

Upcoming Events

Important notice

2013 Membership Dues

We depend 100% on membership donations to help us continue our work in Pierce County.

If you have not yet paid your 2013 dues (collected in January) please send them in today.

You will not be receiving letter notifications due to funding cuts on our mailing budget.

Please consider this your 2013 notice.

Thank you for your continued support.

Inside this issue:

Thanks to our supporters:

Margot LeRoy
Albert Hurst
Rose Borrowman
Brian Sullivan
Ione Clagett
Bill Nerin
Liz Lathrop
Katharine Rode
Nellie Batker
Nancy Henderson

You make a difference!

Prime farmland for Sale *by Hilary Aten, PCC Farmland Trust*

Currently, PCC Farmland Trust is concentrating its farmland conservation efforts on preservation of a 95 acre farm in the Puyallup Valley. Sturgeon Farm, currently at high risk of development, and adjacent to the Orting Valley Farms project (conserved in 2010).

We are actively seeking a buyer/farmer to purchase this land and we would very much appreciate your assistance in helping to spread the word far and wide! This property is competitively priced based on appraised value and will be subject to an organic agricultural easement. ***PCC is currently accepting offers for purchase of the Sturgeon Farm. All offers will be considered and must be submitted by June 30th, 2013.***

Nestled in the fertile Puyallup River Valley in Western Washington, Sturgeon Farm was operated as a dairy until the late 90's and the property has been hayed for the past 5-6 years. Consisting of 95 acres in total, this property is perfectly suited for row crop and/or livestock production. With an estimated 70 acres of tillable ground, 20 acres of pasture, 5 acres total of forested upland slope, and in a location with excellent market

access there is incredible opportunity for a widely diverse operation of your making! Also included with the property are numerous farm buildings as well as perimeter fencing, ample water rights, and one home site for a new build.

The asking price for the farm is a firm \$620,000 and is based on a current appraisal. Farmers interested in purchasing the property must submit a formal offer to PCC Farmland Trust, including a current business plan and demonstration of financing pre-approval from an agricultural lender by June 30th. Currently listed at appraised value, only full offers for the entire 95 acres will be entertained.

Photos: PCC Farmland Trust

Property Details

Price: \$620,000 Firm

Acres: 95 total (70 tillable, 20 pasture, 5 forested upland and infrastructure)

Property Type: Prime farmland

Buildings: Hay barn, milking parlor, loafing shed, machine shop, tractor storage, and home site for rebuild.

Location: 20511 Orville Rd. E. Orting, WA 98360



Sturgeon Farm: Interested buyers may not enter the property without PCC Farmland Trust staff

**More information?
Contact Hilary Aten**

**PCC Farmland
Trust (206) 547-9855**



Vision

Communities will strive to utilize all planning strategies that balance the elements of environment, equity, and economics.

Board of Directors

President: *Connie Sue Martin*

Vice Pres.: *Larry Johnson*

Treasurer: *Carmela Micheli*

Secretary: *Joyce Huseby*

Position 5: *William Rehberg*

Position 6: *Patricia Drake*

Please consider joining us on the board, we would love your input!

Go to our website for application.

For information, contact:

Marian Berejikian

Executive Director

(253) 851-9524

Website:

www.FriendsofPierceCounty.org

Email: FOPC@comcast.net

Mailing address:

P. O. Box 2084

Gig Harbor, WA 98335-2084

Friends of Pierce County is a 501 (c) 3 organization.

Membership fees and donations are tax deductible.

Tree and Human Health May Be Linked *from Science Daily*

For Geoffrey Donovan, a research forester at the Forest Service's Pacific Northwest Research Station, and his colleagues, the loss of 100 million trees in the eastern and midwestern United States was an unprecedented opportunity to study the impact of a major change in the natural environment on human health.

In an analysis of 18 years of data from 1,296 counties in 15 states, researchers found that Americans living in areas infested by the emerald ash borer, a beetle that kills ash trees, suffered from an additional 15,000 deaths from cardiovascular disease and 6,000 more deaths from lower respiratory disease when compared to uninfested areas. When emerald ash borer comes into a community, city streets lined with ash trees become treeless.

The researchers analyzed demographic, human mortality, and forest health data at the county level between 1990 and 2007. The data came from counties in states with at least one confirmed case of the emerald ash borer in 2010. The findings - which hold true after accounting for the influence of demographic differences, like income, race, and education -- are published in the current issue of the American Journal of Preventive Medicine

The data came from counties in states with at least one confirmed case of the emerald ash borer in 2010. The findings -- which hold true after accounting for the influence of demographic differences, like income, "There's a natural tendency to see our findings and conclude that, surely, the higher mortality rates are because of some confounding variable, like income or education, and not the loss of trees," said Donovan. "But we saw the same pattern repeated over and over in counties with very different demographic makeups."

Although the study shows the association between loss of trees and human mortality from cardiovascular and lower respiratory disease, it did not prove a causal link. The reason for the association is yet to be determined.

The emerald ash borer was first discovered near Detroit, Michigan, in 2002. The borer attacks all 22 species of North American ash and kills virtually all of the trees it infests.

The study was conducted in collaboration with David Butry, with the National Institute of Standards and Technology; Yvonne Michael, with Drexel University; and Jeffrey Prestemon, Andrew Liebhold, Demetrios Gatzliolis, and Megan Mao, with the Forest Service's Southern, Northern, and Pacific Northwest Research Stations.

Source: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/>

Earth Day Events

City and County Parks recreation departments throughout Pierce County will be celebrating Parks Appreciation Day (around Earth Day). On Saturday, April 20th from 9 am to noon at several park locations. Check your local jurisdiction and parks department websites.

One location that could use Friends of Pierce County members to help is the Chambers Creek Regional Park in University Place. Volunteers that show up on site that day can help with invasive plant removal and litter clean up along the beach.

What a great way to spend an early Spring day. On the beach with some friends helping the community.

For projects in Gig Harbor area, check out this source from the Pen Met Parks Page: www.EnviroCorps.org.



Friends celebrating ten years as a non-profit

In February 2003, Friends of Pierce County became a non-profit organization. Over the last 10 years, we have strived to educate adults and children on how to be better environmental stewards.

Instead of words, we will let the pictures do the talking. So enjoy this trip down memory lane and help us with another ten years of your continued support. Thank you to all our Friends!



Join FPC today!

As a member, you will receive newsletters and email updates informing you of county-wide planning, development and environmental issues.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Email: _____

____ Enclosed is \$35 for my annual membership dues.

____ Enclosed is a donation for \$_____.

I am interested in helping with the following:

____ Environmental

____ Education and Outreach

____ Fundraising

____ Membership

____ Communications

____ Budget/Finance

Non-profit org
U.S. Postage Paid
Tacoma, WA
Permit No. 1347

P. O. Box 2084
Gig Harbor, WA 98335

