Stream Team News

OLYMPIA • LACEY • TUMWATER • THURSTON COUNTY

EDUCATE • PROTECT • RESTORE

WINTER EDITION
Nov–Dec 2022–Jan 2023

Inside...

Congratulations to our Reel Challenge Winners!

In September, we celebrated Puget Sound Starts Here Month by inviting you to show us in an Instagram reel what Puget Sound means to you in celebration of this beautiful estuary we call home. We had some amazing entries, and the public has cast their votes!

▶ Winning Reel & Runner-Up ▶

Grand Prize Winner: Hillary Jaffe, @waterlogged1313

Runner-up: Alyssa Thrasher, @go.brooksie

A big thank you to every entrant for sending us their reel! Your creativity and activism encourages all of us.

▶ **Prizes** The grand prize winner receives a $250 visa gift card. The runner-up receives a $100 visa gift card. Each valid entry receives a free car wash ticket.

▶ **Watch** You can watch the winning reels on our Instagram account at **instagram.com/thurston_stream team**.

To learn more about the challenge, visit **streamteam.info/pssh-gets-reel**.

To keep everyone safe during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Stream Team highly recommends *COVID effective masks (not gators or bandanas) for all in-person events. For the safety of others, if you are sick, or have been around someone who is sick, please stay home.*

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.

ON THE COVER: Allison Springs Bald Eagle Paddle. Photo by Michele Burton Photographer.

DID YOU KNOW? Articles marked with a damselfly icon, like the one on the left, will be posted on our website in the Reference Library.

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:

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AzureSGD.com

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420 College St. SE, Lacey, WA 98503

Attn: Linsey Fields
Tel: 360-486-8707
TDD: 1-800-833-6388
WaterResources@ci.lacey.wa.us

IN OLYMPIA:
City of Olympia Environmental Services
P.O. Box 1967, Olympia, WA 98507-1967

Attn: Michelle Stevie
mstevie@ci.olympia.wa.us

IN TUMWATER:
City of Tumwater Water Resources & Sustainability
555 Israel Road SW, Tumwater, WA 98501

Attn: Stream Team Coordinator
Tel: 360-754-4140
TDD: 1-800-833-6384
WaterResources@ci.tumwater.wa.us

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

Attn: Cynthia Taylor
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TDD: 360-754-2933
Cynthia.Taylor@co.thurston.wa.us

Shellfish Harvesting in South Puget Sound

Along the shores of south Puget Sound, you can find clams, oysters, mussels and geoducks. With a shellfish license and a little determination, you can enjoy all the delights the sea has to offer.

Plan Your Place & Time

- **Choose a Thurston County beach** by visiting **tinyurl.com/TCShellfishBeaches**.
- Not all Thurston County beaches are open year-round for shellfish harvesting. Some are closed indefinitely due to pollution. Some close temporarily when high concentrations of biotoxins make shellfish unfit for human consumption. At the time of publication, three beaches in Thurston County are open for shellfish harvesting:
  - **Burfoot County Park**
  - **Frye Cove County Park**
  - **Tolmie State Park**
- Look at a tide table **tidesnear.me/cities/1339**. You will want to catch at least a -0.5 tide for the best clam and oysters. For geoducks, you will want a -2.0 tide. You will have about a 4-hour window to harvest, so plan to arrive about 1–2 hours before the low tide.

Meet Legal Requirements

- **Purchase a combination fishing license** for each person in your party. You have the option to buy a license for a day, several days, or a year. If you are under age 15, you are allowed to collect shellfish without a license.
  - **Purchase a license online at *wdfw.wa.gov/licenses/fishing*. Allow up to 10 days for it to arrive by mail.**
  - **Purchase a license from a local dealer. Find a local dealer at *tinyurl.com/shellfishlicense*.**
- **Learn about regulations and limits on what you are allowed to collect.** There are limits on quantities and requirements for the minimum size of each shellfish species. It is important to be aware of these regulations before you begin your harvest. Learn more about regulations at **tinyurl.com/shellfishregulations**.

