

Washington Farm Forestry Association

2014 Annual Meeting

May 15th, 16th & 17th

Best Western Plus
The Lakeway Inn & Conference Center
Bellingham, Washington

Washington's Family Forests: Unique, Sustainable, Local

*Come join us for a celebration of our
forests' unique local contribution to
our economy and our environment*

Hosted by Whatcom County Farm Forestry Association

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The Whatcom County Chapter would like to welcome you to Bellingham for the 2014 Washington Farm Forestry Association Annual Meeting. While we all look forward to seeing members and many supporters, we encourage you to invite a fellow landowner to join you for this premier opportunity to experience membership in WFFA. Involving the next generation is important to our families, so the Whatcom Chapter is offering youth under 18 years of age free registration when accompanied by an adult. The Saturday Tree Farm Educational event should be especially fun for the future generations of tree farmers.

The Best Western Plus Lakeway Inn and Conference Center is the location for events on Thursday and Friday. Details such as lodging information and directions are available on the last page of this brochure. For those arriving early Thursday evening, join us at Poppes' 360 Pub for a relaxing time with our friends. Friday will be a full day of top notch speakers, starting with Rene' Ancinas, President and CEO of Port Blakely Companies and Dr. Elaine Oneil, WFFA Executive Director. Again this year, the luncheon will feature the Washington Tree Farm Program and their 2014 Tree Farmer of the Year presentation. Plenty of breaks are planned throughout the day for visiting and talking with a variety of vendors and exhibitors. In the late afternoon, we will have the WFFA Annual Business Meeting. This year's evening dinner banquet will feature Donna and Bryon Loucks sharing their "Photo Safari in Africa."

Educational Event on Saturday, May 17th

On Saturday, we are invited to explore the foothills above Sumas at the Westergreen Family Tree Farm. This multi-generational tree farm will have plenty to interest every tree farmer and opportunities to discuss what we enjoy doing, "Growing Trees." The Westergreens have a full variety of management activities that have evolved over the last 50 years. Forest Practice permitting options will be discussed at the site of an "alternate plan" permit they conducted. We will explore ways to get the next forest started: harvest planning, site preparation, planting spacing, vegetation control and much more. Many tree farmers are planting Red Cedar and techniques for success will be part of the tour. If you like growing trees, this tour is for you!

Those who prefer enjoying the lighter side of owning forest land can join in a "Bird Watching Walk in the Woods." There will be lots to see and explore. You are encouraged to bring the younger generation of our future tree farmers for activities in the woods geared for their enjoyment.

May in Whatcom County will be beautiful with new growth and spring flowers. Check the Bellingham Whatcom County Tourism at www.bellingham.org or call 800-487-2032 or 360-671-3990 for other lodging options and the many activities and interesting sites our area has to offer.

We look forward to seeing our farm forestry friends and making new ones!

Questions about the Annual Meeting Program? Contact Pat at whatcom@wafarmforestry.com.

Watch the new WFFA website at www.wafarmforestry.com for regular updates and additional information for planning your stay in Bellingham and attending the Annual Meeting.

WFFA 2014 Annual Meeting Conference Schedule

Thursday May 15

- 1:00-5:00 pm Executive Board Meeting at BEST WESTERN PLUS The Lakeway Inn
4:00-6:00 pm Registration in the Hotel Lobby Library
5:30-8:00 pm Reception – Poppes’ 360 Pub at The Lakeway Inn with complimentary hors d’oeuvres

Friday May 16

- 7:30 am Registration in the Hotel Lobby Library – Refreshments in Exhibitor area
8:45 am Welcome and Opening Remarks
- **Pat Mitchell – Annual Meeting co-chairman**
 - **Tom Westergreen – WFFA President**
- 9:00 am Opening Address – **Rene’ Ancinas, President and CEO – Port Blakely Companies**
9:45 am Break: Vendors – Exhibitors – Refreshments
10:15 am **Dr. Elaine Oneil, WFFA Executive Director, “Finding Strength in our Diversity”**
11:00 am **Dick Alescio, Alescio & Associates Inc., “Energy Alternatives from your Forest Slash”**
11:30 am Break: Vendors – Exhibitors
12:00 pm **Washington Tree Farm Program Luncheon and Awards**
1:15 pm Break: Vendors – Exhibitors
1:45 pm Concurrent Sessions

