

WATERSHED WISE

MASON CONSERVATION DISTRICT

2018 Special Plant Sale Issue



Volunteer Alexa Jones planting Red Flowering Currant at Orca Recovery Day

Puget Sound Orca Recovery Day

On November 10th, Capitol Land Trust and Mason Conservation District joined forces to host Orca Recovery Day at Bayshore Preserve in Shelton. In response to the tragic death of the baby orca in July, Allan Warren, from Pierce Conservation District, gathered support and organized Puget Sound Orca Recovery Day 2018 during which 10 conservation districts hosted restoration events.

At our own Bayshore Preserve we saw a wonderful demonstration of the local community's commitment and interest in conservation and restoration. Thanks to our 40 volunteers (of all ages) we were able to come together and plant 250 potted native plants which included Snowberry, Nootka Rose, Red Flowering Currant, Oregon Ash, Oceanspray and a 5-gallon bucket of Oregon Oak acorns along Johns Creek that flows into Oakland Bay.

This lovely Saturday not only consisted of planting, but of education! Giovanni Galarza, a senior at Evergreen State College studying Marine Biology came out to give a talk about the current state of the Southern Resident Orca population. We were also extremely lucky to be joined by Emma Welty and Heather Hamilton from the Salmon Center who gave a presentation all about salmon and led a fun interactive activity that really got across the salmon lifecycle and how river conditions affect survival. The speakers were excellent additions that eloquently illustrated how the work we were doing connected to the goal.

All in all the day was a great success where the community was able to come together and take part in an effort to aid the recovery of the resident orca population and to do that, you have to start at the root.



Trading Bulkheads for Garden Beds!



Before: Failing concrete bulkhead

After: Shore Friendly bank restoration

Karin Streliaff, our landscape designer/shoreline program coordinator, and Katrinka Hibler, District Engineer, have been quite busy lately with an exciting project. Another bulkhead removal was made possible with funding support from the Washington State Conservation Commission's Natural Resource Investment Funds and the EPA and WA Department of Fish and Wildlife. This project came to fruition as a result of Mason CD's popular "Shore Friendly" program that supports waterfront homeowners as they implement stewardship projects that benefit Puget Sound marine shorelines.

The recent bulkhead removal allowed these Case Inlet homeowners to restore their shoreline for wildlife and for better beach access. While they could have simply replaced their failing bulkhead with another concrete wall, they chose instead to think about the bigger picture and to consider how their shoreline can better support the health of Puget Sound. With this vision in mind, they chose to return their waterfront to a more natural state. This project is notable because the amount of time, effort, collaboration and passion can be clearly seen as the project nears its finishing stages.

Mason CD's Shore Friendly program provided the specialized professional support necessary to help these homeowners achieve their long-held vision - from design and engineering to permitting, construction oversight, and even planting! By removing 100 linear feet of failing concrete bulkhead, an old boat ramp, and dump trucks of fill from behind the former bulkhead, the shoreline can begin to function naturally once again. The bank along the beach was re-sloped and stabilized with large logs and vegetation. A new beach with fine sediment is quickly forming where there was once just cobble in front of a concrete wall burying the beach. Natural movement of the tides and sediment will resume, supporting the development of new nearshore habitat over the coming weeks. This project is designed to reestablish the natural food web critical to countless important species that make up the lower levels of the food chain - particularly forage fish called "surf smelt" that now have space to spawn on this shoreline. These small fish provide essential food for shorebirds and migrating salmon, and thus for our endangered resident orca whales as well!

Part of the excitement of this project was the dedication of the homeowners to make big changes on their property that directly benefit the shoreline ecosystem. Before they removed the bulkhead they relocated their old septic drain field away from the beach. Given the amount of time and effort put into the project, some might ask "why bother?" If they are unfamiliar with the negative impacts of bulkheads. Projects like this bulkhead removal open the opportunity for teaching and learning for the homeowners and their community. Many bulkheads installed along shoreline properties are not necessary. They can create a myriad of problems and limitations for wildlife such as the bulkhead did at this property by covering the beach and reducing space for habitat and fish spawning. It is no secret that important Puget Sound species such as salmon and resident orcas are in decline due to the lack of food sources and habitat - unnecessary bulkheads are a big part of that problem. While the project offers big benefits to the Case Inlet ecosystem, it is also an example for friends, neighbors and other shoreline owners who can see changes that provide benefits to both the homeowners and the ecosystem. This amazing project serves not only as a direct action by the homeowners, but as an example for others who might be able to do the same.

HEALTHY SOIL STARTS AT THE ROOT

Did You Know?

