & LAYOUT:

ASGD Brand Strategy + Design
AzureSGD.com

STREAM TEAM INQUIRIES 360-438-2672 or streamteam@ci.lacey.wa.us

IN LACEY:

City of Lacey Water Resources Program
420 College St. SE, Lacey, WA 98503

Attn: Lacey Water Resources

Tel: 360-438-2687

TDD: 1-800-833-6388

WaterResources@ci.lacey.wa.us

IN OLYMPIA:

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

Attn: Michelle Stevie

mstevie@ci.olympia.wa.us

IN TUMWATER:

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

Attn: Meridith Greer

Tel: 360-754-4148

TDD: 1-800-833-6388

mgreer@ci.tumwater.wa.us

IN THURSTON COUNTY:

Thurston County Water Planning
2000 Lakeridge Dr. SW, Bldg. 4, Rm 100,
Olympia, WA 98502

Attn: Ann Marie Pearce

Tel: 360-754-3355 ext. 6857

TDD: 360-754-2933

ann.marie.pearce@co.thurston.wa.us

In-Person Programming Postponed: Stream Bug Monitoring & Salmon Stewards

This summer, due to COVID-19, we will not have in-person, volunteer participation for many of our popular programs, workshops or lectures. We are hopeful that next year we will be back to our usual in-person summer programming. Thank you for your understanding!

Bats of the Pacific Northwest—What's Up with Bats Blog

Do you know what bats and dolphins have in common? They both use echolocation! Bats use their ears to listen for the echo, or the reflected sounds of an object, to navigate their way and find food.

Follow us on our website and social media for live recordings and interesting facts about our local bats and how water quality affects bat health. Visit streamteam.info for more information.



American *Bullfrog* Call Survey Training



AMERICAN BULLFROG CALL SURVEY TRAINING •••••

- June 2 • 7 – 8 p.m. • Location TBD
- Survey Local Ponds: Call Surveys run from June – August
- Individual Survey Time: Approximately 20 minutes

Why survey for bullfrogs?

The American bullfrog is an invasive wildlife species that competes with our native frogs for food and habitat. They also carry numerous diseases. Bullfrogs are voracious eaters! They eat our native frogs and many other small wildlife species, including baby ducks. It is especially concerning that bullfrogs gobble up our endangered Oregon spotted frog.

Wildlife managers need your help! Bullfrogs are widespread, and their numbers appear to be increasing. Your help is needed to collect data to better understand bullfrog distribution. Bullfrogs require a permanent water source and prefer warm open ponds, even stormwater ponds. Bullfrog calls begin at the start of the breeding season around June or earlier if the season is warm. They lay 8,000–120,000 tiny eggs in a thin sheet on top of pond vegetation. Their many eggs hatch and grow into very large tadpoles, up to 6 inches! The tadpoles take 2–3 years to metamorphose into adults. These tadpoles are also voracious feeders, consuming native frogs, small fish, and even juvenile salmon.

Training will cover identification of the American bullfrog and their calls. We will also cover how to record and submit the data. One survey session for a pond lasts about 20 minutes. For more information on bullfrog call surveying, please visit whatfrogs.wordpress.com/2017-american-bullfrog-and-green-frog-call-survey.

Want to get involved? Or Want to help? It's easy!

- Sign up for a survey site.
- Arrive at your survey site around sunset and sit quietly for up to 10 minutes.
- Collect data for up to 10 minutes.
- Fill out the data form and submit data online.
- Visit your survey site three times between June – August.

To register, visit streamteam.info and click on “register”. For more information, contact Michelle at mstevie@ci.olympia.wa.us.



Wildfire Prevention Checklist



Wildfires & Water Quality

- Check for fire bans in your location before you burn.
- Build your campfire in an appropriate fire pit cleared of all vegetation.
- Never leave a fire unattended, especially overnight.
- Completely douse with water and smother with dirt before leaving fire.
- Never start a fire on a windy day. Save it for another time.
- Dispose of used matches or cigarette butts in a closed container or cup of water.
- Keep lighters and matches out of reach of children.
- Never burn treated wood, plastics or other garbage.

Remember these tips to help prevent wildfires, which in turn, protects our local water quality!



CREDIT: LANDON PARENTEAU

Did you know...

Over 2,700 wildfires
have been documented in Thurston County since 1972;
an average of **63 fires per year.**

Historic Fire Season

2020 was historic for more than one reason and unfortunately one of those reasons was the wildfires. Across the US, 59,000 fires burned over 10 million acres, the most annual acreage burned since 1960.