Markets for the Products You Grow

- Minor Forest Products: Ryan Sandstrom, Manager, Alpine Evergreen Company
Poles and Piling: Sarah Pederson, Sales Manager, The Oeser Company
Export Logs: Tom Leeds, President, Pacific Lumber and Shipping
Domestic Logs: Eric Jacoby, Acquisition Forester, Hampton Tree Farms

Improving the Future of Eastern Washington Forests

- Forest Health: Insects and Diseases - Chuck Hersey, DNR Forest Health Planner
Tree Improvement: Seeds for New Forests - Jeff DeBell, DNR forester

- 2:30 pm Break: Vendors – Exhibitors – Refreshments

Concurrent Sessions

Recreational Opportunities on Small Family Farms

- Moderator: Martha Wehling, Land Use Attorney with Phillips Burgess PLLC
Bob Brink, President, Pomeroy Farm, “Expanding the Income Streams”
Mona Campbell, Kristofferson Family, “Canopy Tours NW – Ziplines”
Dennis Dart, Region Manager, American Forest Management, “Recreation Passes For Sale”

To Be Announced

- 3:45 pm Break: Vendors – Exhibitors – Refreshments
4:00 pm WFFA Annual Business Meeting
5:30 pm Social Hour – No Host Bar
6:30 pm **Dinner Banquet featuring Donna and Bryon Loucks**
“Photo Safari in Africa - How to spend your tree farm profits”

Saturday May 17

- 8:30 am Check-in at Great Western Lumber Company, 7636 Goodwin Road, Everson, WA 98247
9:00 am Bus Transportation to **Westergreen Tree Farm Educational Event**
Break Outs:
- Bird Watching Walk in the Woods - Ken Bevis, Stewardship Wildlife Biologist
 - Supervised Youth Activities – Geo-caching activity and more
 - Tree Farm Management with forest owners, Forest Practice Rules experts, vegetation management foresters and more
- 12:00 pm Barbeque Lunch in the Woods by Mt. Baker FFA Booster Club
1:00 pm Discussion of Douglas fir, Red Cedar, Alder and Big Leaf Maple Management Options
2:30 pm Saturday Program Concludes – Buses back to Great Western Lumber

Continuing Educational Credits Available:

Washington Contract Loggers Association Master Loggers: 5.5 CE hours Friday & 3.7 CE hours Saturday
Society of American Foresters: 1 CE hour for Friday’s after lunch first Concurrent Session

Washington Farm Forestry Association
PO Box 1010
Chehalis, WA 98532

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WFFA 2014 Annual Meeting Information

Location: All meeting events on Thursday & Friday will take place at BEST WESTERN PLUS The Lakeway Inn & Conference Center, 714 Lakeway Drive, Bellingham, WA 98229.

On Saturday, the Educational Event will take place at the Westergreen Family Tree Farm. Check in and parking will be at Great Western Lumber, 7636 Goodwin Road, Everson, WA 98247. Bus transportation to the tree farm will be provided.

Lodging: Reduced rate rooms will be available at The Lakeway Inn until April 15, 2014. Mention "Washington Farm Forestry Association" and receive the group rate of \$109 plus tax per room per night. After April 15th, room prices will be based on availability. For reservations, call 888-671-1011 or 360-671-1011. They have a 24-hour cancellation policy. Self-contained RVs and Campers are welcome in the hotel parking lot, but no services are available.

Driving Directions:

From I-5 Northbound: use Exit 253 (Lakeway Dr). Turn right at the stop sign onto King Street. Take a right onto Lakeway Dr at the stoplight. The hotel entrance is the first driveway on the left.

From I-5 Southbound: use Exit 253 (Lakeway Dr). Turn left at the stop light onto Lakeway Dr. The hotel entrance is the first driveway on the right.

Registration: The registration fee for the conference is \$106/person until 4/15/2014. After April 15th, the fee is \$136/person. Registration includes Thursday, May 15th Evening Reception and Friday, May 16th Luncheon, Educational Programs and Refreshments during breaks.

The pasta buffet banquet Friday night is \$30/person. The Saturday tree farm event is \$25, which includes lunch and transportation. These 2 events can be purchased separately from the conference registration or in addition to the conference registration. Fees for all events will be waived for youth under 18 who attend with an adult.