Bring the Right Tools

- A bucket, net, or a basket for collection
- A clamming rake, garden fork, or a trowel for digging through the sand
- Thick gloves to protect your hands from sharp shells and muck
- Waterproof shoes that you don't mind getting dirty; rubber boots are a good choice
- An oyster knife and cut-resistant gloves to shuck oysters on the beach
- If you plan to harvest geoduck, considering bringing a hand tool such as a mattock, shovel or a clam gun

Be a Good Steward

- Only take your limit
- Refill all holes you dig
- Gently push undersized clams back into their hole
- Oysters must be shucked on the beach. Leave shells at the same location on the beach from where you picked them up.
- Pick up pet waste. Bag it. Trash it. Every time!
- Maintain your septic system at home. Check out free septic sense workshops at **tinyurl.com/SepticEducation**.
- Minimize single-use plastics.
- Practice Natural Yard Care.
- Fix car leaks and ensure proper tire inflation.
- Get involved in a shellfish protection district. Learn more at **tinyurl.com/ShellfishProtectionDistrict**.

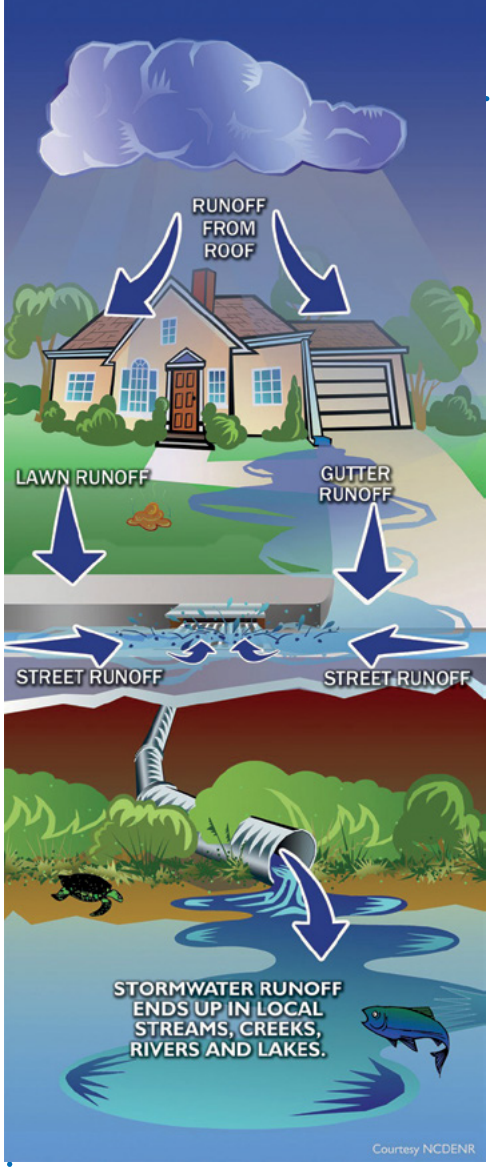
Enjoy!

Stay safe and know how to prevent shellfish illness. Visit **tinyurl.com/storeandcook** to learn more.

Keep the fun going!

NATURE SLEUTHS

Complete Stream Team's Nature Sleuths scavenger hunts along the way! Visit **streamteam.info/nature-sleuths/** to learn how to play! And to help determine the tide, play the Nisqually Reach Nature Center Part 1 Tidal Prediction game.



The Stormwater Story

What Is It?

Stormwater runoff is created when rain falls on hard surfaces like roads, parking lots and roofs and can't soak in. The runoff then flows directly into lakes, rivers, and Puget sound, collecting pollutants along the way. Stormwater is recognized as the top source of pollution to Puget Sound as well as the leading cause of poor water quality across the United States.

What is the Problem?

When stormwater isn't properly managed, it can cause major problems.

- Polluted rivers, lakes, and Puget Sound can be unsafe to swim in, fish in, or collect shellfish from. Aquatic wildlife depends on cool clean water to survive.
- Erosion of land can lead to polluted sediment entering streams. This causes habitat destruction that results in major declines in stream bug and fish populations.
- Flooding causes property damage, erodes streams and causes unsafe road conditions.
- Polluted stormwater can make its way into our groundwater. If you live in Thurston County, that's likely where you get your drinking water!

How Does It Get Polluted?

As the rain travels down gutters, into storm drains, and along roads, it picks up pollutants from everyday activities such as:

- Oil and grease from cars.
- Fertilizers and pesticides from yards.
- Bacteria from pet waste and failing septic systems.
- Soap and dirt from washing cars.
- Chemicals from tires.
- Trash, cigarette butts, and things accidentally spilled.

