



Great Peninsula Conservancy

Spring 2011

Protecting our lands and waters for generations to come

Legacy Gifts Inspired by Love of Community

Photo Credit: Mahan family



Bill, Bee and daughter Kathy Mahan on Hood Canal.

Longtime Bremerton residents Bill and Bee Mahan left significant legacy gifts to Great Peninsula Conservancy and five other local charities. Their gifts were inspired by love of community.

Bill and Bee Mahan met as children on adjoining wheat farms in eastern Washington's Palouse near the small town of Farmington. Bee (Bernice Oakes) grew up there and Bill, who grew up in Bremerton, often visited his uncle's neighboring farm. At the age of 7, Bill spent a year with his uncle and caught rides to school with Bee, then 10, on the back of her horse. Years went by and they lost touch until meeting by chance at a USO dance in Bremerton after World War II. Bill was recently back from four years of war service in Algeria and Italy. Bee, a registered nurse, had moved to Bremerton during the war to care for wounded servicemen returning from the Pacific. A romance was born and they married in 1946, not long after that USO dance. They had a daughter, Kathy, and Bee also had a son, Thomas Goddard, from a previous marriage.

The Mahans lived in Bremerton for all of their sixty years together. Bill passed away in January 2006 and Bee in September 2009.

Both Mahans were active in the Bremerton community. Bill spent his career as a Bremerton banker, beginning right out of high school with the National Bank

of Commerce and retiring as vice president at Rainier Bank. During Bremerton's post WWII boom years, Bill helped many successful local businesses get their start. Bee also had a busy career in nursing, where she specialized in maternity care. She retired as nursing supervisor of labor and delivery at Harrison Hospital in 1979, the same year that Bill retired.

Through all the years the Mahans were active in many charitable endeavors with Bill, especially, having a passion for it. Over the years he was active in many civic groups. It was this love of community that inspired Bill and Bee to leave legacy gifts of \$43,000 to each of six local charities: Admiral Theater Foundation, Bremerton Central Lions Club, Great Peninsula Conservancy, Kitsap Humane Society, United Way of Kitsap County, and YMCA of Bremerton. Said daughter Kathy Mahan, "I'm really proud of them. They weren't wealthy. They were able to set aside a little bit every month their whole life so they could leave something for these organizations."

When Kathy Mahan contacted Great Peninsula Conservancy about her parents' gift, she was hoping to find a project that matched her parents' interest. When we learned of their farm roots and deep connection to central Kitsap County, all agreed that GPC's campaign to save the Petersen Farm was a 'natural' fit. The Mahans' exceptional donation is a wonderful boost to Great Peninsula Conservancy's fundraising effort. Conserving the Petersen Farm will keep farming alive in our community. Maybe we'll have to host an old-fashioned barn dance, like the ones Bee used to reminisce about, or a USO-style dance, to celebrate the project's success. Get your dancing shoes ready!



Haying on the Palouse with horse team.

Photo Credit: Mahan family

Inside _____

- Forests for the Future..... 2
- Great Peninsula Challenge..... 2
- Conservation Initiatives 3
- Stewardship 4
- GPC's Spring Dinner 5
- Staff Changes..... 6
- Clear Creek Trail..... 6
- Members in Action..... 7
- Calendar of Events..... 8

Forests for the Future

One of Great Peninsula Conservancy's goals is to conserve forests for the future – for their biological diversity, ability to protect our air and water, and the enjoyment we find in wandering their paths. GPC strives to think long-term and to provide for many species. Some may believe this means leaving our region's forests untouched. But on closer inspection, this often proves to be out of synch with the reality of our present-day forests.

For the most part, the forests of the Great Peninsula have been cut at least once and generally twice to provide for the burgeoning settlements of our young state, and then replanted. What you find on the ground today are straight rows of Douglas fir all of the same age. If they haven't been thinned, the trees are likely growing slowly as they compete with neighboring trees for sun, nutrients, and space. If your goal is timber production for the market, you'll likely thin the trees to speed the growth of the remaining trees, harvest the standing trees when they reach market size, replant, and do it all over again in 30-50 years.

What if you are a public entity or a nature conservancy and your goal is restoring these forests to something close to the grand old-growth forests of days gone by? It may surprise you to learn that you also might consider a thinning operation,

selective harvest of subsets of trees, and a specially-crafted reforestation plan that encourages a diversity of tree species. That's exactly what Kitsap County envisions with its recently-released Draft Integrated Forest Stewardship Plan, which sets out a plan for managing 6,000 acres of County-owned forest lands. As stated therein, "The County will emphasize ecosystem management, a process that considers the environment as a complex system functioning as a whole, not as a collection of parts." Great Peninsula Conservancy enthusiastically supports this vision for Kitsap County's publicly-owned forest lands.