- ❁ 1 tablespoon of soil has more organisms living in it than the entire human population
- ❁ All trees & most plant species form symbiotic relationships with soil micro-organisms to obtain nutrients, water and protection from disease
- ❁ Pesticides and fertilizers kill soil microbes and decrease soil health which retains less water, less carbon and destroys soil structure

What Can You Do?

- ❁ **Trade your lawn for native diversity!**
Diverse plant life cultivates diverse soil life & native plants feed native soil microbes. Unlike lawns, native plants don't require pesticides, fertilizers, mowing and maintenance which means healthier happier soil microbes which means healthier happier plants.
- ❁ **Plant species that build deep & extensive root networks**
Roots stabilize soil as well as loosen compacted soil, allowing better water infiltration and retention.
- ❁ **Don't leave soil naked!**
Exposed soil erodes and doesn't cultivate soil microbes. Plant ground cover that will spread to cover any bare soil.
- ❁ **Choose plant species that feed the soil**
Plants that drop leaves, needles and fruit increase the layer of organic matter in the soil. Three cheers for decomposition!



Red Alder

(*Alnus rubra*)

Regenerates disturbed & nutrient-poor soils



Nootka Rose

(*Rosa nutkana*)

Stabilizes soil & builds organic matter



Kinnikinnick

(*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*)

Excellent ground cover



Red Osier Dogwood

(*Cornus sericea*)

Erosion control & builds large root networks

Plant Sale Talks:

Landscaping with Native Plants

Date: December 11, 2018

Time: 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

Location: Shelton Timberland Library,
710 W Alder Street, Shelton, WA, 98584-2571

Cost: Free

Planting for Pollinators

Date: February 15, 2019

Time: 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

Location: North Mason Timberland Library,
23081 NE State Route 3, Belfair, WA 98528

Cost: Free

If you are interested in these events, please **pre-register** by contacting **Anderson Spratt** at mcdamericorps@masoncd.org or 360-427-9436 ext. 103.



MASON CONSERVATION DISTRICT 2018 PLANT SALE

Order online at www.masoncd.org

| Number of Bundles | Plant Species | Plant Size | Price Per Bundle | Amount |
|-------------------------|--|------------------|-------------------------|--------|
| | Evergreen Tree | | | |
| | Douglas-fir | 12" Plug | 5 Trees for \$10.05 | |
| | Grand Fir | 12" Bare Root | 5 Trees for \$4.75 | |
| | Shore Pine | 12" Bare Root | 5 Trees for \$5.60 | |
| | Sitka Spruce | 12" Bare Root | 5 Trees for \$7.20 | |
| | Western Red Cedar | 12" Plug | 5 Trees for \$10.60 | |
| | Deciduous Tree | | | |
| | Big Leaf Maple | 18-36" Bare Root | 5 Trees for \$13.70 | |
| | Pacific Crabapple | 12-18" Bare Root | 5 Trees for \$12.70 | |
| | Red Alder | 12" Bare Root | 5 Trees for \$11.15 | |
| | Shrub & Herbaceous Perennials | | | |
| | American Cranberry | 12" Bare Root | 5 Shrubs for \$14.15 | |
| | Mock Orange | 12" Bare Root | 5 Shrubs for \$12.75 | |
| | Nootka Rose | 12" Bare Root | 5 Shrubs for \$12.35 | |
| | Oceanspray | 12-18" Bare Root | 5 Shrubs for \$12.85 | |
| | Pacific Ninebark | 12" Bare Root | 5 Shrubs for \$9.25 | |
| | Red Flowering Currant | 12" Bare Root | 5 Shrubs for \$9.25 | |
| | Red Osier Dogwood | 12-18" Bare Root | 5 Shrubs for \$10.45 | |
| | Serviceberry | 12" Bare Root | 5 Shrubs for \$12.10 | |
| | Snowberry | 12" Bare Root | 5 Shrubs for \$10.60 | |
| | Sweet Gale | 6-12" Bare Root | 5 Shrubs for \$15.65 | |
| | Tall Oregon Grape | 12" Bare Root | 5 Shrubs for \$12.75 | |
| | Vine Maple | 12-18" Bare Root | 5 Shrubs for \$13.70 | |
| Number of Plants | Potted Plant | | Price Per Plant | |
| | Beargrass | 4" pot | 1 Plant for \$3.70 | |
| | Common Camas | 4" pot | 1 Plant for \$3.70 | |
| | Lady Fern | 4" pot | 1 Plant for \$3.00 | |
| | Evergreen Huckleberry | 4" pot | 1 Plant for \$3.70 | |
| | Kinnikinnick | 4" pot | 1 Plant for \$2.85 | |
| | Pacific Rhododendron | 4" pot | 1 Plant for \$3.70 | |
| Number of Packs | Perennial Flower Packs | | Price Per Packet | |
| | Perennial Flower Pack | 12 Plants | 1 Pack for \$17.05 | |
| | | | TOTAL | |








































































































Plants are sold on a first-come, first-served basis. Quantities are limited and some species always sell out so please order early. Several species of native plants not listed are available for special order. Call for availability and pricing. You can use the above table to plan out your order before going on-line to: www.masoncd.org

Orders accepted through Friday, February 1st.

