



# JEFFERSON COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

## 2008 TREE AND SHRUB SALE

*Plant Trees for Wildlife and Conservation*

WINTER  
2008  
EDITION

The seventeenth annual Jefferson County Conservation District tree sale is set for **Saturday, March 1, 2007** at the Shold Business Park on the corner of Rhody Drive and West Patison Street in Port Hadlock, from 9 a.m. until Noon.

Sale information and the order form are included in this newsletter, and are also available on our new website [www.jeffersoncd.org](http://www.jeffersoncd.org). To make certain you get the trees you want, be sure to order your trees early. *Keep in mind the district cannot guarantee that every species will be available.* If a species is unobtainable, we will issue refunds or work with you to exchange for another species.

The plants we offer are selected primarily for their value in resource conservation and/or wildlife habitat enhancement. This year we are offering a larger variety of trees and shrubs, both deciduous and evergreen, that can help you meet native landscaping needs, provide erosion control, and provide food, shade and shelter for birds and other animals. **New this year are:** *Ocean Spray, Sword Fern, Kinnikinnick, and Bunchberry.*

**Trees available are:** *Quaking Aspen, Big Leaf Maple, Vine Maple, Pacific Crabapple, Bitter Cherry, Western White Pine, Grand Fir, Shore Pine, Noble Fir, Sitka Spruce, Western Redcedar, Western Hemlock and Douglas Fir.*

**Species good for wildlife food and shelter are:** *Red Flowering Currant, Vine Maple, Oregon Grape, Evergreen Huckleberry, Salal, Red Osier Dogwood, Twinberry, Snowberry, Ninebark, Cascara, Nootka Rose,*

*and Mock Orange.*

**Please have your order in no later than Friday, February 15, 2007. Please include payment with your order.** Unfortunately we cannot accept credit cards.

Excess trees will be available for purchase on sale day, but they do go fast. We recommend you pre-order to insure you get the trees you want!

For those of you who do pre-order, expect to receive your order conformation postcard approximately one week prior to the sale. To help track order pickups **please bring your postcard with you when you pick up your order.**

Staff from the Conservation District, the Dept. of Natural Resources regional office, and Master Gardener volunteers will be here to answer your planting questions. Our goal is to see your new seedlings get off to a great start!

**We hope to see you March 1st!**



*Douglas Fir Image courtesy of Audrey Miles Cherney, Rosehip Studio*

### District Website Coming Soon

**Download the Plant Sale Order Form from our new website!** This year the District has secured funding from the Conservation Commission to launch a website. The staff has been working with a web designer to create a template for the website. At the time of publication the template design was nearly finished, and then we will be adding content. The site should be up and running by mid to late January.

In addition to the Plant Sale Order form, there will be in-depth info on each plant we sell. Find out how tall each species gets, what kind of soils it prefers, and where you should plant them. As the website grows it will also have reports, meeting minutes, information on workshops, programs we offer, and other information.

Please send comments regarding the website to our webmaster: [luke@jeffersoncd.org](mailto:luke@jeffersoncd.org)

[www.jeffersoncd.org](http://www.jeffersoncd.org)



**"Election" continued from page 1...**

over nineteen years and he continues to work with his family at their dairy in Center Valley.

If you would like more information about the application for appointments, elections or are interested in becoming an associate supervisor, contact the district office at 385-4105, or contact the Conservation Commission in Olympia at 360-407-6200.

*"The function of the Jefferson County Conservation District is to take available technical, financial and educational resources – whatever their source – and focus or coordinate them to meet the needs of the local land user."*

#### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Lige Christian.....732-7035  
 Julie Boggs, .....732-4335  
 John Boulton, Vice-Chair.....765-3394  
 Glen Huntingford, Chair.....732-4658  
 Roger Short, member.....732-4601

#### Associate Supervisors

Dennis Shultz.....379-0338

#### District Staff

Al Latham—Manager/Resource Technician  
 Glenn Gately—Water Quality Technician  
 Luke Cherney—CREP Planner/Web Master  
 Rosie Taylor—Administrative Assistant  
 Elaine Richman — WCC Intern

#### NRCS Resource Conservationist

Jim Poffel—360-452-1912, ext. 3

*Jefferson County Conservation District office hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The office is located in the Shold Business Park, (just off Rhody Dr.) in Port Hadlock. Contact us at the address above or:*

*360-385-4105*

[www.jeffersoncd.org](http://www.jeffersoncd.org)

[info@jeffersoncd.org](mailto:info@jeffersoncd.org)

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### DISTRICT WILL HOLD ELECTION IN MARCH

Jefferson County Conservation District will hold their annual election for a supervisor position on Wednesday, March 5, 2008. The election will be held from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. in the Shold Business Park in Port Hadlock at 205 W. Patison Street.

To be eligible for office, you must be a registered voter living inside the district boundary. This includes all land outside of the city limits of Port Townsend in eastern Jefferson County. Residents of Port Townsend are eligible to vote *only if they own land outside the city limits.*

There are five Conservation District board members who serve three-year terms. Three of the five Conservation District supervisors are

locally elected, and the Washington State Conservation Commission appoints two. Any landowner within the district boundary who is interested in conservation is eligible to apply for appointment or run for election. It is preferable that candidates have a good understanding of the goals and operations of the Conservation District.

The incumbent for the elected position this year is Julie Boggs. Julie, along with her husband Chuck, operate a small Angus beef operation in the Chimacum Valley. Julie has been a supervisor for six years.