As you'll read on page four, GPC also is challenged to manage our forest lands to protect and enhance their ecological integrity. As we begin the process of developing a stewardship plan for Great Peninsula Conservancy's 100 acres of fee-owned forest land, we'll be glad to have Kitsap County's draft plan as a model. Conserving forests for the future, it's what we do.

Sandra Staples-Bortner
Executive Director



Photo Credit: Sivad Studios

Great Peninsula Challenge

We did it! With donations from many members, Great Peninsula Conservancy raised \$50,944 in matching gifts for our 2010 Great Peninsula Challenge – slightly exceeding the \$50,000 challenge made by eight donors. With numbers like that, it's clear that every donation counts! Thank you *all* for your generous support of GPC's three Conservation Initiatives: Streams & Estuaries, Forests, and Community Greenspaces, including the Petersen Farm Campaign. These funds are critical to our conservation activities and *do* make a difference.

Membership Challenge

Our goal was 100 new members in 2010, and we made it with 109 new members! As we extend a warm welcome to these new folks, we also want to thank our renewing members for their continued support. With almost 700 members, Great Peninsula Conservancy still has great potential for future membership growth. Great Peninsula Conservancy's members provide the heart and passion to our mission. Thank you for sharing our vision!



Photo Credit: Victor Ullsh

Red-bellied sapsucker in Kitsap County's Illahwe Forest Preserve

Great Peninsula Conservancy

...protecting forever the natural habitats, rural landscapes, and open spaces of the Great Peninsula.

3721 Kitsap Way, Suite 5
Bremerton, WA 98312
360-373-3500
1-866-373-3504

info@greatpeninsula.org
www.greatpeninsula.org

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Managing Editor – Kate Kuhlman

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Staff

Sandra Staples-Bortner
Executive Director

Kate Kuhlman
Operations Director

Mary Zabinski
Development Assistant

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Conservation Initiatives

Forests Initiative: Year 1 Accomplishments

Photo Credit (all): Gary Cunningham



A stand of 40+ year old Douglas fir on Pope Resources' land in North Kitsap.

Great Peninsula Conservancy's Forests Initiative seeks to conserve forestland on the Great Peninsula of western Puget Sound that is at risk of conversion to urban development. During its first year, the Initiative engaged private and public landowners in extensive discussions about sustainable forest management, initiated public discourse on forest stewardship, successfully enrolled (or will soon enroll) 1720 acres of private forest land in the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification program, and is poised to be a major player in a landmark initiative to permanently conserve up to 7,000 acres of forestland. This exciting work was accomplished in close partnership with Northwest Natural Resource Group and Washington Department of Natural Resources. Here are the highlights of the year.

- Hosted a workshop for forest landowners in May on forest stewardship and diversifying forest income. Topics included conservation easements, Forest



GPC gets a tour of Pope Resources' timberlands in North Kitsap.

Stewardship Council (FSC) certification, and the forest carbon market.

- Conducted a forest tour for policymakers in October about forest stewardship on public lands.
- Connected Kitsap County officials with technical expertise and models of sustainable forest management to consider in developing a plan for managing Kitsap County-owned forest lands.
- Held extensive discussions with elected officials, stakeholders, and others on the proposed North Kitsap Legacy Partnership that proposes to acquire up to 7,000 acres of commercial forest land in North Kitsap for public ownership. At GPC's urging, the proposal includes permanent protection of the land with a conservation easement.
- Assisted three forest landowners (Belfair Water District – 40 acres, Bethlehem Lutheran Church – 130 acres, and Ueland Tree

Farm – 1450 acres) in enrolling their lands in Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification. FSC certification recognizes forest lands that are managed to the highest environmental standards to enhance watershed protection and wildlife habitat.

- Began the process of obtaining FSC certification on 100 acres of GPC-owned forest lands.
- Project partner, Northwest Natural Resource Group, assisted the Smyth Lumber Mill near Poulsbo in becoming FSC certified, adding another local outlet for FSC timber.

Great Peninsula Conservancy looks forward to building on these accomplishments in 2011.



Douglas fir seedlings get a fresh start on Pope Resources' North Kitsap land.