In addition, construction and landscaping renovation sites can contribute to polluted stormwater runoff. Rainwater that hits exposed soils picks up pollutants and sediment making muddy water that can contaminate streams. During projects, construction and landscaping companies are required to use best management practices including stabilizing exposed soils, covering dirt stockpiles and installing silt fences to keep muddy soil from running off the site. They're also responsible for ensuring stormwater runoff is properly managed once the project is complete by designing stormwater ponds, drainage ditches and large grassy filtration areas.

How Can You Help?

You can make a difference with just a few small actions!

- **Properly dispose of household hazardous waste** at the Thurston County HazoHouse.
- **Plant native plants**—especially if you live on a shoreline. The roots help soak up polluted stormwater runoff!
- **Practice natural yard care** and use a slow-release natural fertilizer.
- **Make sure landscaping mulches, gravel and other debris from your yard do not end up in the street.** Sweep driveways, sidewalks and parking lots often.
- **Choose a commercial car wash** or wash your car on your lawn where dirty water can be filtered through the ground.
- **If you have a septic system, make sure it's properly maintained.**
- **Pick up pet waste and throw it in the trash.** Every poo, every time!
- **Inspect and maintain your stormwater systems every year.**
- **Fix vehicle leaks as soon as they start** and keep your tires properly inflated.

For more information about how you can help, visit **streamteam.info/actionsforcleanwater**. When it comes to healthier and cleaner water, we can all make a difference!

PHOTO CREDIT: MICHELE BURTON PHOTOGRAPHER

Spring is on the Way!

When you hear the singing of local chorus frogs, spring is on its way! What is all their singing about? As the weather warms, frogs and salamanders move from their terrestrial (land) habitat to breeding ponds. Chorus frogs (also known as tree frogs) are our most vocal amphibians. Their croaking song is for establishing territories and calling for mates.

Would you like to know more about our native frogs and salamanders? Then this workshop is for you! Join Stream Team and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's (WDFW) senior aquatic research scientist, Dr. Max Lambert, for a fun, informative workshop. Working as a scientist at WDFW, Dr. Lambert leads a team of scientists to study various conservation and restoration issues that help inform aquatic biodiversity management and policy in our state. Prior to working for WDFW, Lambert worked with the Cities of Portland and Gresham to understand the habitat value of urban stormwater ponds for amphibians.

This workshop will explore the ecology, habitat requirements and unique characteristics of each of our stillwater breeding amphibian species. We will also learn how to identify different life stages of PNW amphibians with emphasis on egg mass identification. Ages 12 and up.

To register for this workshop or for field training, visit **streamteam.info** and click on "register." **Please register separately for the field training as space is limited.** For more information, contact Michelle at **mstevie@ci.olympia.wa.us**.

Do you like winter adventures? Join Stream Team volunteers and survey this winter for amphibian egg masses! Surveys begin in February and go through March. Missed the training? On-site field training is provided.

Directions will be sent after registration and closer to the event. To register, visit **streamteam.info** and click on "register." For more information, contact Michelle at **mstevie@ci.olympia.wa.us**.