Smokey the Bear taught us that “only you can prevent wildfires” and we know that when fires happen, we lose forests, homes and even lives. While wildfires impact human health and property, they can also affect water quality.

What happens to local water bodies after a fire?

Burned areas lose their dense vegetation and are more likely to suffer soil erosion. Stormwater runoff can carry dirt from burned areas into nearby waterways. Ash and contaminants settle onto surface waters (likes lakes & rivers). Solids, nutrients, metals, fire retardants and other fire-fighting chemicals accumulate, especially after rain events. The long-term water quality effects are still not fully understood, but we might be able to lessen the impact by reestablishing vegetation as soon as possible, even with temporary cover crops.

How do wildfires impact stormwater?

Stormwater can carry dirt and debris from wildfire areas into stormwater pipes or filters. The dirt and debris can cause blockages in the pipes and filters. Cities & counties can prepare and respond by scheduling clean-outs and performing routine maintenance before fire season. Some cities monitor their drinking water supplies if a wildfire burns through dense urban areas to ensure the water pipelines are not damaged.

Summer is the perfect time to inspect and maintain stormwater facilities. If your neighborhood or HOA has stormwater facilities, don't forget that annual inspection forms are due for the cities of Lacey, Olympia & Tumwater and Thurston County by August 31. Questions? Email StreamTeam@ci.lacey.wa.us

Effects of Climate Change on Wildfires

The University of Washington Climate Impacts Group published a detailed report on the state of science on climate change and its effect within our region. The evidence suggests that long-term climate change will have a measurable impact, raising the risk of wildland fires for the Puget Sound lowlands. Increasing air temperatures are projected for all seasons, especially in summer, leading to longer, drier, warmer summers. This is why we can expect even more wildfires as regional summer temperatures get drier and hotter. Learn more by visiting cig.uw.edu and watch our Climate Conversations: Wildfires in Western Washington presentation at youtu.be/M1OSNl2zoDo.



Local Lakes & Beaches: Small Actions Add Up to Big Impacts!

On the surface, our local lakes, beaches and Puget Sound appear to be pristine aquatic wonderlands. While they are a gem and a source of great fun in the summer, they are fragile and can be easily damaged by pollution.

Approximately 75% of all the pollution in Puget Sound is carried there by stormwater runoff that flows through neighborhoods. Stormwater that flows over our yards, sidewalks, driveways and roads picks up fertilizers, pesticides, pet waste, oil, tire bits, car wash soap and other pollutants along the way. This polluted runoff can make its way into our streams, lakes and Puget Sound, making the water unhealthy and damaging habitat for aquatic wildlife.

The good news is—small actions add up to BIG impacts! By making a few small changes in your yard and around your home, you can become a part of the solution to cleaning up and protecting our local waterways!

Help keep our streams, lakes, beaches and drinking water clean— Reduce stormwater pollution from your home, school or workplace:

- Bag and trash pet waste: every dog, every doo, every time!
- Wash your car at a commercial car wash, or on the lawn (not above your septic drain field or drinking well).
- Reduce the use of chemical pesticides and insecticides.
- Use a slow-release organic fertilizer on your lawns and gardens.
- Check for automotive leaks regularly and fix them right away.
- Use safer household cleaners and store chemicals safely.
- Pick-up trash and cigarette butts left on the ground.
- Visit **streamteam.info** to learn more about actions you can take to protect our local waters.

While you cool off this summer, remember there are simple actions you can do every day to help keep our local waterbodies clean and safe for swimming, fishing and recreating!

What About Swimming in Local Lakes and Beaches?

With all of these pollutants washing into our lakes, streams and Puget Sound, you may be wondering if it's okay to swim in our local waterfront parks and swimming holes. Thurston County Environmental Health monitors many local swimming beaches and lakes and posts swimming advisories, when necessary, on their web page.

Remember to check first before you dive in to make sure there are no swimming advisories posted: <https://www.thurstoncountywa.gov/phss/Pages/algae-advisories.aspx>

While at the swimming page for Environmental Health, you can also find out:

- Where local swimming beaches are located,
- Toxic blue-green algae advisories, and
- Tips for safe swimming.



CREDIT: MICHELE BURTON PHOTOGRAPHER



Protect Salmon by Using Less Water

In the Pacific Northwest, we are known for salmon, evergreen trees, mountains and rain! **But, did you know that 98% of the water we drink in Thurston County comes from groundwater?**

What is Groundwater?