Petersen Farm Update

Working with the Petersen Estate and other project partners, Great Peninsula Conservancy is pursuing several funding opportunities to save the Petersen Farm just north of Silverdale. The recent generous donation from Bill and Bee Mahan (see page one) and a generous pledge from the Petersen Estate have given us a great start. Our goal is to purchase a conservation easement on 120 acres of the farm at a total project cost estimated at nearly \$700,000. The conservation easement will permanently remove development rights, while protecting the land's agricultural and conservation values. With the price of the land then drastically reduced by the development restrictions, the Petersen Estate will sell the land to someone with the know-how to work the land. A recent visit to the farm revealed that, even in the midst of winter, the farm is a haven for wildlife. Winter rains have caused Clear Creek to overflow its banks, attracting

flocks of dabbling ducks to feed in the wetlands. Up at the barn, a summer's worth of hay bales are nearly all gone – sold one truckload at a time to local horse owners. Dating to at least 1902, the barn will soon be added to the Washington State Heritage Barn Register. Saving the Petersen Farm gives life to our farming heritage, conserves a vibrant piece of the Clear Creek valley, and helps ensure the viability of our region's resurging farm economy.



Up in the hayloft in the Petersen Farm barn.

Photo Credit: Erik Pedersen

Stewardship

Bear Creek Preserve Damaged by Wind Storm

By Stewardship Committee Chair Ken Van Buskirk's estimate, strong December winds toppled an estimated 10 -15 thousand board feet of timber on GPC's Bear Creek Preserve on the Union River near Belfair. This property contains an upland forest cover of mature Douglas fir and western hemlock (valued by timber cruise in 2008 at \$126,000), and other native vegetation on steep slopes. Unfortunately, the majority of blowdown happened within the protected stream corridor and is unavailable for harvest.

When events happen and damage occurs to standing timber on Great Peninsula Conservancy properties, what guides GPC's actions to address these issues? Damage to the second growth timber on Bear Creek Preserve has highlighted the importance of management plans as a tool for habitat enhancement and long-term protection of GPC fee-owned forest lands.

Great Peninsula Conservancy recently enrolled in Northwest Natural Resource Group (NNRG)'s Northwest Certified Forestry program with the intent of seeking Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification for appropriate GPC

lands. Prior to achieving this coveted designation, GPC must develop a comprehensive forest management plan for our forestlands. We expect to develop a plan that aggregates our approximately 100 acres of fee-owned forest lands under one plan that addresses habitat goals, forest health issues, contingencies for natural disturbances (such as fire and wind), and specific management needs by property. The plan will guide the stewardship of these lands into the future.

FSC certification of GPC forest lands will provide an opportunity for Great Peninsula Conservancy to lead the way in educating the public about forest management as a tool for habitat protection and forest stewardship.

And what's to happen at GPC's Bear Creek Preserve? Kirk Hanson, NNRG forester, recently visited the site and made this assessment and suggestion, "Most of the trees that came down were rooted in the riparian management zone [RMZ] of Bear Creek and therefore are not salvageable under [state] DNR



Photo Credit: Ken Van Buskirk

Blowdown on Bear Creek Preserve.

regulations. Sad to see such massive timber go unused, but it will make for some very interesting habitat and forest structure over the next 100+ years! I highly recommend you go in there ASAP and plant cedar and hemlock into the RMZ before brush takes over." This is valuable information GPC will use in a comprehensive management plan that guides the future of Bear Creek Preserve and other GPC fee-owned forested properties.

Changes in Klingel Wetland Monitored



Photo Credit: Kate Kuhlman

Peter Callahan reviews Klingel monitoring protocol with Olympic College interns.

Great Peninsula Conservancy, along with many partners, began restoration work on 13 acres of the Klingel Wetland Preserve last fall. Restoration work will remove a dike installed in 1950 to form pasture and hayfields. By removing the

dike, the now freshwater wetland will revert to saltwater wetland and restore about a half mile of Hood Canal shoreline. But what will this change look like?

through monthly data collection, the transformation in vegetation communities, and the deposition and erosion of soils across the restored marsh. Eventually, this reclaimed land will provide prime habitat for natural rearing of young salmon and cutthroat, as well as countless shellfish and other marine organisms.

The Klingel Wetland Monitoring Plan and Protocol was written by GPC volunteer, Peter Callahan. Peter worked most recently at Olympic College in Bremerton as an adjunct professor in the Environmental Sciences program. He is a landscape architect by profession, and a specialist in wetland science and management. Peter's insight and help will be greatly missed as he has recently

moved with his family to the Boston area.