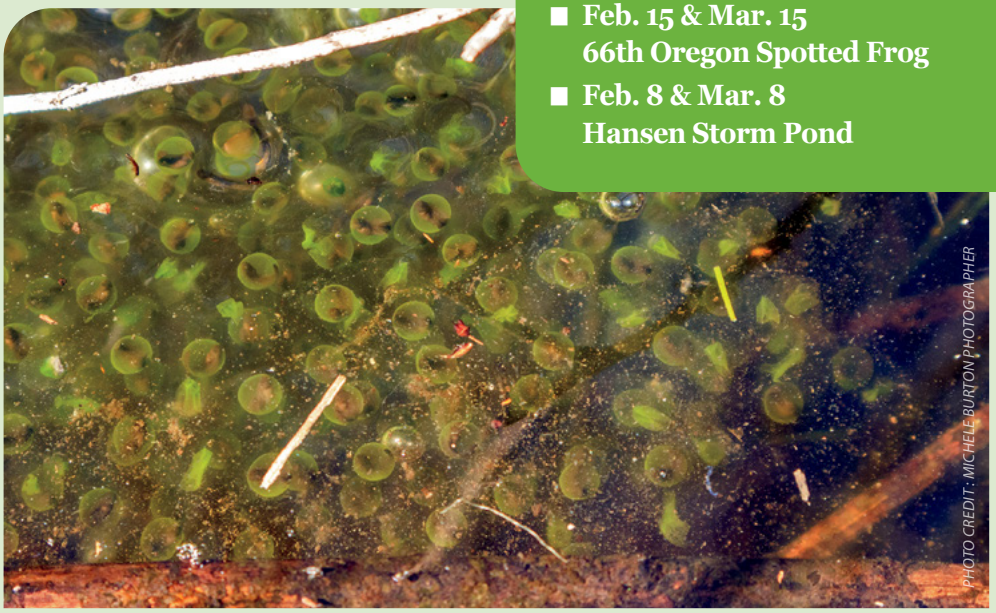


PHOTO CREDIT: MICHELE BURTON PHOTOGRAPHER

AMPHIBIANS OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST WORKSHOP

LIFE HISTORY TALK

- Sat., Jan. 28 • 10 – 11:30 a.m.
- LOTT WET Science Center, 500 Adams St. NE, Olympia

EGG MASS IDENTIFICATION FIELD TRAINING *(Tentative)*

- Sat., Jan. 28 Noon – 2 p.m.
- Hansen Elementary, 1919 Road Sixty-Five, Olympia

AMPHIBIAN EGG MASS SURVEY DATES

Saturdays • 9 – 11 a.m.

- Feb. 4 • Indian Summer Pond
- Feb. 11 • Pleasant Glade Pond
- Feb. 25 • Tumwater Golf Ponds
- Mar. 4 • Pleasant Glade Pond
- Mar. 11 • Indian Summer Pond
- Mar. 18 • Tumwater Golf Ponds
- Mar. 25 • Pleasant Glade Pond

Wednesdays • 1 – 3 p.m.

- Feb. 15 & Mar. 15 66th Oregon Spotted Frog
- Feb. 8 & Mar. 8 Hansen Storm Pond

Featured Creature

The Adaptive Weasel

The Adaptive Weasel

When winter rolls around, plants and animals have to adapt to survive. Trees and bushes lose leaves, bears hibernate, and frogs freeze. Here in Washington, weasels have adapted in high elevation homes to better survive snowy conditions by changing color.

Weasels are in the Mustelidae family which includes other smaller carnivorous mammals, such as mink, badgers, wolverines and sea otters. A common identifier of these mammals is that they have a "musk" or anal scent gland that produces a strong-smelling secretion used for marking territory and finding reproductive mates.

All weasels are obligate carnivores, meaning they subsist entirely off meat. Weasels are voracious hunters and will eat most any small animal they can get their sharp teeth and paws on. Their diet generally consists of small rodents. However, they are fast and strong enough to prey on the much larger snowshoe hares despite being outweighed by them. A weasel will often kill more than they can eat at one time, and will bury or cache their leftovers so that they will have food to eat later.

Species of weasels found in the Pacific Northwest include the long-tailed weasel and the short-tailed weasel. The long-tailed weasel can be found across the world, while the short-tailed weasel can only be found natively in North America and Eurasia.

A species of short-tailed weasel native only to the Olympic Mountains, the Olympic short-tailed weasel, does not change its color to white in the winter. They retain their brown coat and yellowish underbellies year-round.

The other two species of weasel turn white in winter, likely because they live in elevations where there is snow. Long-tailed weasels shed twice a year, once in spring and once in fall. During the fall shedding, they lose their brown coat and become snow white, like their favored prey, the snowshoe hare. This change in coat for both is triggered by the length of daylight. As days get shorter, the amount of dark pigmentation in their skin lowers, turning their fur white. As the months turn to spring, and the daylight is longer, dark pigmentation levels rise, bringing their darker color back. This solar-activated color change could also explain why weasels have light-colored bellies, as their bellies do not get much exposure to sunlight.