Pick up your order Friday, February 22nd, between 10 AM & 5 PM or Saturday, February 23rd between 10 AM & 2 PM at the Mason Conservation District office at **450 W Business Park Road, Shelton, WA 98584**. If you have any questions please call (360) 427-9436, Ext. 113 or (800) 527-9436, Ext. 113.

Mail in Orders

If you would like to order through the mail, please contact Jen Thurman-Williams at 360-427-9436, ext. 113 to receive a paper copy order form.

| COMMON NAME GENUS SPECIES | HEIGHT | CLASSIFICATIONS | Habitat and Growth Characteristics. Typical Uses and Description. |
|---|----------|---|---|
| EVERGREEN TREES | | | |
| Douglas-fir <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i> | 250' |    | Important food source for chickadees, finches, and Douglas squirrel. Grows best in full sun to part shade on well-drained soil. |
| Grand Fir <i>Abies grandis</i> | 250' |    | Glossy, dark green to bright green needles. Grows in dry to moist conditions and is a shade tolerant species. |
| Shore Pine <i>Pinus contorta</i> | 200' |    | Fast growing tree with bluish-green foliage and drooping branches. It grows well in moist, well drained soils. |
| Sitka Spruce <i>Picea sitchensis</i> | 200' |   | Fast growing evergreen. Short, thin needles are prickly to the touch and bluish-green in color. Grows best in full sun on moist, well-drained sites. |
| Western Red Cedar <i>Thuja plicata</i> | 150' |    | Lustrous dark green foliage. May be planted under existing canopies on moist sites. Vigorously growing, ornamental tree. |
| DECIDUOUS TREES | | | |
| Big Leaf Maple <i>Acer macrophyllum</i> | 95' |    | Bright yellow fall color. Fast growing shade tree that grows well in dry to moist sites. |
| Pacific Crabapple <i>Malus fusca</i> | 30' |    | Clusters of white, fragrant blossoms appear in spring, followed by bunches of small edible apples. Prefers moist soils. |
| Red Alder <i>Alnus rubra</i> | 120' |    | Fast growing, adaptable deciduous tree, stabilizing disturbed soils & re-vegetating nutrient-poor soils. Provides wildlife habitat. Full sun to partial shade. |
| SHRUBS & HERBACEOUS PERENNIALS | | | |
| American Cranberry <i>Viburnum opulus</i> | 10-15' |      | White flower clusters appear in late spring followed by red foliage in autumn with scarlet edible berries. Full sun to part shade in moist, well drained soil. |
| Mock Orange <i>Philadelphus lewisii</i> | 10' |     | Fragrant, white 2" flowers. Arching green branches, which retain foliage. Highly adaptable, grows in most locations. |
| Nootka Rose <i>Rosa nutkana</i> | 3-8' |      | Clusters of large 2" pink flowers & red fruit. Grows well in most areas. Good for erosion control & wildlife habitat. |
| Oceanspray <i>Holodiscus discolor</i> | 10' |    | Deciduous shrub, adaptable, well suited to rocky, dry slopes. Matting roots excellent for soil stabilization. Attractive cream colored flower clusters in spring. |
| Pacific Ninebark <i>Physocarpus capitatus</i> | 12' |      | Arching branches hold small white flower clusters. Prefers wet, somewhat open sites. |
| Red Flowering Currant <i>Ribes sanguineum</i> | 3-10' |      | Hummingbirds are attracted to the pale pink to deep red flowers blooming March - June. Grows in clearings and open forest areas that remain dry. |
| Red Osier Dogwood <i>Cornus sericea</i> | 15' |     | Red winter branches. Large white flowers. Grows best in moist areas. Good for erosion control. Excellent food & cover for wildlife. |
| Serviceberry <i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i> | 6-20' |      | Large, showy white flower clusters adorn this multi-stemmed shrub. Leaves turn bright yellow in fall, prefers dry soil conditions |
| Snowberry <i>Symphoricarpos albus</i> | 5-10' |      | Bright white berries are ornamental after the leaves drop. Good in partial shade and moist locations. Excellent for erosion control. Drought tolerant. |
| Sweet Gale <i>Myrica gale</i> | 2-6' |   | Low-growing, deciduous shrub with glossy, dark-green to grayish foliage. The long leaves are sweet-scented and is a traditional insect repellent. Salt tolerant |
| Tall Oregon Grape <i>Mahonia aquifolium</i> | 3-15' |      | Yellow flower in spring, purple berries in late summer, reddish green leaves in fall and winter, grows in moist to dry conditions in full sun to partial shade |
| Vine Maple <i>Acer circinatum</i> | 15-25' |     | Grows in full sun to shady areas on dry to moist sites. Provides good forage for wildlife and attracts butterflies. Great fall color. |
| INDIVIDUAL POTTED PLANTS | | | |
| Beargrass <i>Xerophyllum tenax</i> | 3-6' |    | Perennial, evergreen herb from the lily family. A fountain of tough green grass-like foliage with a tall stalked, fragrant flower cluster. |
| Common Camas <i>Camassia quamash</i> | 12-18" |    | Perennial herb that grows from a bulb, with attractive purple spring flowers, prefers wet soil in full to partial shade |
| Lady Fern <i>Athyrium filix-femina</i> | 1-2' |    | A very adaptable and fast growing fern. Excellent for planting on wooded slopes to stabilize soil & prevent erosion |
| Evergreen Huckleberry <i>Vaccinium ovatum</i> | 6-8' |      | Ornamental shrub with pink, bell-shaped flowers and blue edible berries. Has excellent soil binding, erosion control capabilities. Prefers partial shade. |
| Kinnikinnick <i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i> | 8-12" |      | Ground cover. Evergreen leaves with pinkish flowers and bright red fall berries. Grows in sandy soil in filtered shade to full sun. |
| Pacific Rhododendron <i>Rhododendron macrophyllum</i> | 12' |     | Large bell shaped flowers bloom on this evergreen native in late spring. Grows in moist to dry openings or on forest margins. |
| PERENNIAL FLOWER PACKAGE | | | |
| Perennial Flower Package: Sea Thrift, Yarrow, Nodding Onion, Coastal Strawberry | 6" - 18" |      | Pollinator pack includes a beautiful array of plants that will bloom across spring, summer, and fall to provide habitat for pollinators throughout the year. |