Picking up where Peter left off, GPC volunteer Tara Carson will coordinate the Klingel monitoring project. Tara moved with her U.S. Marine Corps husband to Silverdale from California last summer and sought out an opportunity to volunteer for an organization that would utilize her environmental science degree.



Photo Credit: Carole Oesterhaus

New Klingel monitoring project lead Tara Carson at vegetation sample plot on wetland.

In July 2010, Great Peninsula Conservancy began a multi-year monitoring project to document the conversion of the Klingel Wetland from a freshwater marsh to a high saltwater marsh. Data collection will be done by student interns from Olympic College and GPC volunteers. This "citizen scientist" monitoring project will document,

2010 Stewardship by the Numbers

- Monitored 59 of 59 conservation-easement properties
- Monitored 41 of 42 fee-owned properties
- Completed 15 environmental baseline reports covering 23 conservation-easement and fee-owned properties. A special thanks to Erik Pedersen, GPC's part-time Baseline Assistant! Because of his hard work all but three of GPC's conservation easement properties now have up-to-date baselines.



**Great Peninsula
Conservancy**

Save the Date

First Spring Dinner

Thursday, May 5, 2011 • 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Join members and friends of Great Peninsula Conservancy for our 1st Annual Spring Dinner. This fundraising event will be held at The Clubhouse at McCormick Woods Golf Course in Port Orchard. All proceeds benefit Great Peninsula Conservancy's work to preserve the natural habitats, rural landscapes and open spaces of the Great Peninsula of western Puget Sound. Seating is limited; get your ticket early! Ticket Price: \$75. Registration Deadline: April 21.

Great Food, Live Music and Mossback Musings

Keynote Speaker: Knute Berger

- Knute "Skip" Berger is author of *Pugetopolis: A Mossback Takes on Growth Addicts, Weather Wimps and the Myth of Seattle Nice* (Sasquatch Books, 2009). He writes the "Mossback" column for Crosscut.com, a Pacific Northwest online daily, and pens a monthly column for Seattle Magazine, where he is Editor-at-Large. Berger also is a regular news commentator on Seattle's public radio station, KUOW-FM. Knute's columns, business writing, and coverage of historic preservation issues have received numerous awards. Don't miss this opportunity to meet Knute Berger!

Music

- Local pianist Roberta Daniel will delight us with an eclectic mix of piano music from across the years.

Food

- Enjoy a scrumptious salmon dinner prepared by The Clubhouse and tasty hors d'oeuvres courtesy of Taylor Shellfish!

Location: The Clubhouse at McCormick Woods

- Beautiful landscaped surroundings attract people and wildlife alike
- 5155 McCormick Woods Drive SW, Port Orchard
(just minutes from SR 16)

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Staff Changes

Farewell to Michael Yadrick

Conservation Director Michael Yadrick's last day at Great Peninsula Conservancy was on December 3. He has moved on to new positions as plant ecologist with Seattle Parks Department, and as a new dad. Michael and his wife, Rena, welcomed their first child, Miles Rainier Yadrick, on January 6. Michael tells us that all are doing well and Miles is a joy. Michael's new position keeps him closer to his Seattle home.

During Michael's almost two years with Great Peninsula Conservancy, he updated GPC's Conservation Plan, helped launch our new Forests Initiative, and wrote several successful grant applications.



Photo Credit: Rena Yadrick

Michael also completed two conservation easement donations and supervised preparation of 21 baseline environmental reports on GPC's older conservation properties. Michael's thoughtful approach to new challenges, keen interest in plant/forest ecology, and ability to connect with people made him an important part of our team. Thank you, Michael, for all your hard work on behalf of GPC! We wish you well in your new position and as a new father.

Welcome to Mary Zabinski

Great Peninsula Conservancy welcomes Mary Zabinski as our new part-time Development Assistant. Mary was born and raised near Silverdale, the daughter of longtime GPC



Mary and Kate

Photo Credit: Phil Best

members Phil and Karen Best. She moved east for college and to start her career, but returned to Washington in 2002 and to Silverdale in 2005 with her husband, Roger, and daughters, Aina and Kate. You may already know Mary from her volunteer work with Clear Creek Task Force as administrator and volunteer coordinator and as creator of the CCTF Discovery Play Day program that introduces the Clear Creek ecosystem to young children. Mary will be assisting GPC with its membership and outreach programs, including GPC's Spring Dinner and Petersen Farm Day. Mary also will be scheduling GPC volunteers for our community outreach events. So look for email from Mary and come join her in representing GPC at upcoming community events.