With the changing climate, this camouflaging transformation may be harmful. With less snowfall to hide in, weasels that change to white are at a disadvantage, finding themselves easier to spot by predators and prey alike among the browns and greens of winter underbrush. Species that don't change colors like the Olympic short-tailed weasel may have an advantage. Research has shown that the population of the white subspecies of weasel drops during years that experience less snow cover. This naturally selective pressure might mean that, over time, the weasel could lose the ability to change its brown coat to white to better survive.

Wetlands, A Biological Super System

With summer and fall behind us, we find ourselves with less light in our day and cooler wetter weather at our backs. But life doesn't slow down for wetlands in the winter. They are working just as hard, providing food and habitat for wildlife and clean air and water for humans.

What is a Wetland?

Wetlands are ecosystems that are frequently flooded by water either seasonally or permanently. Water saturation determines how the soil develops and what types of plants can grow. Plants growing near and in wetlands are adapted to growing in soils that are saturated with water. Wetlands include marshes, ponds, fens, bogs and wet meadows. They can be found on all landscapes from the ocean coasts to far inland.

Why are Wetlands Important?

Wetlands have been termed "biological super systems" because they produce large volumes of food and support vast populations of species, creating some of the most biodiverse spaces on the planet. In many ways, a healthy wetland is as rich in biodiversity as rainforests and coral reefs.

Wetlands come in all forms, each having distinct characteristics and serving a unique role in the landscape. Wetlands can be found in many places creating unique ecosystems. They can be found connected to streams and rivers, sitting alone in depressions within our landscape only connected by groundwater, or along our shorelines, lakes, and saltwater environments. These areas are the epicenters for sustaining life. Ranging from the micro (small) to macro (large) organisms, thousands of species depend on wetlands for survival, to rest and feed, or to give birth to young such as reptiles, amphibians, fish, mammals, birds, and a wide range of varying plant species.

How do Wetlands Help Humans?

As we go about our daily lives, we pass by wetlands along our roadways, adjacent to our homes and commercial centers, and embedded within rural area farms and forests. They provide many unseen services to humans and their efficiency cannot be successfully replicated. Not only do wetlands provide key habitats and food sources for wildlife but they also provide many functions that assist urban development.

- **Wetlands help prevent flooding,** storing large amounts of carbon and water.
- **Wetlands have a natural filtration system,** breaking down human-caused pollutants over time.
- **Wetlands are key in helping manage greenhouse gases** as they store tons of carbon, preventing it from entering the atmosphere.

Go Explore!

This winter throw on your boots, grab your binoculars and brave the cooler wetter weather to seek out a wetland near you. Sit for a while, immerse yourself, and witness the wonders that unfold before your eyes.

Do you want to learn more about local wetlands? Check out Stream Team's Nature Sleuths scavenger hunt by visiting **streamteam.info/nature-sleuths** and look for the games where wetlands can be found!

DISAPPEARING KELP FORESTS

- Wed., Feb. 8
- 6 – 8 p.m.
- City of Olympia Council Chambers, 601 E 4th Ave, Olympia
- https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88166432739?pwd=ZTB0aHIrRUpQbDgwVDBnUkVYbHNkdz09

Climate Conversations: Disappearing Kelp Forests

What is kelp? Kelp are large brown marine algae or seaweed that live close to shore in the cold cool, nutrient-rich shallow waters of our oceans and the Salish Sea. They can be found along the rocky shorelines of the Pacific coastline from Alaska to Baja California. They grow much like a forest of trees in dense groups. They are rarely found deeper than 49–131 feet, and their root-like stems attach rocks along the shoreline or deeper underwater to the tops of rocky reefs by a "holdfast" that keeps them in place, similar to a plant rooted in soil. Like plants, they are dependent upon sunlight for photosynthesis to produce their food. Many have bulbs or other air sack-like features that allow them to be buoyant allowing for their leaves, or blades, to grow near the surface of the water to better harvest the sun's light.

Why are Kelp Forests Important?

- Kelp forests provide food and shelter for thousands of fish, invertebrates, birds, and marine mammal species.
- Kelp provides a diversity of habitats, with 22 species found off our coastlines.
- Kelp, along with other marine vegetation, are estimated to absorb 20 times more carbon dioxide than land forests, making them essential in reducing the effects of climate change.
- Kelp forests help protect our shorelines by buffering waves caused by strong marine winds. This buffering effect helps reduce and prevent erosion along our shores.
- Kelp are an important part of the ocean's food web, absorbing nutrients like nitrogen from the water and making it available to a variety of species that feed on kelp blades.