Additionally, the appointed position currently held by Glen Huntingford will expire this spring. Glen has been a supervisor for

*(Continued on page 4)*

## WELCOME ELAINE RICHMAN, 6TH ROUND CONSERVATION CORPS INTERN

Every year, the JCCD and NOSC hire an intern through the Washington Conservation Corps. This is a program that provides its employees with job skills and contacts in the field of environmental conservation and, upon completion of a year of service, a scholarship to be used for further education.

In October, the JCCD welcomed the newest WCC intern, Elaine Richman. Elaine graduated from the University of California, San Diego with a bachelor's degree in Ecology and Evolution. She then served her first Americorps term with the Port Townsend Marine Science Center, working as an environmental educator and coordinating the center's Citizen Science Program. She is excited to be working with the JCCD in order to learn more about freshwater ecology and the process of habitat restoration.

Elaine's primary responsibilities with the JCCD will be assisting Glenn Gately with water quality monitoring on Chimacum and Salmon Creeks. She will also be helping with the local tree sale, water quality data entry and analysis, and educational activities. As her time this year will be shared with NOSC, additional projects include salmon spawning surveys, habitat restoration, and invasive weed control.

After completing her WCC year of service with the JCCD and NOSC, Elaine plans to apply to graduate school

*Elaine Richman, (right) Washington Conservation Corps Intern, is beginning her second year internship, dividing her time between the Conservation District and the North Olympic Salmon Coalition. The Americorps Internship program has been a valuable addition to the district's water quality monitoring efforts. Interns assist in monitoring and data entry, while learning important skills and on-the-job training.*



and obtain a master's degree in ocean sciences. She'd like to be involved in research concerning phytoplankton ecology and harmful algal blooms. This year will help her reach these goals by providing opportunities to gain practical experience in the field techniques and planning process of environmental monitoring.

Elaine is looking forward to this year, not only for the practical work skills and experiences it will provide, but also for the great people she will get to work with, both staff and volunteers, and for the opportunity to help conserve a place as biologically, geologically and culturally special as this corner of Jefferson County.

## PRE-PLANT SALE PLANNING WORKSHOP SCHEDULED



The Jefferson County Conservation District's annual native plant sale is coming soon! There are many species of plants to choose from and you may wonder which will do best in your landscape. To help you decide which plants are right for your situation, WSU Cooperative Extension, Jefferson County Conservation District, and the North Olympic Salmon Coalition will host a **Pre - Plant Sale Planning Workshop**. They'll have local experts on hand to help you identify which plants will thrive in and beautify your landscape as well as improve habitat on your property.

### Here's what you'll learn:

- How to identify native plants currently on your property
- Which plants are "salmon friendly"
- Which plants are drought tolerant and which like it wet



- Which plants are salt tolerant
- Which are best for slope stabilization
- How to propagate your own native seeds
- How best to prepare your soil prior to planting
- How to maintain your natives to keep them healthy and looking their best

If you've been thinking about incorporating native plants in your landscape, but haven't known where to start -- or even if you already have a yard full of natives and simply want to plant more, this is a great opportunity for you!!

**When:** Wednesday, January 30th from 9am-1pm  
**Where:** Spruce Room at WSU Extension (201 W. Patison, Port Hadlock)  
**There is no cost to attend. Please pre-register by calling 360-379-5610 ext. 200.**

## Salmon Creek's New Channel Shows Improvement

*By Glenn Gately, Water Quality Technician*

Four years after water first flowed through Salmon Creek's re-meandered channel, its gravel substrate appears to have improved. The new channel, engineered and excavated by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is located in lower Salmon Creek. Lower Salmon Creek is the historic spawning ground of summer chum, a species that declined in the 1980's and is now listed as "threatened" under the Endangered Species Act. To protect and improve summer chum habitat, WDFW purchased property on lower Salmon Creek and in 2003 constructed a new channel complete with meanders. The following year, large woody debris was placed in the channel and trees were planted along its banks. In 2006, additional trees were planted through the District's Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program.

Unlike coho, which spend a year in the stream before migrating to salt water, chum head to sea immediately upon emerging from the gravel. About 90% of the juvenile chum's time in freshwater is spent within the gravel and therefore its survival is highly dependent upon the quality of the gravel substrate. Good quality substrate has plenty of pore space (and minimum "fines") allowing oxygenated-water from the surface to reach the developing eggs.

When Salmon Creek's new channel was constructed, it was anticipated that it would take a while for the "fines," resulting from the new construction, to be flushed out. It was unknown just how long this would take.

Fortunately, the District began monitoring intragravel dissolved oxygen in lower Salmon Creek before the new channel was constructed. We have 3 years baseline data to compare the new channel to. When we started monitoring the new channel, we also monitored a control section immediately upstream of the new channel. We now have 4 years of data for this comparison.

Both comparisons are shown in the figure below. The unit of comparison shown in the figure is the ratio (expressed as a percentage) of the oxygen in the gravel water to the oxygen in the surface water above the gravel. Prior to construction of the new channel, the ratio of oxygen in gravel water to that in surface water was 58-73 %. In 2004, the first year that water flowed in the new channel, the gravel water/surface water ratio in the new channel was 22 %, compared to 73 % in the control reach. Conditions have improved since then until the present year when the ratio for the new channel reached 69 %, about the same as the 68 % observed for the control reach and within the 58-73 % range occurring prior to channel construction.