Birkenfeld Memorial Bridge

Built at Last ... to Last

Thanks to a team effort between Clear Creek Task Force, Great Peninsula Conservancy, the Olympic College Student Chapter of Engineers Without Borders, and the C. Keith Birkenfeld Memorial Trust, the Birkenfeld Memorial Bridge now spans Clear Creek's northern tributary.

The need for a bridge began around four years ago when the stream crossing at the northern reach of the Clear Creek Trail became difficult, and planks were used to ford the stream. In 2009, Clear Creek Task Force (CCTF) and Great Peninsula Conservancy (GPC) were successful in obtaining a \$43,000 grant from the C. Keith Birkenfeld Memorial Trust to build a bridge and 600 feet of boardwalk trail next to Silverdale's All Star Lanes. The boardwalk was completed later that year.

Designing and constructing the 50-foot bridge proved to be a huge undertaking. In stepped the students from Olympic College. The group, under the tutelage of Tex Lewis, CCTF co-chair and himself an engineer, accepted the challenge, designed the bridge, and made quick work of construction, once the weather allowed last fall. When the foundation for the bridge's 50-foot laminated timber beams needed to be cast, another set of volunteers, the Navy Seabees, stepped up to the plate and got the job done. This past December, the "creek did rise" due to heavy winter rains, but the new bridge withstood the challenge and proved it was built to last.

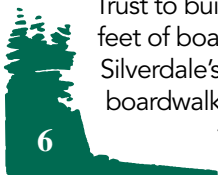
This March, the Birkenfeld Memorial Bridge will provide an excellent teaching location for the "Salmon

in the Classroom" program, a partnership of Clear Creek Task Force, Suquamish Tribe, Kiwanis of Silverdale, Kitsap County Surface and Stormwater Management, Kitsap PUD, Kitsap County Health District, and over 20 local classrooms. With its new bridge and boardwalk, the Clear Creek Trail is more accessible than ever and continues to provide countless opportunities for our community to get out, learn about, and enjoy nature.



Birkenfeld Memorial Bridge is more than a match for heavy winter rains!

Photo Credit: Randy Peterson



Members in Action

Gig Harbor Rotary Star Award

Longtime Rosedale resident Mary Kenney recently received the Citizen of the Year award from the Gig Harbor Rotary Club for her work with several organizations, including the Foothills Rails to Trails Coalition, Peninsula Neighborhood Association and Peninsula Heritage Land Trust, now Great Peninsula Conservancy.

Mary was instrumental in helping raise more than \$400,000 to purchase the Sehmel Homestead Park property in Rosedale. "Directly asking people, one-on-one, for money was far outside my comfort zone," said Kenney. "But we did it, and community members responded with great generosity." As a committed advocate for conservation of wetlands and open spaces, she was determined to protect the natural features of the site. Great Peninsula Conservancy now protects forever the forests, meadows, wetlands, gardens, trails and open spaces on 75 acres of the former homestead in partnership with PenMet Parks, and the remaining 13 acres are reserved for ballfields.

Mary has lived in Rosedale over 35 years with her husband, Jim. John Lantz, past president of GPC, nominated Mary for this award and says of her, "She is an unsung hero that practices the Rotary motto 'Service Above Self'."

Hood Canal Environmental Achievement Award

GPC members Ron and Bernadette Olson were recognized in November with the Hood Canal Environmental Achievement Award. Given each year by the Hood Canal Coordinating Council, the award honors people who have taken steps to improve the environmental quality of Hood Canal. The Olsons were honored for their April donation of a conservation easement on seven acres of wooded shoreline south of Tekiu Point on Hood Canal. The award citation noted the Olsons' generosity and thanked them for being "model shoreline stewards". To encourage their neighbors to consider protection of Hood Canal's shoreline through conservation easement, the Olsons wrote an article for the fall issue of the Holly Community Club newsletter, *The Rumor*, about their donation to GPC. The article informed the community of both the public and private benefits of conserving land, citing the importance of conservation as a benefit "to the long term health of the whole community".

Meet GPC's 100th New Member

In 2010, Great Peninsula Conservancy added 109 new members, people concerned about the future of their communities and the protection of critical habitat and rural landscapes on the Great Peninsula. Tor and Tiffany Linbo of Seattle, GPC's 100th new member, looked for an organization that shared their interest in land conservation. For the Linbos, the personal connection to this area starts with Tor's family. While growing up,



Mary Kenney at Sehmel Homestead Park.

