



Great Peninsula Conservancy

Fall 2009

Protecting our lands and waters for generations to come

Clear Creek Trail Receives Grant from Birkenfeld Trust

and how supportive the Silverdale Community is of this project”, she said at the time. “Here we are sitting at a picnic table along the boardwalk enjoying the sunshine. We just saw an eagle fly over, river otter fishing in the ponds and all around sounds of the creek and the sweet scent of spring. It’s hard to believe we’re just a block away from Kitsap Mall.”

Creek. Slated for construction this fall, the bridge will provide a perfect vantage for salmon viewing and a place for “Salmon in the Classroom” school groups to release salmon fry. Engineering students from Olympic College are assisting with design, permitting, and construction of the new bridge. For the last two years, science students from Central Kitsap High School have honored Earth Day by laying new gravel trails in the north meadows in anticipation of the future bridge.

Voted “Best Hidden Hiking Trail” in Evening Magazine’s annual Best of Western Washington Contest in 2007, many Kitsap residents and visitors recognize what a treasure we have in the Clear Creek Trail. GPC joins the community in thanking the C. Keith Birkenfeld Memorial Trust for their recognition and financial support for this important community project.



Credit: Jim Rodman

Boardwalk worksite at the ponds.

The Clear Creek Trail is growing. New boardwalk and a new wooden bridge will extend the trail system at two sites: at the ponds just north of Silverdale’s All Star Lanes and at the former Schold Farm meadows north of Highway 303. Great Peninsula Conservancy recently received a \$43,000 grant from the C. Keith Birkenfeld Memorial Trust, administered by The Seattle Foundation, for the Clear Creek Trail.

Clear Creek Task Force members and GPC staff hosted a site visit in April for Birkenfeld Trust advisor Claire Bishop. “I’m very impressed by what the Clear Creek Task Force has accomplished

The grant funds will cover materials and supplies for nearly 600 feet of new boardwalk and a 40-foot wooden bridge. “Clear Creek Task Force members, friends and volunteers are stepping forward to design, engineer, and construct the new extensions,” said Clear Creek Task Force (CCTF) Chair Tex Lewis. Boardwalk is currently under construction around the north side of the storm water retention ponds north of All Star Lanes. With a mid-point viewing deck, picnic table and benches, the new extension will link the sidewalk along Silverdale Way across from the post office with existing forest and stream trails to the east. Interpretive signs will educate about the role of open wetlands in flood control and nutrient release in the Clear Creek watershed.

At a second site north of Highway 303 in the open meadows of the former Schold Farm, grant funds will underwrite construction of a 40-foot wooden bridge across a tributary of Clear



Bridge worksite at the meadows.

Credit: Jim Rodman

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— The Little Engine That Could —

How many of you remember the children's classic storybook: 'The Little Engine That Could', by Watty Piper? It is the story of a small switch engine, which normally operates only in the railroad yard. One day it takes on the difficult task of pulling a heavy train of many railroad cars up a steep mountain. As it chugs slowly uphill, it motivates itself to keep going by chanting: *I think I can, I think I can.* Upon finally reaching the top, it chugs happily down the other side joyfully repeating: *I thought I could, I thought I could!*

Great Peninsula Conservancy is like 'the little engine that could'. We have a staff of three, Board of eleven, 100 volunteers, and 500 members and donors. These are small numbers when one considers the challenges facing us. We recently launched three conservation initiatives: Streams & Estuaries, Community Green Spaces, and Forests. They're where we think the need is greatest and where Great Peninsula Conservancy can have the greatest impact. *I think I can, I think I can.*

Already we are pursuing several exciting opportunities to advance these initiatives. We are currently working with landowners to purchase missing links in the Hansville Greenway, Indianola Greenway, and Big Beef Creek's Salmon Sanctuary near Seabeck. Another project on Gilberton

Creek aims to protect this small estuary in East Kitsap by purchase. Four land purchases underway at once – that's a first for Great Peninsula Conservancy. *I think I can, I think I can.*