Groundwater is water found under the Earth's surface. It is stored in and moves slowly through geologic formations of soil, sand and rocks called aquifers.

Rain (and a little snow melt) that soaks into the ground helps refill our groundwater supplies.

Groundwater keeps our streams flowing in the summer.

Most streams in Thurston County rely on groundwater, fed by cold winter rains, to keep them flowing in the hot, dry summer months. That's why the water in our streams feels cold—even when it's hot outside!

How can I help?

1. Use less water in your gardens—mulch plants and use drip irrigation.
2. Use less water on your lawns—water deeply 1 time per week in the summer or let your lawn go dormant.
3. Install water-saving devices in your home.
4. Soak more water into the ground by building a rain garden.
5. Water during cooler times of the day like early morning or late evening.
6. Sweep instead of pressure washing.

Even groundwater can become polluted.

Pollutants that can harm our streams, lakes and beaches can pollute our groundwater and drinking water sources too.

- Follow the tips in our “Local Beaches and Lakes” article on page 5 to help prevent pollution from getting into our groundwater.
- Inspect your septic system yearly and pump it every 3 to 5 years.
- Never put chemicals down the drain.
- Visit **streamteam.info** to learn more about how to keep our water clean.

Small actions you take can help ensure we have plenty of clean water in our streams, lakes, beaches and drinking water for all to enjoy!



Explore Our Saltwater Beaches

Thurston County's saltwater beaches offer wonderful trails and beautiful views.

They are also home to a wide variety of marine wildlife including shorebirds, a variety of fish, mussels, barnacles and much more. Here is a list of saltwater beaches you may want to explore:

1. Evergreen State College Beach
2. Frye Cove County Park
3. Priest Point Park**
4. Burfoot County Park
5. Woodard Bay Natural Area*
6. Tolmie State Park*

**Discover Pass required.*

***Priest Point Park is permanently closed to swimming due to a nearby sewage outfall.*

Be Kind to Wildlife

When visiting the beach, remember that it is home to numerous marine critters and other wildlife. If you pick up a rock to examine it, carefully replace the rock to its original position. Avoid touching any animals you may find—watch and learn instead. Take only pictures. Rocks and shells are homes for wildlife.

Learn About Marine Wildlife

- Download one of our Puget Sound Sea Life brochures from our website and take it with you when you visit Frye Cove County Park, Tolmie State Park or Boston Harbor Marina.
- Attend one of our Marine Creature Monday events (See pg. 9).
- Watch our Marine Creature video series by visiting **streamteam.info/marine-creature-monday-videos**.

Want more trail adventures? Check out Stream Teams' newest family-friendly Nature Sleuth scavenger hunt! See back cover for details!

5 Ways to be Kind to the Environment on Your

Summer Hiking Adventure

1

Wipe your Feet (and Paws)

Insects can travel with you on the bottom of your shoes and your dog's paws. Microbes, seeds and insects can get stuck in the mud, tread of hiking shoes and in between the pads of your pooches' paws after hiking or by stepping into streams, lakes or puddles. Invasive weeds and organisms such as the New Zealand mudsnail can impact the health of our waterways by invading streams and riparian zones. Stop invasive species from hitching a ride to a new location by wiping off your pooch, your gear, and brushing the tread of your boots before and after you hit the trail. Learn more about keeping hitchhikers off your boots by visiting the reference library at streamteam.info.

PRO TIP

Keep a brush and towel in your car to clean off your shoes and your pooch!



2

Stay on the Main Path

While it can be exciting to explore new areas, remember to stay on designated paths. Trailblazing can damage the wild places we love by compacting the soil and trampling sensitive new growth while disturbing areas wildlife depend on to thrive. When we step off the path and cut up or down hills, we can also cause soil erosion, a process that can be harmful to stream health, which takes decades to heal and revegetate. The park trails we enjoy are often designed, built and maintained year-round so that we can safely walk through these beautiful landscapes and witness vistas without causing harm to our natural spaces and their inhabitants.

NATURE SLEUTH'S

MORE

Want More Trail Adventures? Check out Stream Teams' newest family-friendly Nature Sleuth scavenger hunt! See back cover for details!

3

Bag and Trash Every Poop

Dog poop left on the trail is a concern for the health of our forest and marine environments. A single gram of dog poop, about the size of a pea, contains 23 million fecal coliform bacteria. Even so, seeing a bag of dog poop on the side of a trail is common. Dog owners may plan to pick it up on their way back, but sometimes life distracts us from our mission to retrieve our dog's poop before making it back home. Remember when out on the trail that bagging the poop is not the end; it has to make it to the garbage. Bag and trash every poop, every time!



