



Conservation Planning • Habitat Restoration • Education & Outreach • Soils Analysis • Native Plants • Clear Choices For Clean Water

February 20, 2015

Dear Friends in Conservation:

On behalf of the Board of Supervisors and staff members of Thurston Conservation District, we invite you to attend a conservation project tour we will host on Wednesday, March 18, 2015. The purpose of the tour is to showcase a cross-section of conservation projects we have undertaken right here in the seat of our State Capitol.

Tour highlights will include:

- Visit to **Colvin Ranch**, to view a **rotational prairie-based grazing system** that showcases how agricultural management is capable of promoting sustainable habitat conservation.
- Visit **Nisqually Farm**, to view newly implemented **rain gardens**, and discuss **stormwater management** and our efforts to support water quality and **shellfish production in South Puget Sound**. At this tour stop we will also feature **locally sourced beverages and shellfish sampling provided by Henderson Inlet Community Shellfish Farm!**
- Our last tour stop will be the **Allison Springs Estuary Restoration Project**, which showcases **Lead Entity for Salmon Recovery** partnerships and salmon recovery funding that have been locally managed and implemented to bring habitat function, beauty, and salmon back to this estuary. We will also hear program updates from **South Sound GREEN**, who works with many of these partners to provide students with the knowledge and skills to act as stewards of our local watersheds.
- Dinner hosted by **Eastside Urban Farm & Garden**. We are fortunate to have **Vern's Farm & Food** provide a freshly prepared dinner that continues to build on our discussions of local foods, by serving delicious dishes **sourced from a mix of local farms and producers**. Please click [here](#) for a **link to the dinner menu!**

A large charter bus will begin the tour promptly at 12:30pm at Best Western Plus Lacey Inn & Suites (8326 Quinault Drive Northeast, Lacey, WA 98516). After the tour, the bus will take tour participants **directly** to dinner. **If you cannot join us for the tour, you can still meet us for dinner at 5:45pm.** Dinner cost is \$28.00 per person and will be paid at time of dinner via RSVP with Lori Gonzalez (see below). Checks need to be made payable to Conservation Commission.

You can expect unpredictable weather in March. We do not anticipate much walking, but there will be some standing around in the cold, so warm clothes and good footwear are highly recommended.

If you would like to attend the tour and/or interaction dinner, please RSVP to Lori Gonzalez at the Conservation Commission no later than March 9 by clicking this link:

<https://adobeformscentral.com/?f=Zi3mJl19ok9EcGQATeuXGA>