It's a steep and arduous uphill climb. We move forward through a combination of hard work, and inspiration from the land and from our committed leaders and members. *I think I can, I think I can.*

Each success along the way is thrilling and reaffirming. For example, the completion of the beautiful Reed Nature Preserve where we held our Annual Celebration in July. *I thought I could, I thought I could!*

Thank you all for helping to keep Great Peninsula Conservancy pushing steadily up each hill. *I think I can, I think I can.*

Thank you all for making our successes possible! *I thought I could, I thought I could!*

Sandra
Staples-Bortner
Executive Director

Editor's Note: This article was adapted from Sandra's comments at GPC's Annual Celebration.



Photo Credit: Sivad Studio

Great Peninsula Challenge

Members and supporters of Great Peninsula Conservancy have contributed \$23,161 so far toward our 2009 Great Peninsula Challenge goal of \$40,000. We're half way there! These funds are supporting vital work in our three initiatives: Streams & Estuaries, Forests, and Community Green Spaces. GPC Board members who put up their own funds to launch the three-year challenge in 2007 have been thrilled by the response. Every gift made to the Challenge is matched by the Board. Don't miss out on this opportunity to double the value of your gift. Please consider what you can do to help us reach our target. Conserving the great places of the Great Peninsula will only happen with your support. Thank you!

**2009 Challenge
Goal: \$40,000**



Great Peninsula Conservancy

...working to protect forever the rural landscapes, natural habitats, and open spaces of the Great Peninsula region

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Great Peninsula Conservancy Newsletter

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Sustainable Forests

Forests Initiative

As part of Great Peninsula Conservancy's new Forests Initiative, we are exploring options for applying forest certification and carbon offset programs to lands conserved by GPC. Here we provide information on these programs.

Forest Certification

The lumber you haul away from the lumber store this summer might be certified wood. Yes, it is real wood from real trees. But, it might also come from a forest that is responsibly managed to protect wildlife habitat, clean water, and community livelihoods.



The most stringent certification standard in the United States is from the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), www.fscus.org, which is a voluntary, "third-party" certification system. FSC certification requires compliance with environmental rules and tracking of certified forest products as they move through the manufacturing process: from the forest to your neighborhood home improvement center.

Did you know some cherished Great Peninsula forests are FSC certified? Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) recently obtained certification for Green Mountain and Tahuya State Forests. Moreover, smaller woodland owners can take advantage of certification as well through local programs like NW Certified Forestry (www.nwcertified.org). Certification ensures landowners meet

environmental stewardship goals and opens the door to the rapidly growing market in certified forest products. Many consumers shell out a premium for these "green" products – paying extra for certified lumber, flooring, furniture, decking, paper, even cutting boards.

Carbon Offsets

Forests also have a connection with climate change. Diverse forest ecosystems are more likely to support a healthy environment and contain species that can survive a changing climate. Pacific Northwest forests also absorb carbon dioxide, the major greenhouse gas leading to global climate change.

While healthy forests absorb carbon dioxide as they grow and provide this service free to society, landowners may be able to receive compensation for this service in the near future. Have you heard the term "carbon

years instead of the 40-60 years typical of managed forests on the Great Peninsula), then selling that increase in carbon storage to individuals or companies wishing to offset their own carbon emissions or "carbon footprints".

The carbon market described above is in its infancy and voluntary at this time. Locally, the NW Neutral program developed by the Northwest Natural Resource Group (www.nnrg.org) is working with landowners to help them receive the full value of their forests and participate in this growing market.

Healthy forests and a viable forest economy have been key to the Great Peninsula's rural character and quality of life. However, these forests are now facing the real threat of conversion to residential and urban uses. Failure to provide incentives such as these for private landowners to maintain forestland as forests and to manage them sustainably will have enormous consequences for our forest landscape in the future.

FOREST FACT:
A 100 year old Great Peninsula forest can contain more than 100 tons of carbon per acre, which accumulates >3 tons of carbon dioxide/acre/year.