PRO TIP

Pick up an inexpensive leash waste carrier to avoid forgetting your dog's waste bag on the trail.

4

Use a Reusable Water Bottle

Plastic water bottles may seem convenient, but not only do they become bulky trash items when empty, they are not large enough to keep you fully hydrated on the trail. For adult hikers, a 32-ounce water bottle is recommended to stay hydrated for up to 2-hours. Reusable water bottles and food containers are also simple and effective ways to reduce the amount of waste to carry and prevent unintentional litter, like the common flyaway granola wrapper! Invest in a high-quality BPA-free reusable bottle and keep reusable snack pouches handy when packing snacks for the trail.



CRAFT

Make your own fun and colorful snack pouches for you and your friends!

5

Leave No Trace

Not only is it unsightly, but garbage left behind by hikers can negatively impact the environment and local waterways. Carry an empty plastic bag for trash you may find along the trail. Stream Team members love having a pair of work gloves in our backpacks to make carrying out this good deed even easier. Leaving the trail knowing you made a positive difference can be empowering too! Leave No Trace and Pack It In, Pack It Out principles on the trail can make all the difference when enjoying the outdoors. Learn more about the seven principles of Leave no Trace at wta.org/go-outside/trail-smarts/no-trace.



PRO TIP

Add a pair of work gloves and an empty plastic bag for trash to your daypack.

Featured Creature

Barred Owl (*Strix varia*)



A Boisterous, Naturalizing Migrant

What They Look Like

Barred owls are large and stocky. They are mottled brown with round heads and tail. Barred owls do not have ear tufts and their eyes are nearly black. They are smaller than the great horned owl, but larger than a barn owl. Their upper breast is crossed with vertical brown bars on a white background. Their wings and tails are barred brown and white.

Where They Live

Barred owls live year-round in mixed mature forests, preferring older forests with large trees and plenty of places for nesting and prey. They nest 20–40 feet off the ground. They also use human made nest boxes and stick platforms created by other animals. It is thought that barred owls nest for life, raising one brood per year of 2–3 eggs. The female sits on the nest while the male hunts for food. These large owls are territorial, especially during nesting season and when raising young. Barred owls have been known to chase away intruders, including humans, by aggressively hooting or striking with their talons.

What They Eat

Barred owls mostly eat small mammals such as squirrels, mice, voles, rabbits, other birds and reptiles. They have also been known to fish for crayfish and crabs. If they eat enough crayfish, the feathers under their wings can turn pink, just like flamingos turn pink from the carotenoids in the shrimp they eat.



Join our Nature Sleuths scavenger hunt at Watershed Park and listen for barred owls! Learn more at streamteam.info/nature-sleuths.



Impact From Humans

Did you know that our collective actions at home can have a negative impact on wildlife around us like birds and small mammals? Pesticides and insecticides used in our yards and around our homes can kill beneficial insects eaten by birds and also harm small mammals, disrupting their hormones and poisoning their food sources.

How They Got Here

Until the twentieth century, barred owls were found in the mature undisturbed forests in eastern North America. How did they get from the eastern forests to the forests of the west? They naturally migrated as forest cover increased throughout the prairies, due to forest fire suppression and tree planting on the Great Plains. Starting in the late 1800's, barred owls began expanding their geographic range north and west. Since the 1980's they have become common in Pacific Northwest (PNW) forests. Their newly expanded range completely encompasses the range of the federally listed endangered spotted owl, outcompeting, displacing and interbreeding with the smaller less aggressive species, further endangering their populations. Barred owls also prey upon other smaller native owls of the PNW, wiping out their populations in some areas.

What They Sound Like

Barred owls have a distinctive call, which sounds like “who cooks for you.” Sometimes their call is mistaken for the call of a forest primate!

How Will a Changing Climate Affect Barred Owl Populations?

Increased wildfires, due to climate change, can destroy habitat for owls. Hotter temperatures in spring can lower nesting survival for young owls. Owls, like other wildlife, face loss of habitat due to increased urbanization.

What's Blooming in Budd?

Plankton Monitoring

2021 marks the 9th year of the "What's Blooming in Budd?" program! Every Thursday, June through August, biologists from Pacific Shellfish Institute (PSI) dip their net into Budd Inlet to monitor plankton communities and screen for harmful algal bloom species, or HABs. This data is submitted to NOAA's SoundToxins program. The program is designed to provide early warning of HABs to protect human health and prevent economic losses to fisheries. Every other week, PSI will also sample favorite swimming holes throughout Thurston County so you can see what microscopic critters you share the water with!