Photo Credit: Sherrie Kilborn

he spent a lot of time wandering the fields, forests, and beaches near his grandparents' home on Dyes Inlet. Tor felt this area was, "wild and unchanging". But things did change and the eagle nest in a large Douglas fir he watched as a child came down to make way for a new housing development. The landscape he once enjoyed gave way to rows of houses and asphalt. Their concern that future generations may not be able to create fond memories and experience the unique qualities of this land led the Linbos to support the efforts of Great Peninsula Conservancy.

After purchasing 25 forested acres on the headwaters of Salmonberry Creek near Port Orchard, the Linbos began researching the surrounding natural areas and were disappointed to see the fragmented wetlands and endangered salmon streams. Tor sums up their commitment to land conservation as, "Knowing there are many pressures from development, we are interested in protecting the remaining natural areas around the Puget Sound. We believe there is an invaluable and innate beauty of the land, and the loss of the natural areas cannot easily be replaced". Great Peninsula Conservancy thanks Tor and Tiffany Linbo and the other 108 new members for their commitment to land conservation. Your membership makes a difference!

Memorial Gifts

(November 2010 – February 2011)

In memory of Jeff Feagin
Philip & Karen Craven

In memory of Dorris McGuire
Chuck McGuire

**In memory of Fred Reisch
& Larry Wiltermood**
Ann Reisch

**In memory of
George & Evelyn Revelle**
Randy & Ann Revelle

Gifts in Honor of

**In honor of Eir & Ernie Cheeka
on their Wedding Day**
Amanda Van Kleeck

In honor of Tex Lewis
Natalie E. Bryson

**In honor of Mr. & Mrs. Herman
Nelson as good neighbors to
GPC's Bear Creek Preserve**
Ken & Peggy Van Buskirk



Great Peninsula Conservancy

3721 Kitsap Way, Suite 5
Bremerton, WA 98312

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GPC on Facebook

Great Peninsula Conservancy has jumped on the bandwagon and created our own Facebook page. We regularly post photos from the field, project updates, and news links on Facebook, so sign up and log in if you would like to receive up-to-date conservation news from the Great Peninsula. The best way to find us is to go to www.greatpeninsula.org and follow the Facebook link. See you there!



Calendar of Events

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

March 15-18, 21, 23, 25 & April 7 & 19 – Salmon in the Classroom on Clear Creek

- Silverdale, 10:30 a.m. to noon, 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. Volunteers needed to help Kitsap elementary school students plant trees along Clear Creek Trail as part of this salmon rearing and release program. Contact clearcreek@yahoo.com to volunteer.

March 26 & May 28 - Ivy Removal

- Ivy Pull Indianola Waterfront Preserve, Indianola, 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Help remove invasive ivy on GPC's Indianola Waterfront Preserve!

April 16 – Gorst Creek Nature Walk

- Jim Trainer, Gorst, 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. *Easy hike, about 2-3 miles round trip, suitable for all ages.*

April 30 – EcoFest at Stillwaters Environmental Center

- Kingston, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Help staff GPC's display and enjoy all the Earth Day festivities. Visit www.stillwatersenvironmentalcenter.org for event details.

May TBD – Guillemot Cove Wildflower Walk

- Wendy McClure, Seabeck, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. *Moderate hike, about 3-4 miles round trip, down into valley and back up.*

May 14 – Big Tree Tour at Chico Creek Walk

- Jim Trainer, Bremerton, 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. *Moderate hike, 3 mile round trip on primitive trail, over up and down terrain.*



Big Tree.

Photo Credit: Hal Goodell

May 21 – Celebrate Urban Birds

- Clear Creek Interpretive Center, Silverdale, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Come learn about the birds of Clear Creek with hands on activities for kids of all ages.

May 14, June 25 & Aug. 6 – GPC/Kingston PUD Trail Maintenance

- Kingston, 10 a.m. to noon. Call leader for meeting location.
May 14 - Carolina Veenstra, 360-297-2059
June 25 - Dave De Bruyn, 206-424-1421
August 6 - Bobbie Moore, 360-297-2845

June 4 – Celebrate Urban Birds

- Cowling Creek Salmon Center, Suquamish, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Come learn about the birds of Cowling Creek Forest Preserve with hands on activities for kids of all ages.

June 25 – Port Gamble Tremendous Hike

- Jim Trainer, Port Gamble, 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. *Easy hike, 2 miles RT on undulating terrain. Children welcome.*