**Source: Northwest Natural Resource Group*

neutral?" Maybe you have been asked to "offset" your carbon emissions from your daily commute to work by planting trees. This is an example of a voluntary carbon offset. Forest landowners may be able to increase the amount of carbon trapped in their forests by letting their trees grow longer (100+



Meet GPC's New Board Members

Great Peninsula Conservancy is delighted to welcome five new and very skilled Board members. Each brings unique experience and education, and a keen interest in conservation.

Photo Credit: Ann Antos



Tom Antos
Gig Harbor

Tom has a life long interest in natural history and looks forward to helping our communities preserve unique habitat through local initiative. He is recently retired after a varied 38 year career in law enforcement, manufacturing management, and as an engineering manager for The Boeing Company. Tom has been a resident of Washington since 1968, earning degrees in oceanography and chemistry from the University of Washington and in business administration from Pacific Lutheran University. He and his wife Ann have two daughters, Sarah and Jenny, and have been residents of the Gig Harbor area since 1975. Tom was a founding director and first president of the Peninsula Heritage Land Trust (PHLT), now part of Great Peninsula Conservancy.

Photo Credit: Peggy Bubenik



Mark Bubenik
Gig Harbor

Mark's interest in preserving unique forest and wetland areas began with his participation on the Seattle Mountaineers Conservation Committee in the mid-1960s. As a member of PHLT (now part of GPC) Mark worked on many land preservation projects including preservation of the Sehmel Homestead. Now retired, Mark's career included working for the Pierce County Prosecuting Attorney providing legal assistance on the Gig Harbor Plan regulations, local SEPA regulations and the Shoreline Management Act. Mark worked 25+ years for the the Tacoma City Attorney's Office advising

Tacoma's electric and water utilities and the City's Public Utility Board. Mark's last paid employment was working as the Suquamish Tribe's environmental attorney, which included Growth Management Act compliance issues and other environmental matters. Mark retired in mid-2007 and he resides with his wife Peggy in North Rosedale.

Photo Credit: Angela de Oliveira



Deanna Ferguson
Silverdale

Deanna earned her M.S. in Ecology from Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan in 1988. She then joined the Air Force and spent the next seven years in Colorado Springs, where she enjoyed backpacking, mountain climbing, kayaking, skiing, and scuba diving. After leaving the Air Force, her teaching career took her to Texas, Tennessee, Oklahoma, New York, and New Jersey. Over the last 20 years, Deanna has taught classes in Anatomy and Physiology, Human Biology, Ecology, and Environmental Issues. She moved to Kitsap County in September of 2006 to take a position at Olympic College. In addition to her teaching, she is the lead instructor in the development of Olympic College's new Environmental Studies program. Deanna feels she is finally "home" and loves living here. She enjoys hiking, nature photography, backpacking and scuba diving.

Deanna earned her M.S. in Ecology from Oakland University

Photo Credit: Heidi Bailey



John W. Keates
Shelton

John is currently working as Parks and Trails Department Director for Mason County. He completed a B.A. in Parks and Recreation and a M.S. in Business Administration. John has worked in

John is currently working as Parks and Trails Department Director for Mason

the parks and recreation profession for over twenty-three years, including jobs with Metro Parks in Tacoma, City of Enumclaw, and City of Chelan. He is a member of the Washington Recreation and Park Association (WRPA), National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), Capitol Bicycle Club, and Shelton Rotary Club. John has served on the board of directors for WRPA, Enumclaw Rotary, Shelton Rotary, and the Washington State Trails Coalition. Currently, John is serving as Legislative Chairperson for WRPA. John is passionate about conservation, open space, parks, recreation, and trails. In his spare time he enjoys bicycle riding, jogging, hiking, listening to music, camping, bird hunting, kayaking, and motorcycling.