What is Going on with the Kelp Beds of the Salish Sea?

Many of the kelp forests in the Salish Sea have disappeared or are disappearing. This is due to the impact of climate change and pollution from sewage, inorganic fertilizers, pesticides, and industrial waste that impair growth and reproduction. It is estimated that two-thirds of these underwater forests have been lost since the 1870s.

Interested in Learning More?

Join us and guest speaker Dr. Thomas Mumford, marine scientist, to learn more about kelp ecology, current conditions, climate change, and other studies occurring in Puget Sound. Dr. Mumford has been working in the marine science field for over 45 years. He spent most of his career developing and managing programs for the Washington Department of Natural Resources Aquatics program. He has taught at various universities, and consulted overseas in seaweed aquaculture. Since his retirement in 2011, he has been focusing on researching marine algal biodiversity, the role of kelp in marine ecosystems, kelp restoration, and teaching.

For more information about the Puget Sound Kelp Conservation Plan, visit **nwstraits.org/our-work/kelp/**.

To register for this lecture, visit **streamteam.info** and click on "register." For more information, please contact Michelle at **mstevie@ci.olympia.wa.us**. Join the webinar at **https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88166432739?pwd=ZTB0aHIrRUpQbDgwVDBnUkVYbHNkdz09.**

Climate Conversations: Fungi Perfecti Presents

Fungi's Magnificent Mycelium & BeeMushroomed

In the last several decades, scientists have come to understand the importance of mycelium and its role in the planet's ecosystem. Mycelium can be found underfoot with nearly every step we take. Mycelium lives under the soil, lawn, and forest floor.

What is mycelium? Mycelium is a root-like structure of a fungus; the first stage of a mushroom's life cycle and the longest living part of the organism. When compared to a plant, mycelium is the root system, and the mushroom is the flower.

Studies have shown that up to 90% of land plants are in a mutually beneficial relationship with the vast branching networks of mycelium. Without fungi, we would not have mycelium and without mycelium, all ecosystems would fail.

In January, join us and scientist and mycorrhizae expert, Ruth Idunn, of Fungi Perfecti, for a mind-opening webinar about the interconnections and restorative properties of mycelium! In March, join us and Ruth for the BeeMushroomed talk on how fungi can help bee populations!

To register for these lectures, visit **streamteam.info** and click on "register." Webinar information will be sent after registration. For more information, contact Michelle at **mstevie@ci.olympia.wa.us**.

FUNGI'S MAGNIFICENT MYCELIUM & BEEMUSHROOMED WEBINAR

FUNGI'S MAGNIFICENT MYCELIUM

- **Wed., Jan. 18 • 6 – 7:30 p.m.**
- **Webinar — https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85117267374?pwd=THBtOFFYQm9ZN2FjdTBueXF3c2hRZz09**

BEEMUSHROOMED

- **Wed., Mar. 15 • 6 – 7:30 p.m.**
- **Webinar — https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88932792005?pwd=Wnl3bktXMXJ4VTNGSFprQmtkSFdiUT09**


PHOTO CREDIT : MICHELE BURTON PHOTOGRAPHER

Healthy Pollinators: Backyard Habitat Workshop

What do bees, bats, birds, butterflies and beetles have in common? They are all animals from different pollinator groups that are responsible for pollinating plants including food plants. Pollinating animals travel from one plant to another carrying pollen on their bodies which is critical for the reproduction of plants. When a pollen grain moves from the anther (male part) of a flower to the stigma (female part) pollination occurs. This is the first part of the process that produces flowers, fruits, seeds and the next generation of plants. Pollinators are said to be responsible for bringing us one out of three bites of food!

Join Stream Team and Jennifer Johnson, Thurston County Environmental Health, and Justine Mischka, Center for Natural Lands Management, for a free and interactive educational event! Come learn about the importance of our native plants and pollinators, such as bees, butterflies, birds, and even bats! This family-friendly event will be a great opportunity to discover how you can protect pollinators by creating healthy habitats in your backyard! We will learn the benefits of native plants, and safe, natural gardening techniques. Join in for a hands-on activity making native seed balls to take home and plant in your garden!