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, we are unable to invite the public to help us collect data at Port Plaza or Long Lake. Instead, similar to last year, we encourage you to visit the "What's Blooming in Budd?" webpage weekly for photos, videos, phytoplankton identification and updates on water quality.

"What's Blooming?" also monitors dissolved oxygen, pH, water clarity and stratification, as well as patterns in plankton community composition. In recent years, Budd Inlet has been a hotbed of activity for the dinoflagellate, *Dinophysis*. This species is responsible for Diarrhetic Shellfish Poisoning (DSP), and caused shellfish harvest closures every year since 2015. When does *Dinophysis* bloom? What conditions trigger blooms and biotoxin production? The long-term "What's Blooming in Budd?" data will hopefully help us answer these important research questions and more.

While questions remain, one thing is certain. Warm, sunny days and nutrient-rich waters are sure to create a feast for the eyes under a microscope! Join us weekly to find out what's blooming in Budd Inlet and your favorite swimming hole. Check out this summer's sampling schedule and weekly blog at pacshell.org/whats-blooming-in-budd.asp.

PLANKTON MONITORING

- Thursdays, June 17 – Aug. 26
- Results found at pacshell.org/whats-blooming-in-budd.asp.



MARINE CREATURE MONDAY!

- Mondays July 12, 19, 26 & Aug. 2, 9, 16
- Boston Harbor Marina, 312 73rd Ave NE Olympia
- Two sessions: 11:30 a.m. OR 1 p.m.
- Registration Required. Open only to Thurston County residents.
- Please only sign up for one session, as space is limited.



Marine Creature Monday!

Join us as we partner with marine specialists and our Kevin Seslar to see the wonders found in Puget Sound. This year we will be restructuring this popular event to comply with COVID-19 safety guidelines and help keep everyone healthy. **If you plan to bring anyone with you, you must register as a group. No exceptions. Group size limited to ten people (including infants).** See our website for more details. Distancing and masks required. **Please sign up for one session only, space is limited.**

To register, visit streamteam.info and click on "register". For more information, contact Michelle at mstevie@ci.olympia.wa.us.

How does Thurston County's stormwater runoff affect the marine life of Puget Sound? The health of our streams, Puget Sound and the wildlife that live here is greatly affected by what flows through drainage ditches or goes down storm drains. When it rains, pollutants such as oil, heavy metals, bacteria and chemicals are washed off hard surfaces into drainage ditches or storm drains. From there, stormwater often flows untreated into our streams, wetlands and Puget Sound. Even if your storm drain is not on or near the shore, contaminated stormwater coming from your neighborhood can end up in our local waterways.

You can protect marine creatures by taking action for clean water. For more information about what you can do to help, visit Stream Team's **Actions for Clean Water** pages and **Resource Library** at streamteam.info.

Kids' CORNER

Marine Creature Scavenger Hunt

Circle the following things you find in this picture:

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> North Pacific giant octopus | <input type="checkbox"/> Dungeness crab | <input type="checkbox"/> Lion's mane jellyfish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sea anemones | <input type="checkbox"/> Salmon | <input type="checkbox"/> Kelp |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific blue mussels | <input type="checkbox"/> Eel | <input type="checkbox"/> Eelgrass bed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sea urchins | <input type="checkbox"/> Giant acorn barnacle | <input type="checkbox"/> California sea cucumber |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kelp Crab | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunflower sea star | |

Learn more about the marine creatures in this drawing by watching our Marine Creature Monday Videos at streamteam.info/marine-creature-monday-videos or register for a live, hands-on Marine Creature Monday session! See page 9 for details.



Visit streamteam.info to download this page as a coloring sheet!



Stream Team *Events*

To keep Stream Team participants safe, we are limiting the number of participants and requiring safety measures such as physical distancing and wearing masks. We will provide safety guidelines in advance to anyone who registers or contacts us for more information.

For additional events, event details or to register, please visit our website at streamteam.info and click on the calendar icon.

JUNE – JULY – AUGUST

American Bullfrog Call Survey Training

June 2 • 7 – 8 p.m.

Location TBD

Call Surveys run from June – August

Wildlife managers need your help! Join us to survey for bullfrog calls on local ponds. Training will cover identification of the American bullfrog and their calls. We will also cover how to record and submit the data. Call survey time for a pond is approximately 20 minutes.