Photo Credit: Lauren Walsh



Kathleen Peters
Bainbridge Island

Kathy grew up in Seattle, received her B.S. in Fisheries Science from the University of Washington, and attended the Fisheries Academy in Leetown, West Virginia. Her primary areas of expertise are fish pathology and hatchery management. Kathy worked for the Washington Department of Fisheries (now Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife) from 1978 to 2000, and for Long Live the Kings from 2000-2004. She is currently the coordinator for the West Sound Watersheds Council, where she coordinates the West Sound habitat restoration component of the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan. Her duties include overseeing an annual competitive grant program and serving as technical and community representative in West Sound and statewide salmon recovery forums. Kathy lives with her family on Bainbridge Island, and likes to spend time in the garden and around the waters of Puget Sound.

Kathy grew up in Seattle, received her B.S. in

Tahuya Forest Conservation

Late Breaking News

A unique conservation partnership between land trusts, county and state governments, tribes, and a timber company has protected 2,100 acres of working forest on the Tahuya Peninsula straddling the Kitsap and Mason county line. Known as the Hood Canal Alliance, Great Peninsula

Conservancy and a coalition of other conservation groups operated a five-year campaign to protect this significant forest landscape. Cascade Land Conservancy played a key role in facilitating negotiations between Washington Department of Natural Resources and Pope Resources, the landowner. Under the deal, Pope Resources voluntarily

sold a conservation easement to DNR on forest land between Green Mountain and Tahuya state forests and Bremerton Watershed. While foregoing future development opportunities, the company retains the ability to harvest timber. The project was funded by a federal Forest Legacy grant of approximately \$3.3 million.

Passings - Rick Fackler

Rick on one of his many travels.

Great Peninsula Conservancy is sad to note the unexpected passing of GPC Board member Rick Fackler on May 23, 2009. Rick and his wife Roslyn Siegel were on vacation in Argentina at the time. It is believed that Rick had a heart attack or stroke.

Rick joined Great Peninsula Conservancy's Board of Directors in July 2007, and was scheduled to become president of GPC this July. Rick had tremendous expertise in land conservation, extensive personal contacts with GPC partners, and a passion for land conservation. He served as chair of GPC's Conservation Committee where he participated in many field visits to new conservation properties and helped shape the final projects. Rick was immensely respected and liked by his colleagues at GPC. We will miss his gentle manner and wealth of knowledge.

Rick was a lifelong advocate for parks and trails, and for open space preservation. He spent most of his career as a park planner, acquiring open space lands and building trails in Whatcom and Kitsap counties, and the City of Bellingham. Rick retired as Kitsap County Parks Planner and Acting Parks & Recreation Director in 2003, but continued to do consulting work related to Kitsap County Parks projects until earlier this year. During his career with Kitsap County, Rick helped acquire over 4,000 acres of open space land throughout the County and helped draft the County's Open Space Plan.

A memorial service was held for Rick on June 20 at Moles Bayview Chapel in Bellingham. Condolences may be sent to Roslyn Siegel at 5251 19th Avenue NE, Seattle, WA 98105.