To register for this workshop, visit **streamteam.info** and click on "register." **Family groups, please register as a group as space is limited.** For more information, please contact Michelle at **mstevie@ci.olympia.wa.us**.

BACKYARD HABITAT WORKSHOP

- **Sat., Jan. 7**
- **10 a.m. – Noon**
- **LOTT WET Science Center, 500 Adams St. NE, Olympia**

De-Icers … Keep Your Family, Plants & Streams Safe

As colder temperatures arrive, so does concern about slippery driveways and sidewalks from snow and ice. Some of us turn to de-icers to keep stairs and walkways clear, not realizing that they contain chemicals that can be harmful to our pets, plants, soil, wildlife, and waters.

Historically, salt (such as rock salt) and/or sand were used as de-icers. Salt can be corrosive and harmful to plants, animals and aquatic systems. Sand, which is chemical free, can be harmful to salmon and other aquatic life when it is swept up by rain or melting snow and carried into nearby streams. Sand can clog the spaces between the gravel where salmon eggs are developing and suffocate them. Sand can also clog the gills of salmon and other fish and aquatic organisms.

If you choose to use a de-icer, use as little as possible. Remember to remove treated snow/ice with a shovel or plow before it melts. Place it in a grassy or planted area where it will infiltrate the ground.

Here are some tips to help you this winter:

- Follow label instructions carefully. More will not speed up melting.
- Apply before snow and ice accumulate.
- If it has already snowed, remove as much snow as possible before applying.
- Remove shoes/boots before entering your home.
- Block off slippery areas you don't need to use instead of applying de-icer.
- Wipe the paws of your dogs and cats after they have been outside.

For a list of safer products, visit **epa.gov/saferchoice/products#type=Deicers&sector=Business**.

Kids' CORNER

CAN YOU FIND THE STREAM TEAM RELATED WINTER WORDS?

R	A	D	W	A	S	T	E	U	H
D	N	R	E	T	A	W	E	Y	T
K	Y	A	D	I	L	O	H	P	T
Y	T	Y	I	A	P	R	H	S	A
U	I	K	I	B	W	K	A	T	T
A	L	C	H	O	I	S	C	R	I
D	A	A	G	T	N	H	A	E	B
T	U	B	W	G	T	O	P	A	A
I	Q	T	R	E	E	P	R	M	H
H	S	I	F	O	R	A	G	E	A

- EGG
- FORAGE
- HABITAT
- WATER
- TREE
- WORKSHOP
- FISH
- PET
- QUALITY
- AMPHIBIAN
- WINTER
- BACKYARD
- WASTE
- STREAM



Stream Team Events

To keep Stream Team participants safe, we may limit the number of participants and may require 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.

DECEMBER • JANUARY • FEBRUARY

Annual Bald Eagle Kayak Tour in Mud Bay

Sat., Dec. 3 • 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

See bald eagles as we explore Olympia's Mud Bay at Allison Springs! The chum salmon have finished spawning and the bald eagles are on the feeding grounds. Join Stream Team and City of Olympia's Parks, Arts, and Recreation. We will leisurely paddle Mud Bay into the mouth of McLane Creek tallying eagles along the way.

To register, call City of Olympia Parks, Arts, and Recreation at 360-753-8380 or visit **olympiawa.gov/experienceit** online: Program #10950 (Special Stream Team cost $25)

Space is limited to 15 participants. Children ages 12–16 may attend with an adult, under 18 with signed permission. Moderate walking on steep uneven ground will be required. Kayaks and safety equipment and instruction provided.

Healthy Pollinators: Back Yard Habitat Workshop

Sat., Jan. 7 • 10 a.m. – Noon

LOTT WET Science Center, 500 Adams St. NE, Olympia

Discover the importance of our native plants and pollinators, such as bees, butterflies, birds, and even bats!

See page 9 for details. To register, visit streamteam.info. For more information, contact Michelle at **mstevie@ci.olympia.wa.us**.

MLK Day of Service

Mon., Jan. 16

Woodland Creek Community Park

Join the City of Lacey and Stream Team on MLK Day of Service. Service activities include invasive species removal and restoration planting.

To register, visit streamteam.info. For more information, contact Linsey at **lfields@ci.lacey.wa.us**.