LEGEND:

Full sun  Partial shade  Shade  Evergreen  Deciduous  Flowers  Edible Fruit 



Plant Sale Reminders:

Plants are sold in bundles of FIVE except for pots.

Online ordering opens December, 1. Place orders by February 1st, 2019.

View, Order and Pay for plants **Online** using your credit card through our website **www.masoncd.org**.

Pick Up: Friday, February 22nd, 10AM to 5PM or Saturday, February 23rd, 10AM to 2PM at the District office.

For questions about the native plant sale please call Jen at (360) 427-9436, Ext. 113 or (800) 527-9436, Ext. 113.

New Faces at Mason Conservation District



Ryan Williams is the new Habitat Program Coordinator for Mason Conservation District. He comes from Snohomish Conservation District after 12 years working on Habitat Restoration projects and program management. A graduate of the University of Washington, he holds additional certifications in Restoration Ecology, Stream and River Restoration, Wetland Science Management and is a Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioner. He is also a member of Class 40 of the Washington Agriculture and Forestry Leadership Program. He hopes to bring his expertise to Mason County to help its residents. He will be coordinating the CREP program, Knotweed Control and other habitat restoration projects.



Anderson Spratt is the new AmeriCorps Environmental Outreach Coordinator who grew up in Northern New Jersey on the Delaware Water Gap. She spent the last two years living in Northern Vermont attending Sterling College studying Agroecology and working on a draft-powered integrated production and educational farm. Her background is in biology, ecology, agriculture and systems thinking. She's interested in sharing passion and excitement for the natural world with other people through hands on learning and applicable sciences. She is excited to learn about the different ways conservation efforts interact with the community.

District Board of Supervisors: David Mackey, Jason Ragan, Myron Ougendal and Larry Boltz

MCD Staff

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Evan Bauder - Habitat Program Manager
John Bolender - District Manager
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Katrinka Hibler - District Engineer
Justin Leigh - Habitat Restoration Crew Member
Marissa Newby - Habitat Restoration Crew Member
Matt Phillips - Engineering Technician

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Anderson Spratt - Environmental Outreach Coordinator
Karin Strelloff - Environmental Specialist, MLA
Rodney Tennison - Engineering Technician Lead
Jen Thurman-Williams - Environmental Specialist
Ryan Williams - Habitat Restoration Coordinator