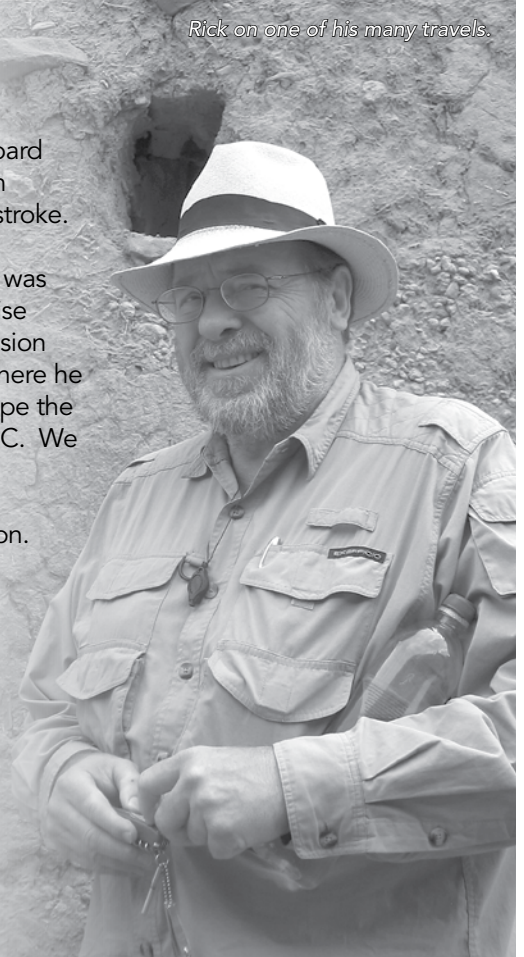


Photo Credit: Roslyn Siegel



Memorial Gifts

(May - July 2009)



In memory of Dorothy Aronson
Bill & Ruth Drollinger

In memory of Thomas & Penny Graham
Dr. Louis B. Graham

In memory of Rick Fackler
Larry Gamroth
Jon Hall & Sue Lynette
The Kenison Family
Terri Lyman
Shirley Roullard

In memory of Kathleen Landram
Bruce & Lori Landram

In memory of Gen Willey
Sandra & Robert Lause

Thanks

Great Peninsula Conservancy thanks the following retiring Board Members for their many years of service.

Phil Best: 2000-2009

Gary Cunningham:
2000-2009

Bruce Macdonald:
2002-2009

Meet the New Conservation Director

Michael Yadrick

In March, I was pleased to join GPC's staff as the new Conservation Director. Last year, I moved back to the Pacific Northwest after many years away. Now amongst friends and family, I have regained my sense of place here in the forests, mountains and waters. I come to GPC with a background in land stewardship and restoration, most

recently working at a land trust in Palos Verdes, Southern California. For several years, I was a volunteer in Peace Corps Bolivia, and then traveled and studied in several other locations in Latin America. Overseeing the conservation program is a new challenge for me. I am excited to pursue new conservation opportunities for GPC while exploring innovative ways to fulfill GPC's mission. If I have not met you yet, I hope to see you soon!



Photo Credit: Rena Yadrick

Michael Yadrick on Mt. Washington.

Michael's Conservation Journal

Here's a look behind the scenes of the life of GPC's Conservation Director as evidenced by these passages and photos from Michael's field notebook.

March 23: Meeting with landowner in Bremerton with members of GPC's Conservation Committee. Over five acres of urban forest, minutes away from Silverdale's Clear Creek. The group follows a foot trail framed with salal and huckleberry. We look up to see a canopy of second growth Douglas fir, dotted with Pacific madrone.

For over 50 years, the landowner came up with every reason not to cut these trees.



With a conservation easement, we will make sure it stays natural forever – continuing to clean the air, provide bird habitat, and filtering water on its way to Puget Sound.

May 7: Leaving Kingston early on the Suquamish Tribe's boat to participate in a beach seining along East Kitsap shoreline. Two GPC members on board. We wear fleece and waders for when we step off the boat into the cool Puget Sound waters. Biologists from Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Tribe guide us as we use a fine weighted net to capture fish in the shallows. The purpose of this beach seining trip is not to harvest the fish, but to identify, measure, and then release the different species as part of an ongoing study. These surveys are helping to inform us about the importance of "nearshore" habitat for the health of shellfish, salmon, seabirds, and marine mammals.

June 25: Site visit to the Key Peninsula with volunteer stewards and an ecological consultant. Cloudy and cool. We gather our gear: camera, map, compass, etc. Navigating to the corner of the

conservation easement property, we begin to snap photos to document and describe the property's conservation values. We scramble down the ravine and pop out on the saltwater lagoon, jotting down our observations as we walk. *Windy*, it begins to rain, *hard*, and then blows over. 100+ photos later, with a full page of species seen and a map decorated with busy scribbles, we figure we have walked only two miles in six hours through mucky wetland, South Sound beach, and thick forest!