Spring is on the Way! Amphibians of the Pacific Northwest Workshop

LIFE HISTORY TALK

Sat., Jan. 28 • 10 – 11:30 a.m.

LOTT WET Science Center, 500 Adams St. NE, Olympia

EGG MASS IDENTIFICATION FIELD TRAINING TENTATIVE

Sat., Jan. 28 • Noon – 2 p.m.

Hansen Elementary, 1919 Road Sixty-Five, Olympia

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See page 5 for details. To register, visit streamteam.info. For more information, contact Michelle at **mstevie@ci.olympia.wa.us**.

AMPHIBIAN EGG MASS SURVEY DATES

Saturdays, 9 – 11 a.m.

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Feb. 11 • Pleasant Glade Pond
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Feb. 15 & Mar. 15 • 66th Oregon Spotted Frog
Feb. 8 & Mar. 8 • Hansen Storm Pond

Join Stream Team volunteers and survey this winter for amphibian egg masses! On-site field training is provided. Directions will be sent after registration and closer to the event.

Opening webinar about the interconnections and restorative properties of mycelium!

See page 5 for more details. To register, visit streamteam.info. For more information, contact Michelle at **mstevie@ci.olympia.wa.us**.

Climate Conversations: Disappearing Kelp Forests

Wed., Feb. 8 • 6 – 8 p.m.

City of Olympia Council Chambers, 601 E 4th Ave, Olympia

Join us with guest speaker Dr. Thomas Mumford, marine scientist, as we learn about kelp ecology, current conditions, climate change and other studies occurring in Puget Sound.

See page 8 for details. To register, visit streamteam.info. For more information, contact Michelle at **mstevie@ci.olympia.wa.us**.

Climate Conversations: Fungi Perfecti Presents Fungi's Magnificent Mycelium & BeeMushroomed

FUNGI'S MAGNIFICENT MYCELIUM

Wed., Jan. 18 • 6 – 7:30 p.m.

Webinar — https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85117267374?pwd=THBtOFFYQm9ZN2FjdTBueXF3c2hRZz09

BEEMUSHROOMED

Wed., Mar. 15 • 6 – 7:30 p.m.

Webinar — https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88932792005?pwd=Wnl3bktXMXJ4VTNGSFprQmtkSFdiUT09

See page 9 for details. To register for these lectures, visit **streamteam.info** and click on "register." Webinar information will be sent after registration. For more information, contact Michelle at **mstevie@ci.olympia.wa.us**.

Stream Team

EDUCATE • PROTECT • RESTORE

2000 Lakeridge Dr SW
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Olympia, WA 98502
streamteam.info

Rainy Season Online Stormwater Training

The rainy season is officially upon us. Mornings are cold and dark with fog hanging low beneath the heavy clouds. Days grow shorter and shorter...

What can you do with all this extra evening time? Take a stormwater systems inspections and maintenance training!

By springtime you could be a confident leader amongst your neighbors—knowing not only what all these ponds, catchbasins, ditches and swales are there for, BUT also how to keep them functioning in tip-top condition!

Plus, you don't have to wait until summer to practice your newly found stormwater management skills. Fall and winter is when catchbasins tend to get clogged with falling leaves, pine needles and extra sediment-laden stormwater runoff.

Don't hesitate! Rainy weather outside means extra time for online stormwater systems training inside.

Register online at **Tinyurl.com/StormwaterEdu**. It's FREE!

Want to find out if your neighborhood is responsible for maintaining its stormwater system?

Contact the stormwater inspector for the county or city in which you live.

Thurston County:
Jim Leamy, **Jim.Leamy@co.thurston.wa.us**

City of Lacey:
Royce Young, **RoYoung@ci.lacey.wa.us**

City of Olympia:
Kane Osstifin, **KOsstifi@ci.olympia.wa.us**

City of Tumwater:
Matthew Joseph, **MJoseph@ci.tumwater.wa.us**

Our Online Stormwater Systems Inspections & Maintenance Training Includes:

- Best practices for stormwater systems inspections & maintenance.
- How, when, and where to submit stormwater inspections forms.
- Stormwater systems maintenance budget planning.
- Low Impact Development (LID) overview and tips.
- Real-world examples.
- Important contact info & more!

No Holiday Tree Program

The holiday tree program will no longer be offered.