To register, visit streamteam.info and click on “register”. For more info., contact Michelle at mstevie@ci.olympia.wa.us. See page 3 for more details.

Purple Martin Monitoring

June – September

East Bay: Corner of Marine Drive & Olympic Ave, Olympia

Are you interested in monitoring the nest boxes at East Bay June-September? Pack your mask and binoculars and head out to monitor the East Bay purple martins!

To participate or for more info., contact Michelle at mstevie@ci.olympia.wa.us.

McLane Creek Nature Trail Maintenance

June 10; July 16; Aug. 17; Sept. 17

9 a.m. – Noon

McLane Creek Nature Trail

Come help us maintain McLane Creek Nature Trail to make sure it is accessible for all who want to enjoy the trail’s beauty, plants & animals.

We mindfully trim back growth along the trail, remove leaf debris from boardwalks, and clear the paths of any large debris. For more info., email info@nativeplantsalvage.org. To register, visit streamteam.info and click on “register”.

Marine Creature Monday!

Mondays • July 12 ,19,26 & Aug. 2,9,16

Two sessions: 11:30 a.m. OR 1 p.m.

Registration Required. Open only to Thurston County residents.

Please only sign up for one session as space is limited.

Join us as we partner with marine specialists and diver Kevin Seslar to explore the wonders found in Puget Sound. This year, we will be restructuring this popular event to include COVID-19 safety measures to keep everyone healthy.

If you and one or more other people will be attending, you must register as a group. No exceptions. Group size is limited to ten people (including infants). See page 9 for details.

To register, visit streamteam.info and click on “register”. For more info., contact Michelle at mstevie@ci.olympia.wa.us.



What’s Blooming in Budd? Plankton Monitoring

Thursdays, June 17 – Aug. 26

Results posted at pacshell.org/whats-blooming-in-budd.asp

Join us weekly to find out “What’s Blooming in Budd?” and your favorite swimming hole. Check out this summer’s sampling schedule and weekly blog at pacshell.org/whats-blooming-in-budd.asp.

Priest Point Park Beach Seine

Thursday, July 15 • 6 p.m.

Priest Point Park: 2600 East Bay Drive, Olympia

Main beach trail past Shelter #2

Join Stream Team and Squaxin Island tribal biologists as we cast the net to see what critters we will find!

We will be following COVID guidelines. Participants are required to wear masks and distance.

To register, visit streamteam.info and click on “register”. For more info., contact Michelle at mstevie@ci.olympia.wa.us.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

COVID-Safe Native Plant Excursions

Prairie Ecosystem: June 6 • 3 – 6 p.m.

Outer Coastal & Saltmarsh Ecosystems: July 25 • 10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Join Native Plant Salvage as we journey through distinct regional ecosystems with eco-educators! Back by popular demand, “Native Plant Excursions” go deeper into a specific ecosystem to enhance overall understanding of underlying ecological processes and plant-identification skills. You’ll be sure to enjoy our summer explorations of South Sound prairie & oak woodland ecology and outer coastal dunes, beach, and saltmarsh ecology in Grays Harbor. For more information and to register, visit nativeplantsalvage.org/plant-excursions.



EDUCATE • PROTECT • RESTORE

2000 Lakeridge Dr SW
Bldg 4 #100
Olympia, WA 98502
streamteam.info

NATURE SLEUTHS



Nature Sleuth Scavenger Hunts!

This summer check out 21 selected parks in the Thurston County area for a free family-fun adventure! Parks within Thurston County and the cities of Lacey, Olympia and Tumwater are included. To participate, download the GooseChase app on your mobile device and let the games begin! Each park will have its own unique mission. Finish the mission and receive a park-specific sticker. Collect all the stickers and be entered into a drawing for cool prizes! Drawing held Dec. 1, 2021.

For more information, visit streamteam.info/nature-sleuths or contact Michelle at mstevie@ci.olympia.wa.us or April at aprilroe@nisquallyestuary.org.

Don't have a device for apps? No problem, contact us!

GooseChase Directions

Participants can join the Nature Sleuths Scavenger Hunt by following these simple steps:

- 1 **Download** the **GooseChase** iOS or Android app.
- 2 **Choose to play** as a guest or register for a personal account with a username & password of your choice.
- 3 Search for and **select the Nature Sleuths 2021 game**, or search by game code **DDK6PJ**.



STICKERS NOT SHOWN AT ACTUAL SIZE