California corn lily on Salmonberry Creek wetland.

Photo Credit: Michael Yadrick



Hood Canal from Tekiu Point.

Photo Credit: Michael Yadrick

GPC Members in Action

GPC Celebrates 203 Forested Acres

One hundred GPC members, volunteers, neighbors, partners, and friends celebrated the protection of 203 forested acres at our Annual Celebration on July 18. The donation of a conservation easement on the 17.5 acres of the Reed Nature Preserve adjacent to the 185.4-acre Ellis Stewardship Forest protects forever Mahoney Lake, evergreen forest, several streams, and a cedar bog in the Wollochet and Artondale watersheds. "There are acres of mature forest on these properties," said Board President John Lantz. "Now they are protected in the midst of a fast-developing Gig Harbor."

As guests gathered, they enjoyed dynamic displays and short presentations from noted naturalist Jim Trainer, Pierce County's Water Programs, and the Suquamish Tribe's salmon recovery program. Steve and Kay Reed, who graciously hosted the celebration, were honored for their donation of a conservation easement that created the Reed Nature Preserve. "GPC is like the 'Little Engine That Could', said Executive Director Sandra Staples-Bortner, addressing the gathering. "We move forward through

a combination of hard work, and inspiration from the land and from our committed leaders and members" (see article page 2). Retiring GPC Board members Phil Best, Gary Cunningham, and Bruce Macdonald were honored for their many years of service. The passing of Rick Fackler, Board member and Conservation Committee chair, and his invaluable contribution to GPC's conservation work were noted.

Acknowledging that GPC could not do the work we do without our volunteers, Board President John Lantz recognized the outstanding work of Bernine Hudosh, RSVP office volunteer; Erik Pedersen, Eastern Washington University Conservation Intern; and Pat Wright, Olympic College Stewardship Intern and the dedication and enthusiasm of our Outdoor Activity Program hike leaders: Stephanie Bailey, Jon Day, Jeff Feagin, Bob Hungerford, Millard Martin, Wendy McClure, Alan Searle, Jim Trainer, Lynn Whipple, and Jay Zischke. A delicious and abundant potluck picnic featuring Steve Reed's



Members enjoy displays at Annual Celebration by noted naturalist Jim Trainer (above) and the Suquamish Tribe's salmon recovery program (top).

Photo Credit for both photos: Doug Merson

signature smoked salmon and Kay Reed's home-grown apple pie was followed by guided tours of the Reed Nature Preserve and Ellis Stewardship Forest.

GPC in the news

Chico Creek / Newberry Hill Land Exchange – GPC Executive Director Sandra Staples-Bortner's Letter to the Editor appeared in the *Kitsap Sun* (March 25, 2009). Sandra's letter supported the proposed land exchange between Washington Department of Natural Resources and Kitsap County. In the approximately 600-acre land swap, which has since been completed, DNR received lands adjacent to its Green Mountain State Forest and Kitsap County received lands connecting to its new Newberry Hill Heritage Park. All lands are in the upper reaches of the 10,000-acre Chico

Creek watershed. Sandra's letter highlighted the value these lands have "for protecting water quality, habitat for native species, and conservation of wetland, forest, and riparian ecosystems." Sandra concluded, "The Chico Creek Watershed is one of the ecological jewels of Kitsap County. We believe that the proposed land exchange helps to ensure its long-term protection."

Reed Nature Preserve – Steve and Kay Reed's recent donation of a conservation easement to Great Peninsula Conservancy on their 17.5-acre Rosedale property attracted the attention of the *Peninsula Gateway* (May 20, 2009). The weekly Gig Harbor newspaper reported on the ducks, owls, woodpeckers, bear, raccoons, and mink that frequent the property's pond, cedar bog, and forest. Steve explained why they chose to enjoy their retirement there instead of selling out this way, "When you're young, you think about money. When you're older, you think about memories." Steve and Kay are still creating memories and leaving a legacy.

GPC Annual Celebration – GPC's Annual Celebration at Steve and Kay Reed's property on July 18 was reported in the *Peninsula Gateway* (July 22, 2009). The article noted that GPC was celebrating the recent creation of the 17.5-acre Reed Nature Preserve and its connection to the adjoining 185-acre Ellis Stewardship Forest, both of which are protected in perpetuity by Great Peninsula Conservancy. The contributions of outgoing Board members Phil Best, Gary Cunningham, and Bruce Macdonald also were recognized in the article.

Experience the great outdoors...
Meet new friends...
Make a conservation difference...

Become a GPC Land Steward!

To learn more, attend GPC's training for new land stewards
Saturday, October 17 • 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Are you ready to get your feet wet?

Contact: Kate Kuhlman (360) 373-3500 – (866) 373-3504
kate@greatpeninsula.org





Great Peninsula Conservancy

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Calendar of Events

Visit our website www.greatpeninsula.org for the most current information. To volunteer or sign up for an event call Kate at 360-373-3500 or 1-866-373-3504, or kate@greatpeninsula.org.

September 19 – *Gorst Creek Nature Walk*, Jim Trainer, 9 a.m. to 12 noon, Bremerton. Easy hike, suitable for all ages.

September 19 and November 28 – *Ivy Pull at Indianola Waterfront Preserve*, 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Help remove invasive ivy on GPC's Indianola Waterfront Preserve!

September 26 – *Celebrate! Clear Creek*, 12 noon to 4 p.m., Clear Creek Interpretive Center, Silverdale. Join us for a great afternoon with grilled salmon, lively entertainment, and amazing art. For details visit www.clearcreektrail.org.

September 26 – *Brownsville Appreciation Day*, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Port of Brownsville. Volunteers needed to staff GPC booth, highlighting GPC's Gilberton Creek Community Restoration project.

October 3 – *Banner Forest Hike*, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Port Orchard. Easy hike, 5 to 6 miles round trip.

October 10 – *Donkey Creek Chum Festival*, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Gig Harbor. Volunteers needed to staff GPC booth, highlighting Gig Harbor and Key Peninsula projects.

October 11 – *Green Mt. & Beaver Ponds Hike*, 8:45 a.m. to 2 p.m., Green Mt./Central Kitsap. Easy hike, 3 to 4 miles round trip.

October 17 – *GPC Stewardship Training*, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the GPC office, 3721 Kitsap Way, Suite 5, Bremerton (See page 7).

October 18 – *Clear Creek Walk*, 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Silverdale. Easy walk, suitable for all ages.

October 24 – *Ivy Pull at Appletree Cove*, 9 a.m. to 12 noon, Kingston. Come remove invasive weeds on GPC's waterfront property on Appletree Cove!

October 29 – *GPC Fall Open House*, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., at the GPC office, 3721 Kitsap Way, Suite 5, Bremerton. Come meet our new Board Members and Conservation Director and learn of new projects under GPC's three Conservation Initiatives.

November 1 – *Buck Lake/Hansville Greenway Hike*, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Easy hike of about 6 miles through the heart of the Hansville Greenway.

November 4 – *GPC Members Only - Salmon Walk*, Jay Zischke, 10 a.m. to 12 noon, Chico Creek watershed, Bremerton. Moderate hike, 3 miles round trip over up and down terrain.

November 7 – *Hidden Valley Salmon Walk*, Jay Zischke, 10 a.m. to 12 noon, Chico Creek watershed, Bremerton. Moderate hike, 3 miles round trip over up and down terrain.

November 15 – *Port Gamble Ramble*, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Easy hike, 6 to 8 miles round trip on undulating terrain.

December 5 – *Guillemot Cove Walk*, Jim Trainer, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Seabeck. Easy hike, 3 miles round trip.



In June, GPC members and executive director explored GPC's N. Kitsap protected properties by water.

Photo Credit: Maria Steinbeisser